

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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It's been a great year as president of the National Weather Association and I am looking forward to the new leadership that will be provided by your incoming president and longtime NWA member, Bill Read. Bill shares my views on the importance of cooperation and partnerships between all involved in meteorology, including the media, NWS, and academia. It has been a pleasure visiting with our members, whether in person or by phone or e-mail. I am encouraged by the fact that the NWA has resisted excess politics and organizational structure and kept the focus on promoting operational meteorology and related activities.

### **Council worked hard on a number of issues this year:**

I would like to thank the NWA Council members for their great voluntary efforts, which take place behind the scenes with little recognition. The Council recently approved the new NWA **Vision Statement and Strategic Plan** authored by the strategic planning committee as mentioned in last month's newsletter. This provides the priorities for action over the years to come and all members are welcome to help. Please take time to visit the NWA Web page, click on the NWA Committees block and go to the Strategic Planning Committee to see what's new. Send your comments/suggestions to further any of the goals to any of the committee members listed. Other committee Web pages will also interest you.

Your elected Council also discussed many questions regarding **partnerships**. The American Meteorological Society, private sector companies and many local meteorology chapters/groups around the country requested the NWA to cosponsor conferences and product promotions. As a non-profit professional association, we had to turn down offers that were not related to our charter. The Council did approve cosponsoring some local and national conferences that dealt with operational meteorology and those were quite successful. The latest one approved was agreeing to cosponsor the AMS 32nd Conference on Broadcast Meteorology to be held in Seattle, Washington, 5-8 August 2003. This conference will take place in conjunction with the AMS 31st Conference on Radar Meteorology and the Fifth Conference on Coastal Meteorology.

We encourage NWA members to consider taking part in these cosponsored meetings. Meeting details are posted in the Newsletters and on the NWA Web page.

And, speaking of partnerships, the National Research Council study on partnerships in the provision of weather and climate services is in final review and should be published in January. It will be available on the National Academy Press Web site ([www.nap.edu](http://www.nap.edu)). The NRC committee was charged to examine the roles of the public, private and academic sectors in providing weather and climate services, and to identify opportunities for and barriers to improving such services.

NWA **publications** are always being discussed. One of the primary missions of the NWA is to provide opportunities for members to share studies, new techniques, news and correspondence. This can be done through the Newsletter, *National Weather Digest*, *Electronic-Journal* and other Web site pages, and through presentations at the Annual Meeting. When submissions don't arrive, the publications are delayed. In 2002, the Newsletter was published 10 times with two double-month issues. The *Digest* continued to be late with the June 2001 double issue coming out in July 2002 and the December 2001 double issue in the mail now to 2002 members on record. The Council appointed an ad hoc committee to work on the *Digest* and more volunteers have come forward to help. Dr. Patrick S. Market of the University of Missouri-Columbia volunteered and has been approved by the Council to be a co-editor. Staff assistance is also being looked at to speed the layout and final draft process where most of the delay has been recently. It is our intention to have the NWA *Digest* back on schedule by mid-summer of 2003. All members can help by sending in articles to share. If you need assistance in deciding where your submission should be published, please contact the Executive Director.

**Annual Meeting locations** are always being considered. The Council approved Jacksonville, Florida for the 18-23 October 2003 meeting. The 2004 meeting should be out west and the Council asked the Executive Director to look into capabilities in Albuquerque, Portland, Monterey and Salt Lake City. If you have thoughts on those cities or others, please drop a note to the NWA office, the president or any Council member. →

# NWA BROADCAST COMMITTEE

## Making the Most of Your Resources

The NWA resources and **budget** are continually being discussed by the Council. Thanks to the donations from many members, more teacher grants were given out this year and another increase is planned for 2003. As a result of the golf tournament and raffle at the Fort Worth NWA Annual Meeting, a new scholarship has been named in memory of Dave Sankey, a charter member who died in a plane crash on 9 November 2000. This scholarship will provide funding of \$1000 for a minority college student. Qualifications for the scholarship application are currently being developed. Council members appreciate ideas/suggestions from members on new initiatives at anytime.

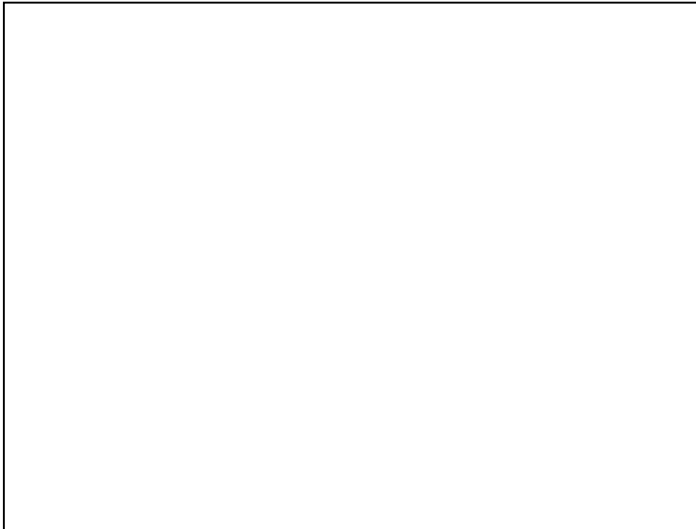
### And Finally:

One of the issues we'd like your input and assistance on is loosely termed "Stadium Weather." In other words, what can or should be done to mitigate the risk to large groups of people when severe weather threatens. Do stadiums in your area broadcast severe weather warnings to all in attendance, and have mitigation plans? Is this issue important to our members? Should the NWA be involved in draft guidelines or working with insurance carriers to mandate severe storm policies for mass gatherings? Or is this already being taken care of by NWS StormReady programs (see page 3) and/or FEMA programs? Send us your comments.

Thanks again for a great year, it has been a privilege to serve. Thanks to all Council members, committee members, publication editors and staff for your superb work, great initiatives and support.

*Happy New Year!*

- John McLaughlin  
*johnmc49@ecity.net*



*John McLaughlin (l), NWA President for 2002, and incoming President for 2003, Bill Read (r), at the NWA Annual Meeting In Fort Worth, Texas*

Putting together a show each night is much more than just walking in and stepping in front of the chroma-key, though your viewers may not know it. Technology is certainly improving and much of what we put on the air each night is automated. However, with the vendors having similar technology it can be difficult to make your show stand out with graphics alone. It's easy to let your show get stagnant both graphically and meteorologically, but there are some easy ways to keep both elements dynamic if you're willing to do some extra work.

Use video from around the country or around the world. I work at a FOX station, and it seems like we don't always get the national and international video that other networks do, but whenever I get some, I use it. The eruption of Mt. Etna is a great example. I used that video any time it came in. If a major storm is hitting portions of the country I always ask our producer to check if there is any video I can use in my show. Not only do the snowstorms, flooding, tornadoes and high winds look cool on-air, but it gives your show the appearance of being more than limited to just local data.

Another example of expanding your universe is adding a little astronomy and space weather to the show. We have had active sunspots and many brilliant auroras this past year. There are many Web sites on which astronomy enthusiasts share their aurora photos. I've used some excellent photos on the air, especially since we don't get to see auroras very often in the skies over Cincinnati. I also talked extensively about the Perseid and Leonid meteor showers and showed graphics and photos of both.

Make use of the extensive amount of weather data online. I compare at least eight computer models each day to make my short-range and long-range forecasts. The new GFS model is run 4 times daily, and I look at them all. Yes I spend a lot of time on the Internet, but it's worth it for accurate forecasts and increased viewership. I have added one more important element to my daily weathercasting — e-mail. Even though I don't mention it every night, I put out a weather synopsis each morning to over 8600 viewers who share it with about 5 people on average, so you do the math. That e-mail is a primer for my nightly show and keeps thousands of people engaged in the weather every day. It's very thorough, but very easy to read, and I even put my personality into the writing so the reader can laugh once in a while.

These elements take some work to set up, but may give you ideas on little things you can do each day to increase your community presence. Best wishes for a healthy and happy New Year with quality weather support to the public! Send your thoughts to me at [skye@fuse.net](mailto:skye@fuse.net).

- Rich Apuzzo  
*Chair, Broadcast Meteorology Committee*

## Working Together to Save Lives:

### StormReady Label Proves Correct for Ohio County in Recent Tornado Outbreak

To earn a January 2002, NWS StormReady designation, Van Wert County, Ohio, placed a series of warning alert systems in public locations, including the movie theater recently destroyed in the November 10-11 storm outbreak, which killed 35 people.

Following a warning, quick action by Van Wert Cinemas manager Scott Shaffer and his staff got more than 50 adults and children out of theaters in the multiplex and into safer conditions in a hallway and restrooms. Minutes later a tornado tore off the building's roof and tossed cars into the screen and front seats where minutes earlier kids and parents had been watching "The Santa Clause 2."

"This story illustrates a great success for the NWS, NOAA Weather Radio and StormReady programs," said NWS Headquarters Warning Coordination Meteorologist Program Manager Stephan Kuhl. "It also illustrates the importance of establishing a close working relationship between our local NWS offices, our emergency management partners, and ultimately the communities that we serve!"

The theater office was equipped with a Federal Signal Corporation local warning alert system called the "Informer." The "Informer" is activated via a digitally-encoded pager signal that automatically turns the unit on and sounds an alert. The theater's unit was tied directly into the Van Wert County siren system and activated immediately once the Van Wert County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) sounded the warning sirens. The unit then remains open for "live" broadcasts by the emergency manager until the reset button is hit.

The Van Wert County EOC received the NWS Tornado Warning via a NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) receiver tuned to the Fort Wayne, IN, NWR transmitter frequency. Van Wert County Emergency Manager, Rick McCoy, received the warning and immediately activated the city of Van Wert siren warning system. McCoy also broadcast the NWS Tornado Warning and action statement live over the "Informer."

Seventy of the alert units and a number of NWR receivers were purchased with grant money by Van Wert County Emergency Management as one of the requirements to become StormReady. Van Wert County was designated StormReady by WFO Northern Indiana on January 10, 2002.

"If we hadn't gone through the StormReady process and gotten our warning system in place before this storm, a lot of people would not have gotten the warning, and we could have lost many more lives," McCoy said. "All communities across the country need to look at becoming StormReady, because at some point they're going to have severe weather of some kind. People shouldn't say 'it can't happen here,' because it can."

The tornado touched down in Van Wert County with 13 minutes lead-time. The tornado struck the movie theater 28 minutes after the warning was issued.

- (<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/com/nwsfocus/fs111802.htm>)

## CLIMATE MAPS ON CD-ROM

A new CD-ROM (version 2.0) of the Climate Atlas of the United States is now available from the National Climatic Data Center (NCDC). The CD-ROM atlas has more than 2,000 maps that depict normal or mean temperature, precipitation, snow, and other parameters for all areas of the United States for the period **1961-1990**. The atlas replaces the paper copy Climatic Atlas of the United States, which was published in 1968. It supersedes the earlier CD-ROM version published in 2000 that contained maps for the contiguous US states only. The new CD-ROM atlas contains climate maps for all 50 states and includes weather station data for 7,700 locations, along with detailed documentation of the data sets. NCDC developed the new atlas using innovative technology and Geographic Information Systems to generate the high quality maps, which feature zoom and query capabilities.

The CD-ROM is available from NCDC at a cost of \$130 (on-line) or \$175 (off-line) plus \$11 shipping and handling charge. To order on-line go to Web site: <http://lwf.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/> and visit the "On-line Store". For off-line orders call (828) 271-4800 or write to National Climatic Data Center, NOAA/NESDIS, Veach-Baley Federal Building, 151 Patton Ave., Asheville, NC, 28801-5001. Individual Atlas maps are also available on-line. Sample maps are available to view at: <http://lwf.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/about/cdrom/climatls2/info/atlasad.html>.

- NOAA/NESDIS Public Affairs

## MEMBER NEWS

**John J. Cahir**, a NWA Charter member, retired from vice provost and dean of undergraduate education at The Pennsylvania State University in September 2002 after a career at that University that spanned nearly four decades.

He earned his bachelor and doctoral degrees from Penn State and rose to the level of meteorology professor before taking on the role of overseeing the university's general education program in 1993. He first joined the faculty in 1965 and served as an associate dean in the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences during the 1980s. **He was the NWA President in 1982 and hosted the Annual Meeting that year in University Park, PA.**

"His fervent dedication to students and contributions as a professor and administrator have been beyond measure," Penn State President Graham Spanier said in a statement. "I value greatly the experience of working with John, and I marvel at his untiring devotion to this university."

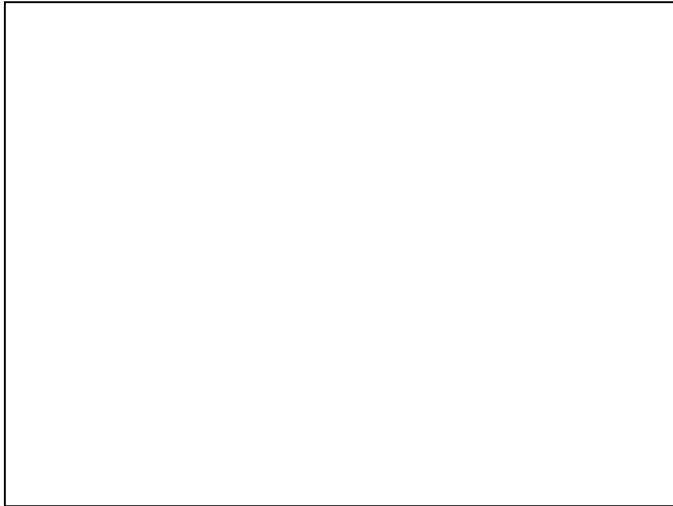
Dr. Cahir's favorite classroom, an auditorium classroom in the Walker Building, is being named in his honor.

We wish John and Mary Anne Cahir good health, happiness and rewarding travels for many years to come. No doubt, Dr. Cahir will continue to mentor students in "deep learning."

## MEMBER NEWS (continued)

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In Fort Worth, Texas for the 27th Annual Meeting, we were pleasantly surprised to find **Dave Barber**, NWA President for 1981. He had been on the faculty at North Carolina State University and then decided to pursue a second career. He is now Pastor of The First Congregational United Church of Christ in Fort Worth. He attended the Annual Meeting Awards Luncheon and presented the invocation.



*John McLaughlin (l) and Dave Barber at the Annual Meeting*

## NOAA 2002 CLIMATE REPORT

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### Widespread Drought in the Return of El Niño

*As the year 2002 ends, the preliminary look at the climate summary from NOAA Public Affairs indicates* — The climate of 2002 in the United States was characterized by warmer than normal temperatures and below average precipitation that led to persistent or worsening drought throughout much of the nation, according to scientists from NOAA's National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service (NESDIS), National Climatic Data Center (NCDC).

### Temperatures

The average temperature for the contiguous United States in 2002 is expected to be near 53.6° F (12.0° C), one of the 20 warmest years since national records began in 1895, but significantly cooler than last year, which was the 7th warmest year. The average temperature during the 1895-present record is 52.8° F, with the warmest year on record occurring in 1998.

The year 2002 began with another anomalously warm winter, the fourth much warmer-than-average winter in the last five years, and the summer season was one of the warmest since the 1930s. Temperatures in Alaska were above average in all four seasons, and 2002 will approach or exceed the warmest year on record for the state.

### Precipitation, Drought and Flooding

As the year began, moderate to extreme drought covered one-third of the contiguous United States, including much of the eastern seaboard and northwestern United States. The combination of generally warmer- and drier-than-average conditions led to the total drought area growing to slightly more than 50 percent during the summer months, largely due to a rapid intensification of drought in the Southwest. This value fell to 36 percent by the end of November as precipitation from landfalling tropical systems and a more active storm track helped alleviate drought in much of the eastern part of the country.

In the western United States where precipitation for 2002 is on pace to set record or near-record lows in many states, the lack of adequate rain and snow and the resulting low snowpack stressed water supplies and caused devastating impacts on agriculture. Severe drought in Montana that began in some places more than four years ago forced farmers to abandon more than 20 percent of the winter wheat crop for the second consecutive year, the first such occurrence since the Dust Bowl era of the 1930s. The extremely dry conditions also contributed to an extremely active wildfire season that included the largest wildfires of the past century for the states of Colorado, Arizona and Oregon.

Extremely dry conditions in the Northeast improved with four consecutive months of above-normal precipitation for the region from March through June, and abnormally dry conditions were largely absent near the end of the year. Above-average rainfall from September through November also brought significant drought relief to the Southeast, where more than four years of drought had affected much of the region from Georgia to Virginia.

In Texas, heavy rainfall alleviated drought but led to severe flooding in southern and central parts of the state in early July. Strong thunderstorms also brought widespread flooding to western Minnesota and North Dakota.

### Atlantic Hurricane Season

Of the 12 named storms that formed in the Atlantic basin during 2002, four became hurricanes and two were classified as major hurricanes (category 3 or higher on the Saffir Simpson hurricane scale), slightly less than the annual average of 5-6 hurricanes and 2-3 major hurricanes. A strengthening El Niño episode in the equatorial Pacific suppressed the number of hurricanes and weakened the storms that did develop in 2002 according to the NOAA Climate Prediction Center.

With the exception of 2002 and 1997, years that were both affected by El Niño, at least three major hurricanes have developed in every season since 1995 with five or more major hurricanes occurring in three of those seasons (1995, 1996 and 1999). See the latest National and global climate data on-line at: [lwf.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/climate/research/2002/ann/ann02.html](http://lwf.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/climate/research/2002/ann/ann02.html). - NOAA Public Affairs

# SUPERTYPHOON HITS GUAM

Supertyphoon Pongsona hit Guam in the morning of 8 December 2002, and winds of more than 130 knots did extensive damage. Many of the island inhabitants were just recovering from Typhoon Chata'an that hit Guam in July. Pongsona destroyed thousands of homes and cut off all electricity, water and power on the island. President Bush declared the U.S. territory a federal disaster area on the 8th. The NWS Office at Tiyan, Guam recorded 500 mm (19.67 inches) of rain, which set a new record for daily rainfall during the month of December. The old daily rainfall record was 351 mm (13.81 inches) produced by Typhoon Paka in 1997.

Eight days later, The NWA office received the first e-mail response from a member, "Thank you very much for your kind words. Although the typhoon altered our lives in many ways, the staff at WFO Guam remain resilient and continue to be encouraged by messages such as yours. In fact, we are looking forward to having our office party this coming Friday! Things can only go up from here! Regards, Genevieve Miller."

Charter NWA member, Lt Col (Ret.) Charles "Chip" Guard, now a member of the NWS Office on Guam, finally was able to answer our e-mail on 22 September and indicated, "Pretty bad, but could have been a lot worse. We're getting back to normal -- somewhat. We just got power last night in Sinajana. Soon we will be complaining about the Cable TV. We had 1 death -- 71 year old woman had a heart attack -- and 193 injuries. Pretty good for a 120-130 kt typhoon. I'm doing the wind assessment now -- heavily forensic since the wind sensors and Doppler radar failed. Thanks for the concern. The restaurants are full of laughing people again. Have a great Christmas and New Year. Later, Chip and Mary."

## LOCAL CHAPTER NEWS

The Central Iowa Chapter met at Godfather's restaurant in Ankeny, IA on 10 December 2002, with nine members in attendance. We kicked off the meeting with reports from the president, vice president and treasurer. We voted on future meeting times and locations. Annual chapter dues will be due at the meeting in January 2003. Discussion then moved to our annual Severe Storms conference. We discussed the speakers we are going to invite and began discussing travel arrangements and lodging for our guests. The chapter Web site at [www.iowa-nwa.com](http://www.iowa-nwa.com) will have all the conference and hotel information. The Science Center of Iowa would like to do a joint effort with us in sponsoring their upcoming exhibit, Eye's on Earth. The exhibit runs from 25 Jan to 27 April. Bryan is going to check on the possibility of having an "NWA night" during the conference. The next chapter meeting will be held 15 January 2003 at the National Weather Service office in Johnston, IA.

– *Bryan Karrick, Chapter President*

Nine members of the High Plains AMS/NWA Chapter met on 10 December 2002 at the Town and Country Kitchen in Norton, KS. Gino Izzi of North Platte, NE (LBF WFO) presented two reports: a climatological look at the occurrence of dense fog at LBF and VTN, and a statistical look at climatology of non-convective high wind events at the same two locations. After Gino's presentations, the regular business meeting began, directed by President John Stoppkotte. Secretary Tim Burke read the minutes from the 6 August 2002 meeting; the minutes were accepted. President John Stoppkotte read the treasurer's report and the financial report of the Dodge City conference that showed Expenses of \$4,027.01, and Receipts of \$3,658.00, for a net loss of \$369.01. We consider this conference a success, and will continue to strive to host quality, low-cost conferences annually.

The issue of our chapter sponsoring a "Women in Science" scholarship was revisited from a previous meeting. At the time this topic was first proposed, consideration was not given to the facts that our chapter gives out \$800.00 in student scholarships at our annual conference already, and financially supporting another ongoing scholarship may be hard to support. It was noted how much interest has been shown by young female students in the job shadow programs recently.

Mike Moritz and Dan Nietfeld will attend the National AMS conference in February in Long Beach, CA. Dan and Mike are planning to attend the "Chapter Breakfast" for local chapters, as well as present a poster at the conference. Vice President Jim Johnson shared a few notes from Chapter Archives, including minutes from a 1996 meeting (the first year of our existence).

The main discussion for new business was the plans for our next High Plains conference, to be held in Hastings, NE. Jared Guyer gave a status report. Hastings College has confirmed our use of their facilities, including free use of classrooms and needed support. The conference will be 8–10 October 2003. Please notify the Hastings WFO if there are any known conflicts with these dates. If you have an idea or suggestion for invited speakers, please contact Rick Ewald, Mike Moritz or Jared Guyer of the North Platte, NE NWS office. Updated information will be posted on the chapter Web site. - *Tim Burke, Secretary*

For more information on NWA Local Chapters, please visit the NWA Web site ([www.nwas.org](http://www.nwas.org)) and click on the NWA Local Chapters block

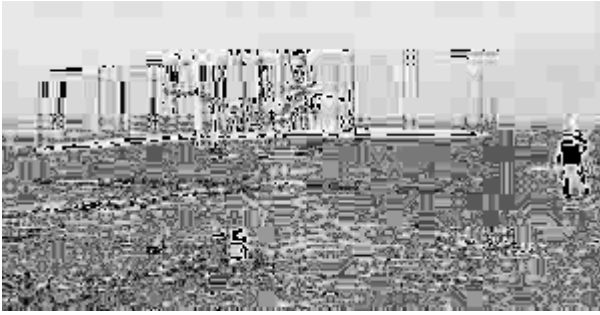
**The U.S. Centennial of Flight Commission and its many partners began celebrations in December 2002 that will continue through 17 December 2003, the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Wright Brothers first flight.**

**And since the history of Operational Weather is so closely associated with aviation history, the NWA Aviation Committee will highlight Centennial news at their Web site:**

**[www.nwas.org/committees/avn-wea.html](http://www.nwas.org/committees/avn-wea.html)**

also see page 6 for the first of many Newsletter articles to come — related to the Wright Brothers and Aviation — →

## WHY KITTY HAWK?



*The first manned flight in history: December 17, 1903.  
At 10:35 a.m Orville Wright takes off into a 27 mph wind at  
Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina near Kitty Hawk.  
The distance covered was 120 feet; time aloft was 12 seconds.  
Wilbur is seen at right.  
Picture was taken with Orville's camera by John T. Daniels.*

The Wright brothers accomplished what people had only imagined since the beginning of time. Why did these two brothers from Dayton, Ohio, choose to travel numerous times by train and boat to Kitty Hawk, North Carolina to test their kites, gliders and the first successful powered, heavier-than-air flight?

*According to Tom D. Crouch, Senior Curator for Aeronautics at the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C. (found on the Web site: [www.centennialofflight.gov](http://www.centennialofflight.gov))*

“While considering the design of their glider, they realized that if the machine was to be of reasonable size, they would have to fly it in a considerable wind. Recognizing that their home town was not an especially windy place, Wilbur wrote to Willis L. Moore, Chief of the U.S. Weather Bureau (November 27, 1899), requesting information on winds in various parts of the nation. Moore sent them copies of the August and September 1899 issues of the *Monthly Weather Review*, which included the wind speeds recorded at Weather Bureau stations across America. As expected, the windiest places were lakeshore cities like Chicago and Buffalo. The first rural spot on the list was Kitty Hawk, NC, a place with which the Wrights, and most other Americans, were unfamiliar. A few minutes with a map revealed that Kitty Hawk was a remote village on the Outer Banks, a thin ribbon of sand paralleling the coast of North Carolina. Wilbur wrote to Joseph Doshier, who operated the small Weather Bureau station at Kitty Hawk, asking about the winds and other conditions in the area. Doshier responded with a short note, and passed Wilbur's letter on to his friend William Tate, who responded as well, describing ideal conditions for "scientific kite flying," and closing with an assurance that, "...you will find hospitable people when you come among us." Kitty Hawk it would be.”

The Wright Brother's first trip to Kitty Hawk was in September 1900.

## MEETINGS OF INTEREST

• **SECOND ANNUAL SOUTHEAST SEVERE STORMS SYMPOSIUM** will be held 17-19 January 2003 at the **Mississippi State University in Starkville**. It is sponsored by the East Mississippi Chapters of the NWA and AMS and the Mississippi State University Department of Geosciences. This symposium will deal with the current challenges of forecasting all types of severe weather in the Southeastern United States.

**Registration forms and general information are on the Web site: <http://www.msstate.edu/org/nwa/symposium.htm>** For further information, please contact: Chapter President, David Nussbaum: tel: 662-325-8417, e-mail: [davidjnussbaum@hotmail.com](mailto:davidjnussbaum@hotmail.com); or Dr. Michael Brown: tel: 662-325-2906, e-mail: [mebrown@ra.msstate.edu](mailto:mebrown@ra.msstate.edu).

• **South Dakota to offer Winter Weather Workshop for Broadcast Meteorologists, 27-29 January 2003.** South Dakota tourism has planned a three-day Black Hills winter weather expedition, including briefings by the Rapid City National Weather Service office on the area's climatology and unique forecasting problems caused by the local topography. Following the training, media meteorologists will travel into the Black Hills on snowmobiles and skis to sample snow pack and weather conditions. The tour, snow conditions permitting, is scheduled for 27-29 January with basecamp at Deadwood, South Dakota. For more information, contact Lee Harstad, State of South Dakota tourism, via e-mail at [Lee.Harstad@state.sd.us](mailto:Lee.Harstad@state.sd.us) or Jay Trobec, KELO-TV in Sioux Falls at [jaytr@worldnet.att.net](mailto:jaytr@worldnet.att.net)

• **The American Meteorological Society's 83rd Annual Meeting and Exposition will be held in Long Beach, California, 9-13 February 2003.** The NWA is cosponsoring conferences and symposiums at this meeting related to operational meteorology: The Symposium on the Fujita Scale and Severe-Weather Damage Assessment, Symposium on Observing and Understanding the Variability of Water in Weather and Climate, Symposium on Impacts of Water Variability: Benefits and Challenges, 19th International Conference on Interactive Information and Processing Systems for Meteorology, Oceanography and Hydrology, 17th Conference on Hydrology, 12th Conference on Satellite Meteorology and Oceanography, Coastal Environments Symposium on Developments in Operational and Research Coastal Oceanography and Meteorology. The complete program and registration information are online at Web site: <http://www.ametsoc.org/AMS>.

• **THIRD ANNUAL NATIONAL SEVERE WEATHER WORKSHOP** will be held 27 February - 1 March 2003 in **Norman, OK**. The event is sponsored by the National Weather Service, the Central Oklahoma AMS/NWA Chapter, and the Oklahoma Emergency Managers Association. Severe weather experts from across the nation will present the latest techniques for severe weather preparedness and response. Speakers will include NOAA and NWS leadership, broadcast meteorologists and emergency managers, as well as forecasters and researchers from NWS offices, the NOAA Weather Partners in Norman, including the Storm Prediction Center, NWS Norman Forecast Office, National Severe Storms Laboratory, Radar Operations Center, Warning Decision Training Branch, and the University

of Oklahoma. The workshop will be held at the National Center for Employee Development Marriott Conference Center in Norman, OK. Sponsor and vendor opportunities are available for businesses to promote their products and services during the event. For more information, please call (405) 579-0771 or visit the Web site <http://www.nssl.noaa.gov/nsww/2003>.

• **THE 28TH ANNUAL NORTHEASTERN STORM CONFERENCE will be held 7-9 March 2003 at the Holiday Inn in Saratoga Springs, New York.** It is sponsored by the Lyndon State College AMS/NWA Chapter. **If you are presenting a paper or poster, be sure to send in a one page abstract or summary before 15 January 2003.** Registration deadline for the conference is 15 February 2003. See more information on Web site: <http://apollo.lsc.vsc.edu/ams> or contact Chapter President, Cegeon J. Chan, at Lyndon State College, LSC Box 7408, Lyndonville, VT 05851; e-mail: [Cegeon.Chan@lyndonstate.edu](mailto:Cegeon.Chan@lyndonstate.edu); Tel: (802) 626-6642; or Fax: (802) 626-9770 ATTN: LSC-AMS/NWA.

• **SEVENTH ANNUAL SEVERE STORMS AND DOPPLER RADAR CONFERENCE will commence at 4:00 PM on Thursday, 27 March 2003, and adjourn Saturday, 29 March at 6:00 PM in Des Moines, Iowa.** It is sponsored by the Central Iowa Chapter of the NWA. The Embassy Suites in downtown Des Moines will host the event; call (515) 244-1700 for room reservations. **All persons wishing to present materials of relevance should send a 200-word abstract by Friday, 14 February 2003 to:** Central Iowa Chapter-NWA, P.O. Box 7512, Urbandale, IA 50322. E-mail entries will also be accepted at: [bkarrick@hearst.com](mailto:bkarrick@hearst.com). For further information and to register online, please visit Web site: [www.iowa-nwa.com](http://www.iowa-nwa.com).

• **The Third Conference on Isentropic Analysis and Forecasting will be held 4-5 April, 2003 on the campus of Millersville University of Pennsylvania.** This conference is sponsored in part by the NWA's Weather Analysis and Forecasting Committee. The theme of this gathering will be "Isentropic Meteorology in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Opportunities and Challenges." The Saturday (April 5) sessions will be preceded by a Friday (April 4) Short Course on Isentropic Analysis and Forecasting Methods conducted by Dr. James T. Moore of Saint Louis University. This course will be especially beneficial for those whose exposure to an isentropic approach to meteorological analysis may have been limited. The Saturday conference will conclude with a late afternoon workshop on "Visualization Tools for Isentropic Analysis: Using VIS-5D and Numerical Models." Papers on isentropic topics are invited from all sectors of the discipline: government service, broadcasters, the military, private concerns, and academia. Registration fees, including breaks, the Friday Short Course, Friday evening ice breaker, and the luncheon on Saturday are set at \$90.00 (\$55.00 for students). Make checks payable to **Millersville University**. Registration forms, fees, and paper abstracts (not to exceed 300 words) should be sent to: Dr. Sepideh Yalda, Millersville University of Pennsylvania, Dept. of Earth Sciences, Millersville, PA 17551; [Sepi.Yalda@millersville.edu](mailto:Sepi.Yalda@millersville.edu). **The deadline for abstracts and registration is 28 February 2003.** Additional conference information will be made available at Web site: <http://www.atmos.millersville.edu>.

• **The 25th Annual National Hurricane Conference will be held 14-18 April 2003 at the Hyatt Regency in New Orleans, LA.** Conference highlights include 40 Comprehensive Workshops, 27 Training Sessions, six RAP Sessions, FEMA Director Joe Allbaugh, Bill Gray's 2003 Season Forecast, National Hurricane Center Director Max Mayfield's recap of the 2002 Season, and a roundtable discussion featuring the past six National Hurricane Center Directors. For more information, please visit Web site: [www.HurricaneMeeting.com](http://www.HurricaneMeeting.com).

• **INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LIGHTNING AND STATIC ELECTRICITY (ICOLSE 2003) will be held 16-18 September 2003 in Blackpool, England.** For the first time at any international meeting, the ICOLSE conference will have a track on Keraunomedicine, the medical aspects of lightning injuries. The sessions will include tutorials, lecture/keynote addresses, research reports, panel discussions, and case reports. The conference organizers, Dr. Chris Andrews (Australia) and Dr. Mary Ann Cooper (USA), encourage anyone with an interest in the medical aspects of lightning, personal lightning safety, or injury prevention to attend. Registrants for the Keraunomedicine track will be admitted to the regular ICOLSE meeting sessions as well. For more information, please contact Dr. Mary Ann Cooper at [macooper@uic.edu](mailto:macooper@uic.edu) or visit Web site: <http://www.icolse.org>

• **SEVENTH ANNUAL HIGH PLAINS CONFERENCE will be held in Hastings, Nebraska, 8-10 October 2003.** It is sponsored by the High Plains AMS/NWA Chapter. Oral presentations are currently being solicited for the conference, with an emphasis on the weather of the High Plains region. **One page abstracts may be submitted until the 15 August 2003 deadline.** The conference will be of interest to not only public and private meteorologists, but broadcast meteorologists, meteorology students, emergency managers, storm chasers, and other weather enthusiasts as well. Keynote speakers will be announced at a later date. The High Plains Chapter is proud to once again sponsor a student paper competition for both undergraduate and graduate students. Two monetary scholarships will be awarded, with the top finisher receiving \$500 and a free one-year membership to the chapter. Registration for the conference is \$50, while student registration is only \$25. Conference fees will include lunch and refreshments. The banquet dinner on Thursday evening (October 9) is an extra nominal fee. Provisions for vendors will be made available at little or no extra charge. The latest conference information, including local lodging and pre-registration, can be found at the High Plains Chapter website: <http://www.highplains-amsnwa.org>. Any questions or abstract submissions may be sent to the conference co-chairs: [Michael.Moritz@noaa.gov](mailto:Michael.Moritz@noaa.gov) and [Jared.Guyer@noaa.gov](mailto:Jared.Guyer@noaa.gov) or by regular mail to 7HPC c/o National Weather Service, 6365 Osborne Drive West, Hastings, Nebraska 68901; Phone: 402-462-2127; Fax: 402-462-2746

• **NWA 28th ANNUAL MEETING will be held at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Jacksonville, Florida, 18-23 October 2003.** The Call for Abstracts and registration information will be published in the NWA Newsletter and on the NWA Web site ([www.nwas.org](http://www.nwas.org)) by the end of January 2003. Information can also be obtained from the NWA Executive Director's office at (434) 296-9966 or [NatWeaAsoc@aol.com](mailto:NatWeaAsoc@aol.com).

## JOB CORNER

The NWA posts jobs from equal opportunity employers at no cost for the benefit of NWA members. Please see the Job section on the NWA Web site ([www.nwas.org](http://www.nwas.org)) for complete announcements and job links. Members who do not have Internet capability may request announcements from the NWA office at (434) 296-9966.

**FEDEX EXPRESS** is now accepting resumes for an upcoming opening in the Weather Department at Fedex Express, located in Memphis, TN. A degree in Meteorology or appropriate training as well as four years experience in aviation forecasting/support is required. Knowledge of weather effects on aircraft is also desired as is excellence at briefing aviation users of current and forecast weather. Must be able to work rotating shifts, weekends and holidays. Benefits include: excellent starting salary with progression and raises based on performance, health insurance, dental and vision care at a nominal fee as well as other excellent benefits. Please send resumes to: [wpwoveris@fedex.com](mailto:wpwoveris@fedex.com) or mail to: W. Woveris, 3796 Lamar Ave. 2nd Floor Memphis, TN 38118.

**UNIVERSAL WEATHER AND AVIATION, INC.**, an international aviation services company, has an immediate opening for an aviation meteorologist. The Meteorology department is located at Universal's world headquarters in Houston, Texas. Necessary Knowledge/Experience: A Bachelors of Science degree in Meteorology or the completion of military forecaster's school (DD-214 entry required). Ability to work rotating shift work is required. Windows / PC knowledge and efficient in touch-typing, at least 30 wpm, is essential. Unix workstation knowledge is a plus. Good oral communications and phone etiquette skills are a must. Three years of practical experience in aviation forecasting is preferred. The position includes competitive salary and benefits package. Qualified candidates (principals only) may send a resume and cover letter to: e-mail: [jreed@univ-wea.com](mailto:jreed@univ-wea.com) or Fax: (713) 943-4651 or via US mail: Universal Weather and Aviation, Inc. Attention: Jim Reed, 8787 Tallyho, Houston, Texas 77061. To find out more about Universal Weather and Aviation, Inc., visit us on the web at: [www.univ-wea.com](http://www.univ-wea.com).

## NATIONAL WEATHER ASSOCIATION

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Members receive the monthly NWA Newsletter and quarterly *National Weather Digest* as part of their regular, student or corporate membership privileges. Contact the NWA office or view the Web site for membership information. Newsletter subscriptions are available at \$18.00 per year plus extra shipping costs outside USA. Single copies are \$1.50. Contact the NWA Executive Director's office (listed above) with address changes by phone, regular mail or e-mail.

### IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

17–19 January 2003 – Second Annual Southeast Severe Storms Symposium at Mississippi State University

9–13 February 2003 – AMS 83rd Annual Meeting in Long Beach, California

27 February to 1 March 2003 – Third Annual National Severe Weather Workshop in Norman, OK.

7–9 March 2003 – 28th Annual Northeastern Storm Conference in Saratoga Springs, NY, sponsored by the Lyndon State College AMS/NWA Chapter

**18–23 October 2003 – NWA 28th Annual Meeting in Jacksonville, FL.**

Please see **MEETINGS** on pages 6-7 for further information.