# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Dave Knapp



It is hard to believe that we are at the end of another calendar year and the end of an excellent year for the NWA. We've seen growth and great enthusiasm in the organization from the Officers, Councilors, committees, staff, and numerous other members. And, we've seen the NWA

continuing on track as a viable and influential voice of credibility in the operational meteorology community. It is time for the annual change in leadership as we transition to a new calendar year with new opportunities.

Thanks to you - the entire NWA membership - for supporting this great organization and for supporting and promoting excellence in operational meteorology during my year as President. It has truly been a pleasure and a privilege to serve an outstanding group of professionals. Special thanks go to the members of the NWA Council, committee chairpersons and committee members, our publications' editors and publishers, and all associated with the planning and execution of tasks at the Annual Meeting. I especially acknowledge the steady and positive contributions of our appointed staff: Kevin Lavin (outgoing Executive Director), Cynthia Nelson (Assistant Executive Director), Steve Harned (incoming Executive Director) and their part-time assistants and terrific volunteers. Together, they provide the NWA leadership with the glue to keep us all together and focused on the important tasks that affect all members and the health of the organization. Thanks also to our incoming President Alan Gerard who has provided outstanding support and advice to me during the year. I look forward to his leadership and direction as we continue to press forward in 2007.

In the November newsletter, I announced the changes in the NWA staff. See page 3 for introductory words from Steve Harned and the new office contact information. During the transition, Steve, Cynthia and Kevin will insure all correspondence gets to the right place and is taken care of promptly. Contact information will also be changed on the many Web site pages as the volunteer webmasters can get to them.

At the Annual Meeting in Cleveland, I briefed on some of our 2006 accomplishments and a vision for the future. A summary is presented here for all members.

**1. Full implementation of the Strategic Plan and the first implementation of an annual Operating Plan.** We have well-defined documents to steer the NWA now and in the future, and these plans will be reviewed/renewed/updated each year. Progress has been made on all 2006 goals, some goals will be completed by the end of 2006, and others will be carried over into the 2007 Operating Plan. Huge thanks to the Strategic Planning Committee members for their work to help launch this vital annual activity.

2. Robust and active committees. In the October Newsletter, you read about quite a few committee accomplishments and here are a few more. The Specialized Operational Services Committee has become increasingly active in sharing news of Road Weather Information Systems' (RWIS) initiatives across the country. The Remote Sensing Committee is also helping in that sharing of information with a report on page 4 of the sensors involved with RWIS. The Education Committee continues with its annually increasing workload of evaluating the growing number of education grant and scholarship applications. This past year, they received more than 130 applications for 10 Sol Hirsch NWA education grants, and more than 50 applications for just 3 NWA scholarships. I consider these statistics a key indicator of our visibility in the college and K-12 arenas. Look for more NWA scholarships to be available in 2007!

**3. Membership.** With the annual membership dues increase implemented in 2006, the NWA Council held its collective breath in hopes the increase would not adversely impact membership. I am very pleased to report that we saw no major impact on our numbers for 2006. Another good sign of membership strength was seen in our Annual Meeting attendance of 395.

**4. Publications.** Thanks to the combined efforts of Steve Harned, Kevin Lavin, the editors, authors, the Publications Committee, and all others associated with the NWA publications, I am pleased to report that the *National Weather Digest* is back on a good schedule. With Steve and Kevin leading the way, the third *Digest* of this year (Volume 30, dated December 2006) was completed and received from the printer before the end of December. Look for it in your January mail. →

**What's coming in 2007?** With the recent switch to a new Internet server provider, we have more capacity and are better able to handle Web page upgrades and new capabilities. With the leadership of the IT Committee, you will see continued improvements and more information on the NWA Web site: www.nwas.org.

We have opportunities to increase NWA leadership front office staff and volunteer support as the main office shifts to Steve Harned's home area of Raleigh, North Carolina where there are more NWA members.

The Publications Committee members are working on improvements to the *Digest, Newsletter*, and the *Electronic Journal*.

You will also see the new Membership and Marketing (M&M) Committee, led by Betsy Kling, working with the NWA Council and staff to address new opportunities to market the NWA, increase our membership, and strengthen NWA relevance in the operational community.

With all the 2006 activities accomplished, the path initially set for 2007, and with President Alan Gerard's leadership, I am confident the NWA will continue to meet and exceed these goals:

**1.** Insure the NWA is a relevant and worthwhile organization for our Members.

**2.** Improve our image and influence among our peers and in the communities we support.

**3.** Steady membership growth to insure goals 1 and 2 are possible.

I look forward to what is in store for the future, and I thank all of you again for helping to make 2006 a very good year for the NWA and its objectives.

- Dave Knapp, President@nwas.org

#### MEMBER NEWS

#### MAX MAYFIELD, NHC DIRECTOR, RETIRES

Max Mayfield, Director of the NOAA/NWS National Hurricane Center (NHC) in Miami since May 2000, will retire on 3 January 2007 after 34 years of dedicated federal service. Max said he wishes to spend more time with his wife and family, which has been very limited especially during the last few record-setting hurricane seasons.

"I made this difficult decision knowing that the team here at the National Hurricane Center is the best there is," said Max. "They're at the top of their game, and I'm confident whoever takes my place can count on the support of the most dedicated team in the hurricane forecasting business. The team's performance during the last two years – certainly the busiest in my career – has been exemplary, and I am very proud of that and them."

"The entire nation will miss Max Mayfield's extraordinary leadership, expertise and service when he takes his well-deserved retirement from the National Hurricane Center," said US Dept. of Commerce Secretary Carlos Gutierrez. "As a dedicated forecaster and a voice of calm during hurricane storm seasons, he helped save lives and property. We thank him and wish him well." "I thank Max for his many years of service to America ...," said Vice Admiral Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Jr., U.S. Navy (Ret.), under secretary of commerce for oceans and atmosphere and NOAA administrator. "Max is a national treasure... his calm, reassuring presence on TV has helped millions of Americans prepare for potentially deadly storms, and has helped saved countless lives."

Max, a charter member of the NWA, began his weather forecasting career with the US Air Force in 1970 after graduating from the University of Oklahoma with a degree in mathematics. In 1972, he joined the National Weather Service as a satellite meteorologist in Miami. The Oklahoma native earned his master's degree in meteorology at Florida State University in 1987, and then became a hurricane specialist. In December 1999, Max was named the NHC acting director and became the Director in May 2000.

The *NOAA Magazine* published an in-depth interview with Max. The article can be found at Web site: www.magazine.noaa.gov/stories/mag215.htm.

- from NOAA News archives

#### **BILL PROENZA — NEW NHC DIRECTOR**

Xavier William (Bill) Proenza, Director of the NOAA National Weather Service Southern Region in Fort Worth, Texas will become the Director of the National Hurricane Center (NHC), and two other divisions of the NOAA/NWS Tropical Prediction Center on 3 January 2007.

"Although Bill has big shoes to fill as America's calm and trusted voice in the eye of the storm, his experience and his ties to the emergency management community will be a national asset in preparing our coastlines from tropical weather threats," said US Dept. of Commerce Secretary Carlos Gutierrez.

"Bill directs warning and forecast services for the most active severe weather region in the United States, the Southern Region, where nearly 90 percent of our nation's hurricanes make landfall. He has made hurricane preparation and the local forecasting of flooding, tornadoes and high winds by our network of weather forecast offices his top priority," said retired US Navy Vice Admiral Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Ph.D., undersecretary of commerce for oceans and atmosphere and NOAA administrator. "He is an effective and knowledgeable leader and well respected by our partners in emergency management and the media."

Bill started his career with the NOAA/NWS at its NHC and with NOAA's hurricane hunters in the mid '60s and went on to serve in a number of field, headquarters and leadership capacities across the nation. He has been director of the NOAA/NWS Southern Region since 1998. The Florida State University graduate is a long-standing member of the American Meteorological Society and the National Weather Association, and held appointments in both professional agencies. Bill was selected as the NWA Member of the Year for 1990 and he served as a NWA councilor in 1990 and 1991. In 2001, the AMS recognized him with its prestigious Francis W. Reichelderfer Award for outstanding environmental services to the nation. In 2003, Bill was elected an AMS Fellow. - NOAA NWS Public Affairs

## STEVE HARNED TO BECOME NWA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Stephen W. (Steve) Harned will become the National Weather Association's fifth executive director on January 1, 2007. Previous executive directors include Jerry LaRue (NWA founder), 1977-1980; Randy Racer, 1980-1981; Sol Hirsch, 1981-1992; and Kevin Lavin 1993-2006. Steve is a charter member of the NWA, served as president in 1992 and as the technical editor/publisher for the *Digest* in 2006.

Steve is a 1970 graduate of Florida State University and joined the National Weather Service (then the U.S. Weather Bureau) after his sophomore year in college (working summers). After graduation, he joined the US Navy and served 3 years as a weather officer at the Fleet Weather Central in Rota, Spain. Upon release from active duty, Steve returned to the NWS in Lubbock, Texas. Over the next 30 years, he had additional assignments to NWS facilities in Houston, Texas; Anchorage, Alaska; Raleigh, North Carolina; and Silver Spring, Maryland. He served as the Meteorologist-In-Charge at the Houston and Raleigh offices. He retired from the NOAA/NWS Weather Forecast Office in Raleigh in 2004, earned a Certified Consulting Meteorologist (CCM) designation from the AMS, and opened a meteorological consulting firm, Atlantic States Weather, Inc. The firm specializes in forensic services.

Steve and his wife Jeanne live in Cary, North Carolina, a suburb of Raleigh. Their son and daughter and their families (including four grandchildren) also live in the Raleigh area.

**Effective 1 January 2007**, the primary NWA administrative office, where Executive Director Steve Harned will reside, will be at:

National Weather Association 228 West Millbrook Road Raleigh, North Carolina (USA) 27609-4304

Tel/Fax: 919-845-1546 E-mail: exdir@nwas.org

Cynthia Nelson, the Assistant Executive Director, will continue to work from her home office at:

National Weather Association 3794 Cluny Point P.O. Box 342B Lakeville, New York (USA) 14480-0911 Tel: 585-582-5745 Fax: 585-374-1330 E-mail: natweaasoc1@aol.com

Kevin Lavin, Executive Director Emeritus, will continue to work from his home in Charlottesville, VA. Tel/Fax: 434-296-9966; E-mail: natweaasoc@aol.com.

## MORE MEMBER NEWS

Welcome new corporate member! **ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH SERVICES** 1134 Delaware Drive Matamoras, PA 18336-9708 Tel: 570-491-4689; Fax: 570-491-2049 Internet: http://www.raob.com/ POC: **John Shewchuk** e-mail: wxx@raob.com

**Ken Crawford,** Director of the Oklahoma Climatological Survey, State Climatologist, and Regents Professor of Meteorology at the University of Oklahoma, and <u>Bill</u> <u>Proenza</u>, soon to be Director of the National Hurricane Center (see page 2) have been elected to become Councilors of the American Meteorological Society. They are two of four incoming Councilors and will serve for a period of three years starting in January 2007. They are both long-term members of the NWA. Ken served the NWA as president for 1988 and as a councilor from 1989-1991. Bill served the NWA as a councilor from 1990-1991.

# WMO Statement on the Status of the Global Climate in 2006

GENEVA, 14 December (WMO) – The global mean surface temperature in 2006 is currently estimated to be +  $0.42^{\circ}$ C above the 1961-1990 annual average (14°C/57.2°F), according to the records maintained by Members of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). The year 2006 is currently estimated to be the sixth warmest year on record.

For the complete report, see Web site: http://www.wmo.ch/web/Press/PR\_768\_English.doc

This preliminary information for 2006 is based on observations up to the end of November from networks of land-based weather stations, ships and buoys. The data are collected and disseminated on a continuing basis by the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services of WMO Members. However, the declining state of some observational platforms in some parts of the world is of concern. It should be noted that, following established practice, WMO's global temperature analyses are based on two different datasets. One is the combined dataset maintained by the Hadley Centre of the UK Met Office, and the Climatic Research Unit, University of East Anglia, UK. The other is maintained by the US Department of Commerce's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Results from these two datasets are comparable: both indicate that 2006 is likely to be the sixth warmest year globally.

More extensive and updated information will be made available in the annual WMO Statement on the Status of the Global Climate in 2006, to be published in early March 2007.

## REMOTE SENSING AND FORECASTING WINTER WEATHER IMPACTS ON ROADS and SURFACE TRANSPORTATION

Road Weather Information Systems (RWIS) include networks of Environmental Sensor Stations (ESS) operated by state departments of transportation (DOT) in the United States and by provincial ministries of transportation in Canada. In addition, systems are operated by airports, cites, counties, and toll road and bridge authorities. Extensive systems are also in place in a number of European countries.

An ESS can contain sensors to observe atmospheric, hydrologic, or pavement conditions. A typical ESS consists of a number of sensors embedded in the pavement surface in various travel lanes, in bridge decks, and in ramps. There are also many sites that contain sub-surface sensors of varying depth. These sensors measure or help determine pavement temperature, temperature at depth pavement below the surface. pavement condition (dry, wet, snow or ice covered, etc.) and concentration of deicing chemicals in liquid present on the road surface. It is important to remember that the pavement sensors represent conditions for a point and not necessarily for entire routes due to potential differences in road materials. shading, etc. With practice, pavement and sub-surface temperatures can be used to help predict the potential for snow accumulation and even fog formation.

Roadway sensors are connected to a Remote Processing Unit (RPU) that is attached to a meteorological equipment tower adjacent to the highway. The RPU collects and processes the sensor measurements and transmits the information to central server. Standard а meteorological instruments are also attached to the tower and typically include an anemometer, sensors for air temperature and relative humidity, and precipitation indicators. The precipitation indicator may be a simple ves/no device or a more sophisticated classifier that determines precipitation type and intensity. Some towers can also host a video camera that produces images of the roadway and nearby areas. Visibility sensors are added in some locations such as in fog prone areas.

The ESS were originally deployed for use by highway maintenance personnel to monitor road conditions and determine and adjust treatment strategies prior to and during winter weather conditions. Applying deicing chemicals while pavement temperatures are still above freezing (called anti-icing) can reduce the amount of chemical required to maintain a wet pavement condition compared to waiting until the pavement temperature drops below freezing and the snow or ice has bonded to the pavement surface. After an application of chemicals, personnel can monitor the chemical concentration to determine when reapplication of chemicals is necessary. ESS information is also used by meteorologists supplying pavement temperature and precipitation forecasts to highway and airport maintenance authorities to initialize pavement temperature forecast models and to monitor forecast accuracy. ESS observations also help the meteorologist by filling in spatial gaps in primary data sources such as ASOS and AWOS observations. As of spring 2006, state DOTs have deployed over 2,400 ESS across the nation (Figure 1).

It is very important for meteorologists and climatologists to understand that ESS are usually sited to capture a specific hazard to the surface transportation system. These can range from monitoring water levels from adjacent creeks to high winds in mountain passes or dense fog potential in valleys. In some cases, the observations are only representative of the local area. Users of these data must be able to obtain and understand station metadata to properly use ESS observations in general weather forecasting.

There are three main sources of RWIS/ESS data for the general meteorological community. The Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Road Weather Management Program (www.fhwa.dot.gov/weather) maintains a complete listing of 39 state DOT ESS web sites. The ESS Web site listing can be found at: www.ops.fhwa.dot.gov/weather/best\_practices/1024x768/transform2.asp?xsIname=S RCwebsites.xslt&xmIname=SRCwebsites.xml.

**ESS owned by State Transportation Agencies** 





A second source of ESS data is the Meteorological Assimilation Data Ingest System (MADIS). Developed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Earth System Research Laboratory, MADIS is a data management system that collects and disseminates observations from a variety of public and private mesonets. MADIS, found at http://madis.noaa.gov/, provides weather observations from more than 20,000 locations in North America including

ESS, profilers, aviation observations and marine data. MADIS also provides some automated quality checking. As of fall 2006, MADIS was collecting ESS data from 25 different DOTs (in blue, Figure 2). NOAA has recently begun the transition of the MADIS functionality from its current, research state into NOAA operations within the National Weather Service's (NWS) Telecommunications Operations Center (TOC) that will support many users' needs.

The third source of ESS data is from a new FHWA initiative called Clarus from the Latin word for "clear". This is a new data management system designed to meet the goal of collecting all state transportation agency ESS from across the nation. In addition, Clarus will make use of advanced quality checking algorithms for both atmospheric and pavement Finally, Clarus will observations. contain an extensive metadata library describing many aspects of ESS sites and sensors.

Information about Clarus can be found at www.clarusinitiative.org/. A proof of concept demonstration the system capabilities will be of concluded in December 2006. A regional demonstration will take place during much of 2007 and into 2008. FHWA and NOAA are coordinating the merging of the Clarus functionality with MADIS capabilities within the NWS' TOC and contained within a new NOAA operational system called the National Surface Weather Observing System (NSWOS).

For specific information on FHWA's Road Weather Management Program or Clarus, contact Paul Pisano at Paul.Pisano@dot.gov. For information on NOAA's Surface Program Weather or NSWOS, O'Sullivan contact Jim at jim.osullivan@noaa.gov.

The committee extends their gratitude to Andy Stern, a consultant to FHWA, as well as Paul Pisano and Jim O'Sullivan for their contributions to this article. This and other remote sensing education and training articles can also be found on the NWA Remote Sensing Committee Web site at: nwas.org/committees/rs/train.html.

- David Trask, NWA Remote Sensing Committee



Figure 2. State DOTs providing ESS to NOAA/MADIS

# EUROPEAN POLAR ORBITER LAUNCHED

Remote Sensing Committee Chair Ken Carey compiled the following information from NOAA press releases.

On 19 October 2006, the European polar-orbiting satellite, Meteorological Operational (MetOp)-A, was launched aboard a Soyuz-2 from the Baikonur Space Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan. This launch is being heralded as a major milestone in the U.S.-European Initial Joint Polar System (IJPS). The agreement between NOAA and the European Organization for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites (EUMETSAT) coordinates respective polar-orbiting satellite launches to improve coverage of weather and climate conditions. This joint system will consist of two fully coordinated independent polar-orbiting satellite systems, the NOAA Polar Orbiting Operational Environmental Satellite (POES) system and the EUMETSAT Polar System (EPS). In support of IJPS, NOAA satellites NOAA N and N' will be flown consecutively (one replacing the other) in a polar orbit with an afternoon (p.m.) equatorial crossing time. EUMETSAT, working together with the European Space Agency (ESA) will develop the first two MetOp series of satellites to be flown consecutively in a polar orbit with a mid-morning (a.m.) equatorial crossing time.

The MetOp satellite series consists of three spacecraft, with the first being MetOp-A, which are designed to provide operational data until 2020. Under the IJPS, the MetOp satellites, flying in a morning polar orbit of the globe, will carry key NOAA instruments. NOAA's polar-orbiting satellites, the current NOAA-18 and the future NOAA-N Prime, carry a EUMETSAT instrument in an afternoon orbit. Together, EUMETSAT's MetOp, NOAA's polar satellites and the US Defense Meteorological Satellite Program series satellites will provide global data for improving forecasts of severe weather, disaster mitigation and monitoring of the environment.

MetOp-A carries a set of seven 'heritage' instruments provided by NOAA and the French Space Agency (CNES) and a new generation of five European instruments offering improved sensing capabilities to both meteorologists and climatologists. For an excellent overview of the EUMETSAT Polar System, go to Web site meted.ucar.edu/EUMETSAT/eps/. For an overview of each of these instruments, go to www.esa.int/esaLP/SEMV68L8IOE LPmetop 0.html. For more information about the MetOp series, to Web site: qo www.eumetsat.int/Home/Main/What\_We\_Do/Satellites/EUMETSAT\_Polar\_System/.

#### NASA Introduces Simulcast Viewer

Mike Haas, of the Remote Sensing Committee, submitted the following information from the NASA Direct Readout Laboratory.

The NASA Direct Readout Laboratory (DRL), in collaboration with the NPOESS Integrated Program Office, has developed a Simulcast technology which—in real time and with a single Client—allows users to select and view quicklook instrument data from multiple missions and spacecraft. Simulcast is a standalone, Java-based technology that provides real-time geolocation and pseudo-calibration, and projects data on Mercator and Polar maps. Simulcast can also replay recent satellite passes. Simulcast is scalable and capable of supporting many users, both local and remote. Since its inception, Simulcast has proved to be a valuable tool for real-time validation of instrument data by NASA. Servers and Clients can be located virtually anywhere in the world, so Simulcast also has the potential for myriad tactical, environmental and educational applications.

For a detailed explanation of how Simulcast works, go to Web site: directreadout.gsfc.nasa.gov and click on "New Simulcast Viewer" under DRL News.

#### LOCAL CHAPTER NEWS

The **<u>Three Rivers Chapter</u>** at the California University of Pennsylvania is having a great year! In order to welcome new students, the Chapter held a camping trip at Ohiopyle State Park on 8-10 September. Nearly thirty students took part in this event. Whitewater rafting, biking, and hiking were just some of the activities in which students participated. This may become a yearly tradition within the chapter because of its great success.

Kyle Olmstead, the chapter Historian, recently added Meteograms to our chapter Web site (www.cup.edu/weather). The site also features archived minutes, agendas, and pictures from all past events. He also has continued to update the chapter calendar.

The California University of Pennsylvania meteorology club has recently purchased new merchandise. All wind resistant umbrellas, decals for cars, and window stickers feature the CAL U Meteorology logo and can be purchased by anyone.

Kristen Cornett, NBC WeatherPlus Meteorologist, joined us on Tuesday 12 September 2006 to discuss her experiences as a broadcast meteorologist. She was the first speaker for our Annual Colloquium Series. Thirty-five student members gathered for her presentation. Following her lecture, Miss Cornett answered questions and met with students for lunch in the university cafeteria.

The chapter membership has been finalized for the academic year 2006-2007. Sixty-six student members (one honorary), professors, and professionals are all part of the Three Rivers Chapter of the National Weather Association.

The California University Organizational Fair was held on 27 September. This annual event enables students to gain knowledge about clubs and organizations on campus. The Meteorology Club (Three Rivers Chapter) was represented by the board off officers. They demonstrated a tornado machine and distributed brochures concerning meteorology.

On 29 and 30 September, the Three Rivers NWA Chapter was welcomed at the Pittsburgh Pirates' games. Fifteen

members represented the chapter at each game. Both nights were fun events.

WX Challenge started across the country. This year, the chapter has 20 participants who will forecast high, low (temperatures), precipitation, and sustained winds. This real world experience will improve forecasting skills.

On 5 October 2006, the Three Rivers Chapter participated in the Western Pennsylvania's Eighth Annual Light the Night Walk at Heinz Field, Pittsburgh. Sponsored by The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, the charity event raises awareness for blood cancers. With the recent death of Pittsburgh Mayor Bob O'Conner, over 5,000 people packed the amphitheater and each held illuminated red balloons symbolizing red blood cells. Our chapter raised \$1,600, and 15 student-members participated.

Twenty 20 members attended the NWA Annual meeting in Cleveland, Ohio. See pictures on the chapter Web site (www.cup.edu/weather). Daily presentation sessions enjoyed by members included topics on thundersnow, teleconnection patterns, and severe weather. The Rock N' Roll Hall of Fame and House of Blues were all social highlights of the conference. President Jonathan Jennings, Secretary Michael Allen, and Reece Todd were chosen to conduct morning weather briefings to attendees on Tuesday and Wednesday.

The Educational Outreach Committee has lined-up three school visits for Spring 2007 and is still contacting several other local districts. They are also undertaking a possible 'Weather Fest 2007' – an outreach to pre-college students interested in weather.

The Pennsylvania Geographical Society (PGS) Annual Meeting was held at Salisbury University in Maryland on the weekend of 26 October (www.thepgs.org). Four student members attended this conference, which highlighted GIS improvements, societal impacts of natural hazards, and how weather related events affect geography. Jonathan Jennings, Chris Gilson and Casey Zuzak presented individual research in the 'Climate & Weather' Session. Jennings & Gilson placed 1st and 2nd respectively in the Elaine Bosowski Student Paper competition.

Two graduates of the California University of Pennsylvania meteorology program were accepted into the Three Rivers Chapter on 26 October. Robert Rhodes and Dustin Meissner are now official honorary members of the Three Rivers NWA Chapter. Robert Rhodes currently works at West Texas Weather Modification Association in San Angelo, Texas. Dustin Meissner works at WSI Corporation in Andover, Massachusetts.

The California University *Times* newspaper offered the chapter a spot in their weekly publication. Chapter members Michael Allen, Carrieanne Carstater, Chad Meehan, and Nicole Persons compile the weekly edition entitled "Cal Cast". The back page features multi-colored graphics, a climate corner section, and a weather fact for each week. The front page includes a small forecast for the local region.

Dr. Cary Mock, associate professor at the University of South Carolina, visited on 3 November as the second Colloquium Series speaker for fall 2006. Dr. Mock's presentation, "Reconstructing Meteorological Hazards, Climate, and Societal Impacts from Historical Archives," was attended by 106 people. Dr. Mock graduated from the University of Oregon (1994) and is currently working with the National Science Foundation to study climatic extremes that occurred in the 19th Century. - *Michael J. Allen, Chapter Recording Secretary* 

#### **Professional Development Opportunities**

• The 2007 Annual National Severe Weather Workshop will be held 1-3 March 2007 in Norman, Oklahoma. 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 broadcast meteorologists, emergency managers, 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, NWS Warning Decision Training Branch, and the University of Oklahoma. Come experience "The Scenario" where forecasters, media and emergency managers swap places to experience a severe weather episode. 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 or services during the event. For more information, call 405-325-2040 or visit the Web site: www.norman.noaa.gov/nsww2007/.

• The Annual Pacific Northwest Weather Workshop will be held 2-3 March 2007 at the NOAA Western Regional Center campus at Sand Point in Seattle, Washington. This is sponsored by NOAA's National Weather Service, the University of Washington, and the Puget Sound AMS Chapter. It will cover recent developments in weather forecasting and observational technologies, major weather events of the past year, and topics dealing with Western U.S. meteorology. The 2007 meeting will be open to all topics dealing with Northwest weather and climate. Registration will be \$30 for regular attendees (\$15 for students) and will include lunches, afternoon and morning refreshments, and a pre-print volume. A Friday evening banquet (for an additional charge) is being planned. Pre-registration is requested for all attendees on-line when Web site: www.atmos.washington.edu/~cliff/PNW2007.html is set up. Please submit abstracts for oral presentations and posters in text, Word or WordPerfect format - no PDF please. Abstracts must be received by 15 January 2007. Please include the title, author's name and contact information. Poster presentations are welcome and will be displayed throughout the meeting and during a special poster session. Please send abstracts to Cliff Mass, at e-mail: cliff@atmos.washington.edu. For more information contact: Brad Colman or Kirby Cook, NWS Forecast Office, 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115 (206.526.6095x224/222, brad.colman@noaa.gov or Kirby.Cook@noaa.gov), or Clifford Mass, Dept of Atmospheric Sciences, Box 351640, University Washington, Seattle WA 98195 (206.685.0190, cliff@atmos.washington.edu).

• The 32nd Annual Northeastern Storm Conference will be held 9-11 March 2007 at the Springfield Marriott in Springfield, Massachusetts. It is sponsored by the Lyndon State College Student Chapter of the AMS and NWA. Abstracts and poster descriptions are due by 12 January 2007 to ams@apollo.lsc.vsc.edu. The registration deadline for the conference is 16 February 2007. Dr. Charles Doswell and Dr. Richard Clark will be speakers at the conference. For more information, please go to the following Web site: **apollo.lsc.vsc.edu/ams/index.html**, or contact Ryan J. Low, the Chapter President, at e-mail Ryan.Low@lyndonstate.edu or fax (802) 626-9770.

• The 2007 National Storm Conference sponsored by the Texas Severe Storms Association (TESSA) will be held on 10 March 2007 in Colleyville, Texas. Information about this upcoming conference will be posted on the TESSA Web site at www.tessa.org.

• The 11th Annual Severe Storms and Doppler Radar Conference sponsored by the Central Iowa Chapter of the NWA will be held 22-24 March 2007. For more information, visit the chapter's Web site at: www.iowa-nwa.com.

• The Sixth Annual Southeast Severe Storms Symposium will be held 23-24 March 2007 at the Wise Center on the campus of Mississippi State University. The Symposium is sponsored by the East Mississippi Chapter of the NWA and AMS. Abstracts should show a strong operational content to the proposed presentation and be submitted in Word or .pdf format by 14 February 2007 to Dr. Michael Brown via e-mail: mike.brown@msstate.edu. The deadline to pre-register for the Symposium is 16 March. For more information, please go to www.msstate.edu/org/nwa/index.shtml.

• The Fifth Annual Great Lakes Meteorology Conference will take place on 31 March 2007 at The Legacy Banquet Hall in Valparaiso, Indiana. The Conference is sponsored by the Northwest Indiana NWA Chapter. Monitor Web site www.valpo.edu/organization/nwa/index.html for information.

• The AMS 22nd Conference on Weather Analysis and Forecasting and 18th Conference on Numerical Weather Prediction, will be held 25–29 June 2007 in Park City, Utah. Abstracts are due by 26 February 2007. See the AMS Web site at: www.ametsoc.org for further information.

• The 32nd NWA Annual Meeting will be held at Circus-Circus Reno in Reno, Nevada, 13-18 October 2007. Abstracts will be due by 1 June 2007. Monitor the NWA Web site at **www.nwas.org** for further information. Members interested in volunteering for the Program Committee, please e-mail: natweaasoc@aol.com.

#### MORE LOCAL CHAPTER NEWS

The <u>High Plains AMS/NWA Chapter</u> held a very successful 10th Annual High Plains Conference 4-6 October 2006 in Dodge City, Kansas. The conference presentations are now available on the chapter Web site at: **www.highplains-amsnwa.org**.

- Tim Burke, Chapter Secretary

# WANTED!

Send your news items to nwanewsletter@nwas.org

## The Present, Future and Past NWA Executive Directors



Kevin Lavin, Steve Harned and Sol Hirsch

Steve Harned will assume the NWA executive director duties from Kevin Lavin in January 2007. Kevin has been the executive director since 1993 and Sol Hirsch held that title from 1981-1992. All three were present at the 2006 NWA Annual Meeting where this picture was taken.

To learn more about the NWA staff changes for 2007, see page 3. - Editor

#### Looking For A New Job?

One of the most popular pages on the NWA Web site is the *Job Corner*. New jobs are frequently posted on this Web page.

# Go to *nwas.org/jobs.html* to see who is hiring.

The NWA lists jobs from equal opportunity employers at no cost to the employer for the benefit of NWA members. Employers, please contact the NWA office to post job notices.

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Submit newsletter items directly to: Editor NWA Newsletter, at nwanewsletter@nwas.org or to the NWA office. Material received by the 5th will be considered for that month's issue. If submissions are not received, the Newsletter may be delayed.

Members receive the monthly NWA Newsletter and *National Weather Digest* as part of their regular, student or corporate membership privileges. 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

1-3 March – Seventh National Severe Weather Workshop
Norman, OK (page 7)
2-3 March – Annual Pacific Northwest Weather Workshop
Seattle, WA (page 7)
9-11 March – 32nd Annual Northeastern Storm Conference
Springfield, MA (page 7)
<b>10 March</b> – The 2007 National Storm Conference (TESSA)
Colleyville, TX (page 7)
22-24 March – 11th Annual Severe Storms and Doppler Radar
Conference, West Des Moines, IA (page 7)
23-24 March – Sixth Southeast Severe Storms Symposium
Mississippi State University (page 7)
<b>31 March</b> – Fifth Annual Great Lakes Meteorology Conference
Valparaiso, IN (page 7)
Please see MEETINGS on page 7 for additional dates
Also, check the NWA Web site: www.nwas.org/meetings/meetings.html

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Supporting and Promoting Excellence in Operational Meteorology and Related Activities since 1975