

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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On 24 January 2003, the Children's Museum of Houston hosted a sneak preview of a new exhibit, *Scholastic's The Magic School Bus Kicks up a Storm*. The opening ceremony was a special event, and judging by the excited kids going through the exhibit, it will be a big success in the museums that host it. I had the privilege of serving on the advisory board during the development and implementation of the exhibit. NWA members Jon Zeitler and Mike Mogil also served on the board. Mike actually took his Weather Wizard act to the opening ceremony and was a big hit with the kids! Those of you with young children will likely be familiar with the Magic School Bus series of educational material and know the high quality standards associated with Scholastic. The project was the brainchild of the Children's Museum of Houston. It was an awesome experience working with the professionals at the museum, as well as the contractors who produced the exhibit. The project resulted in two identical copies of the exhibit, which will tour the U.S. and Canada over roughly the next 6 years.

Now, you might be thinking, what does this have to do with the NWA? A purpose of the exhibit is to teach kids — mainly in the 5 to 10 year age group — some basics on how weather works. It is done through a combination of hands-on activities and static displays. The advisory board thought it would be good to involve local meteorologists with the exhibit. We are in the process of "prototyping" how that involvement will work in Houston. Our plan is to have guest meteorologists sign up to be at the exhibit an hour or two on peak days, usually the weekends. They will wear nametags with "Ask the Meteorologist" signs and do simple hands-on experiments for the kids. This will give the kids a chance to find out what "real" meteorologists do in their community and ask questions likely only we can answer. What do we get out of it? Lots of fun! The exhibit runs through early summer here in Houston and I'll report back on how we found the meteorologist involvement should best be done. For now, I encourage members who live in the cities the exhibit will travel to, to work through the local NWA or AMS chapter and the museum on designing activities for your area. The following museums and dates are currently in the schedule:

### Exhibit A

2003 (through 31 Aug) Children's Museum of Houston  
 2003 Port Discovery Museum, Baltimore, MD  
 2004 San Diego Natural History Museum, CA  
 2004 Children's Museum of San Jose, CA  
 2004 Discovery Center of Hawaii (Honolulu)  
 2005 Minnesota Children's Museum, St. Paul  
 2006 Coyote Point Museum, San Mateo, CA

### Exhibit B

2003 (through 4 May) Liberty Science Center, Jersey City, NJ  
 2003 (24 May- 5 Sept) Bay Area Discovery Museum, Sausalito, CA  
 2004 Calgary Science Center (Canada)  
 2004 Chicago Children's Museum  
 2005 Manhattan (NY) Children's Museum  
 2006 Children's Museum of Atlanta  
 2007 Western Reserve Historical Society, Cleveland, OH

No doubt, many other museums offer weather exhibits and NWA members are involved. Let us hear from you on old and new ideas to teach weather awareness!

### **Strategic Plan — Membership**

One of our priority goals from the Strategic Plan was to increase the size and diversity of the membership through recruitment and retention. Why? There is strength in numbers. We generate more money to increase the quality and quantity of programs and services provided to members. By increasing diversity we enrich the pool of ideas and potential leadership of the organization. Recruitment of new members brings in the new blood. Retention of members keeps experience. Over the next six months, consider asking someone to join, especially if they are in a different aspect of the profession than you are. If you know someone who used to be a member but has not renewed, ask the person why. I'd be interested in knowing. Lets see if we can make an unprecedented gain in membership prior to the annual meeting!

### **Annual Meeting**

I'm happy to announce that **Pat Welsh**, the Science and Operations Officer of the NWS Forecast Office in Jacksonville and **Richard Bagby**, Associate Professor, Department of Applied Aviation Sciences, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, have agreed to be co-chairs of the Annual Meeting Program Committee. See the *Call for Abstracts* on page 7 for more information and hope to see many of you from 18-23 October 2003 in Jacksonville, Florida.

- Bill Read  
 bill.read@noaa.gov

# LOCAL CHAPTER NEWS

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## **A Hurricane Hunter and The Weather Channel's Severe Weather Expert Strike Starkville Again!**

**The East Mississippi Chapter** of the NWA/AMS held their Second Annual Southeast Severe Storms Symposium on 17-19 January 2003. The festivities kicked off with a social mixer on the third floor of the AmSouth Bank Building in the heart of downtown Starkville, Mississippi, on the evening of Friday, 17 January.

The presentations began at 8:30 am on Saturday with Hurricane Hunter John Gordon (USAFR), who is also the Meteorologist in Charge of the Huntsville, Alabama National Weather Service Office. The dynamic Mr. Gordon spoke of the recently re-opened Huntsville office and the plans for improvements in forecasting and support to the public. Dan McCarthy, of the NWS Storm Prediction Center in Norman, OK, did a great job leading a hands-on severe weather workshop. Symposium attendees tried their best to map hail and tornado risk areas for a given weather pattern over the United States.

A highlight of the Symposium was the public session where the devastating tornado outbreak of 9-10 November 2002 was discussed. Dr. Greg Forbes of The Weather Channel gave a national perspective, James Spann of ABC 33/40 in Birmingham, Alabama, gave a local media perspective, and Mississippi State University Broadcast Meteorology Program Director, Wayne Verno, gave a presentation from the point of view of the local storm chasers on that day. We also had presentations from members of the NWS Forecast Offices of Memphis, Jackson and Birmingham on their perspectives.

The Symposium concluded by noon on Sunday, January 19th with a presentation by Mississippi State University Instructor, Doug Gillham. Doug's talk was a winter weather case study that of course included a discussion of BUFKIT. Over 150 students, faculty, and meteorologists attended the 2003 Southeast Severe Storms Symposium.

The officers of the East Mississippi Chapter of the NWA/AMS want to be sure and thank all those who worked so hard to make the Symposium run smoothly. These people include: Chris Bell, Tim Wallace, Derek Beasley, Ryan Wade, Todd Beal, Shay Nanke, Spencer Denton, Ashley Alteri, Sagay Johnson, Kim Truong, Kurt Mueller, Wayne Verno, Jason Kratzwald, Nathan Moore, Jacob Rankin, Jennifer and Jonathan Call, Haley Webb, Jason Senkbeil and Dr. Mike Brown. We would also like to thank WSI and AccuWeather for their corporate support! Thanks to all attendees for great participation!

### Chapter Officers

David Nussbaum, President  
Josh Johnson, Vice President  
Gina Storey, Treasurer  
Greg Nordstrom, Secretary

**The Central Iowa Chapter** held a meeting in January 2003 to discuss plans for its severe weather conference in March, and to brainstorm ways to increase chapter membership. Des Moines National Weather Service Office employees gave two presentations. Craig Cogill described a new climatology database containing records back to the late 1800s. This database may be available to the public soon. Chuck Myers then demonstrated the new National Digital Forecast Database, offering a graphical, more detailed version of the 7-day forecast. The meeting wrapped up with a discussion of a possible alliance between the Chapter and the Science Center of Iowa and possible involvement in the 1 July parade in Downtown Des Moines that has a weather theme. Please visit Web site: [www.iowa-nwa.com](http://www.iowa-nwa.com) for complete meeting minutes, updated information on the Annual Severe Storms & Doppler Radar Conference on 27-29 March 2003, and for online registration.

- Penny Zabel

**The High Plains Chapter** of the NWA held a meeting on 4 February 2003 in Hill City, KS. Fifteen participants attended including four first-time attendees. After lunch and the business meeting, chapter member Ryan Phillips of KHGI-TV in Kearney, NE gave a presentation entitled, "Media Use of National Weather Service Products." He outlined the operations of his station and explained how different media customers use NWS products and services differently. It was evident Ryan and his station are making that "extra effort" to put out quality programming, while at the same time maintaining a good working relationship with local (and some not so local) NWS offices.

Our new President, Mike Moritz, called the meeting to order and Secretary Tim Burke read the minutes from the previous meeting. Vice President Jared Guyer gave an update on the upcoming Seventh Annual High Plains Conference, scheduled for 8-10 October 2003 in Hastings, NE. An announcement and call for papers has gone out, and several quality speakers have been invited. Updated information on the conference will be posted regularly on Web site: [www.highplains-amsnwa.org](http://www.highplains-amsnwa.org)

The Hastings NWS office exhibited an impressive poster, which will be taken to the National AMS conference in Long Beach for display, and can certainly be used at future conferences attended by chapter members. It was agreed to make a collective effort to strive for Chapter of the Year worthiness, for both AMS and NWA. Bruce Entwistle, SOO at NWS Goodland, KS, reported that the Goodland WFO has been teaching a MET101 class at Colby Community College (KS). Furthermore, a couple of the Goodland staff members routinely serve as judges for local scholar bowls. The next meeting will be in April and feature Pete Wolf, the SOO at the Wichita NWS office, talking about meteorological situational awareness in a warning scenario.

- Tim Burke

## NWA COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

### **Commissioner of Committees** (non-voting, appointed member of the NWA Council):

David I. Knapp, 7416 N Oakland Ave, Kansas City, MO 64158; NWS/NCEP Aviation Weather Center (816) 584-7238; David.Knapp@noaa.gov

### **Aviation Meteorology Committee Co-chairs:**

Larry E. Burch, NWS/CWSU, FAA/ARTCC 2150 West 700 North, Salt Lake City, UT 84116; (801) 320-2569; Larry.Burch@noaa.gov

Timothy D. Oram, NWS/SMG Johnson Space Center, NASA/JSC ZS8, 2101 NASA Road 1, Houston, TX 77058; (281) 483-3257; timothy.oram@noaa.gov

### **Awards Committee:**

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### **Broadcast Meteorology Committee:**

Richard E. Apuzzo II, 1347 Minaret Court, Cincinnati, OH 45230; WXIX-TV, (513) 421-1919; skyeye@fuse.net

#### - Broadcaster Seal of Approval Committee:

Michael Goldberg, WTVR, 3301 West Broad Street, Richmond, VA 23230; (804) 254-3655; mgwx@aol.com or mgoldberg@wtvr.com

#### - Evaluation Board members for Seal of Approval:

LeAnn Allison, Mark Bogner, Douglas Butts, Jr., Rob Fowler, David A. Glenn, Tim Heller, Rodney L. Hill, Bryan Karrick, Justin F. Kiefer, John A. Lasley Jr., Richard J. McCollough, H. Michael Mogil, Keith Monahan, Jim Moore, Lisa F. Mozer, Lori Pinson, Lawrence Rice, Tom Sherry, Carl D. Thormeyer and John Wetherbee

#### - Seal Recertification Chairperson:

Chuck Lofton, WTHR-TV, 1000 N Meridian Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204; (317) 271-2664; clofton@wthr.com

#### - Testing Chairperson:

Dr. Paul J. Croft, Dept of Geosciences, Univ of Louisiana-Monroe, 700 University Ave, Monroe LA 71209-0550; (318) 342-1878; croft@ulm.edu

#### - Public Relations Chairperson:

Bradley B. Sussman, WEWS-TV, 3001 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115; (216) 431-3768; Bswx@aol.com

### **Corporate Affairs Committee:**

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### **Education Committee:**

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### **Home Page Advisory Committee:**

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### **Local Chapter Committee:**

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### **Membership Committee:**

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### **Nominating Committee:**

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### **Strategic Planning Committee:**

Frank C. Brody, 907 Plum Falls Court, Houston, TX 77062; (281) 286-8457; FcBrody@aol.com

### **Training Committee:**

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### **Weather Analysis & Forecasting Committee Co-chairs**

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Patrick S. Market, Ph.D., University of Missouri-Columbia, Atmospheric Science Program, 373 McReynolds Hall, Columbia, MO 65211; (573) 882-1496; MarketP@missouri.edu

### **Annual Meeting Program Committee Co-chairs:**

Patrick Welsh and Richard Bagby (see page 7)

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### **National Weather Digest Co-Editors:**

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# NAS / NRC REPORT ON WEATHER PARTNERSHIPS

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At the request of the NWS, the Committee on Partnerships in Weather and Climate Services was established to examine the present roles of the public, private and academic sectors and to recommend changes in policies or practices that could improve the potential for providing weather and climate information. In January 2003, the National Academy of Sciences' National Research Council released the Committee's report: "**Fair Weather: Effective Partnerships in Weather and Climate Services.**"

The Committee's primary conclusion is that it is counterproductive and diversionary to establish detailed and rigid boundaries for each sector outlining who can do what and with which tools. Instead, efforts should focus on improving the processes by which the sectors interact. The committee recommendations are:

1. The NWS should replace its 1991 public-private partnership policy with a policy that defines processes for making decisions on products, technologies, and services, rather than rigidly defining the roles of the NWS and the private sector.
2. The NWS should establish an independent advisory committee to provide ongoing advice to it on weather and climate matters.
3. The NWS and relevant academic, state, and private organizations should seek a neutral host, such as the American Meteorological Society, to provide a periodic, dedicated venue for the weather enterprise as a whole to discuss issues related to the public-private partnership.
4. The NWS should continue to carry out activities that are essential to its mission of protecting life and property and enhancing the national economy, including collecting data; ensuring their quality; issuing forecasts, warnings, and advisories; and providing unrestricted access to publicly funded observations, analyses, model results, forecasts, and related information products in a timely manner and at the lowest possible cost to all users.
5. The NWS should make its data and products available in Internet-accessible digital form. Information held in digital databases should be based on widely recognized standards, formats, and metadata descriptions to ensure that the data from different observing platforms, databases, and

models can be integrated and used by all interested parties in the weather and climate enterprise.

6. The NWS should (1) improve its process for evaluating the need for new weather and climate products and services that meet new national needs, and (2) develop processes for discontinuing dissemination of products and services that are specific to particular individuals or organizations or that are not essential to the public.
7. NWS headquarters and regional managers should develop an approach to managing the local forecast offices that balances a respect for local innovation and creativity with greater control over the activities that affect the public-private partnership, especially those that concern the development and dissemination of new products or services.
8. The NWS should continue to adopt and improve probabilistic methods for communicating uncertainties in the data and forecasts where such methods are accepted as scientifically valid.
9. The NWS should retain its role as the official source of instrumentation, data, and data collection standards to ensure that scientific benchmarks for collecting, verifying, and reporting data are maintained. It should lead efforts to follow, harmonize, and extend standards, formats, and metadata to ensure that data from NWS and non-NWS networks, databases, and communications technology can be integrated and used with relative ease.
10. The commercial weather sector should work with other sectors, using mechanisms such as those proposed in this report, to improve the techniques and processes by which the weather and climate enterprise as a whole can minimize friction and inefficiency.
11. Universities seeking to commercialize weather-related research results should follow transparent procedures for transferring technology and for avoiding conflicts of interest. These procedures should be given wide exposure to remove perceptions of unfair competition.

The committee suggests more collaboration among sectors. The key benefits of widespread cooperation are increased efficiency and the availability of more and better weather and climate products. The full report can be viewed online at: [www.nap.edu/books/0309087465/html](http://www.nap.edu/books/0309087465/html)

## MEMBER NEWS

The Council of the American Meteorological Society (AMS) recently announced the election of **Bill Proenza**, director of the NWS Southern Region, as a Fellow of the Society. The announcement was made during the Society's 83rd Annual Review and Fellows Award ceremony at the Long Beach Convention and Entertainment Center in February 2003. According to AMS Executive Director Ronald D. McPherson, "Election to the grade of Fellow serves as a recognition of outstanding contributions to the atmospheric or related oceanic or hydrologic sciences, or their applications, during a substantial period of years."

**Special Thanks** to committee chairs and editors stepping down after many years of great voluntary service in support of the NWA, its objectives and its members.

Eli Jacks – Newsletter Editor

Larry Burch – Newsletter Editor

Carolyn Kloth – Aviation Committee Co-chair

Terry Lankford – Aviation Committee Co-chair

Bill Read – Nominating Committee

Frances Holt-Parmenter – Remote Sensing Committee

### ***Welcome to a new Corporate Member!***

#### **Weather Command – Murray & Trettel, Inc.**

414 West Frontage Road

Northfield, Illinois 60093

Tel: 847-446-7807x110

Fax: 847-446-8480

Internet: [www.weathercommand.com](http://www.weathercommand.com)

Point of Contact: Tom Piazza

e-mail: [tpiazza@weathercommand.com](mailto:tpiazza@weathercommand.com)

*Murray & Trettel, Inc. was established in 1946 by two Army Air Force weather officers, John R. Murray and Dennis W. Trettel. They set out to provide industry with something it had never had before – accurate, site-specific forecasts on a real-time basis. Not only did they forecast the weather, but they also learned to forecast the weather's impact on their client's operations. They were the first to use a color code, which has since been widely imitated, to indicate the severity of the impact of weather on a wide range of operations: snow plowing, outdoor work activities, gas and electric use, and of shipping temperature critical items. As our clients' operations have evolved so have our forecasting techniques which have been refined and reworked to better continually meet the needs of today's operations. The Weather Command weather center continuously accesses the data streams from the NWS and uses this information as a starting point in developing forecasts. Forecasters use raw data, maps, radar images, and satellite images to create their detailed forecasts.*

## NWA BROADCAST COMMITTEE

### **BEYOND THE NIGHTLY NEWSCAST**

We are in a new age of broadcasting — one that goes well beyond our daily trek to the weather center and the television studio. Viewers have more choices for weather information, so instead of limiting your public exposure to just television, it is important to be part of the other media that the viewers use each day. With the proliferation of computers and Internet access, I recommend maintaining a good weather Web site and reaching out to the viewers through e-mail — the most direct way into the viewers' homes and businesses. I have been sending weather e-mails, which we call eNews, for more than a year. Nearly 10,000 people receive my weather updates and they share it with many more. The feedback has been very positive and we get more subscribers every day. Here's an example of an e-mail from early February as a snowstorm approached.

#### **February 5, 2003 eNews**

*I mentioned on the news last night that the next storm needs to be watched closely since it is one of the few systems we have seen in the southern (sub-tropical) jet stream this winter. Storms that develop in the southwestern United States and head east typically pick up a lot of moisture and can turn into significant winter storms. This one looks like it will be our next trouble-maker, and some areas may get 2 to 4 inches of new snow by Friday morning.*

*Cold air is already in place after yesterday's storm produced gusty northwest winds and temperatures plummeted to the low and mid teens this morning. With the arctic air across the Ohio Valley, we will see moisture racing into the region in the form of high clouds by this evening, with thickening and lowering clouds tomorrow before the snow arrives in the afternoon. The timing of the snow is still uncertain, but it should start after 3 PM tomorrow, and be at its peak between 8 PM tomorrow and 5 AM Friday. That is an average of the models I used for this forecast, but since timing is critical for travel plans and potential school closings, check in tonight when I'll have a much better handle on the speed and strength of the system.*

*The morning models are generating .10 to .20 of an inch of liquid precipitation, which would be 1 to 4 inches of snowfall. The heaviest amounts should be along and south of the Ohio River, but that area will be refined with the new guidance tonight. Winds with this storm should not be a problem until the storm moves east of the area on Friday, so I am not expecting a blowing or drifting problem at this time.*

*After a break Saturday, more light snow arrives Sunday, Monday and Tuesday with another arctic air mass. In fact, highs through next Wednesday won't get out of the 20s with lows generally in the teens, and possibly the single digits on a few mornings...average highs this time of year are around 40 with lows in the low 20s.*

*So, enjoy the sunshine today with chilly highs in the upper 20s, because clouds return tonight with snow late tomorrow. I will show you the developing storm and have my latest forecast, tonight on the Ten O'Clock News.*

*Have a Great Day!*

*Rich Apuzzo*

- Rich Apuzzo, Broadcast Meteorology Committee Chair  
[skyeye@fuse.net](mailto:skyeye@fuse.net)

# MEETINGS OF INTEREST

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• **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. For further information on the agenda, discount room rates and to register online, visit: <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 21st 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." 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). Registration information is available at Web site: <http://www.atmos.millersville.edu>.

• **The Great Lakes Meteorology Conference** will be held on **5 April 2003 in Valparaiso, IN,** sponsored by the Northwest Indiana Chapter of the NWA. The program will comprise several speakers covering a broad range of topics, as well as a poster session. The topics will include Great Lakes phenomena, ranging from lake-effect snow to severe weather. The conference will begin at 10:30 AM with lunch and dinner included in the conference fee of \$35. The keynote speaker will be Bob Johns (NWA Councilor). Additional speakers will include David Kristovich from the University of Illinois and Brian Hornbuckle from the University of Michigan. For registration information, please see Web site: <http://www.nwas.org/meetings/glmc2003.html>. Contact Steve Jackman via e-mail at [Steve.Jackman@valpo.edu](mailto:Steve.Jackman@valpo.edu) to submit your interest in attending.

• **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: <http://www.HurricaneMeeting.com>.

• **THE SEVENTH ANNUAL OHIO SEVERE WEATHER SYMPOSIUM,** hosted by The Ohio State University Department of Geography, in conjunction with the National Weather Service Forecast Office and the Ohio River Forecast Center of Wilmington, Ohio, is scheduled for **Friday,**

**25 April 2003, at the Fawcett Center on the OSU campus.** A diverse range of speakers working in the operational and academic fields of meteorology will give presentations on topics such as lightning, model simulations of lake-effect snow, fire weather, and the recent (10 November 2002) F4 tornado in Van Wert, OH. An up-to-date listing of speakers, the schedule of events, and directions to the Fawcett Center can be accessed through a link from OSU weather Web site at: <http://twister.sbs.ohio-state.edu>. The event is free and open to the public. Those interested in attending should contact Zack Schmiesing with their name, affiliation, and address at [schmiesing.13@osu.edu](mailto:schmiesing.13@osu.edu) or by phone at (614) 292-1597.

• **Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference on the Inland Effects of Tropical Weather Systems** will be held **11-13 May 2003 at the Holiday Inn Brownstone, Raleigh, NC.** The Central North Carolina AMS Chapter is sponsoring this operational and emergency management focused regional conference. It begins on Sunday evening, 11 May, with a reception and presentation from Dr. Steve Lyons of The Weather Channel. More information on the conference may be found at Web site: <http://www.nc-climate.ncsu.edu/ams/conference>

• **NESDIS Data Users Workshop on 11-12 June 2003 in Boulder, Colorado.** Workshop goals are to solicit users' opinions on current NESDIS data and information products and services (e.g., How can we improve?); inform users of future capabilities, plans, and data sets; review & update user needs for new products, data archiving and access to stored data; assess users' needs and societal benefits; improve communications and rapport with users. More information is available at Web site: <http://www.osd.noaa.gov/datausers>.

• **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 and 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

# Next NWA Annual Meeting — 18-23 October, Jacksonville FL

## Call for Abstracts

The National Weather Association's 28th Annual Meeting will be held at the Adam's Mark Hotel, 225 Coastline Drive, Jacksonville, Florida 32202, 18-23 October 2003.

### The Annual Meeting will include:

19 October: WEATHER BROADCASTER WORKSHOPS all-day Sunday will include special presentations, exhibits and hands-on workshops appropriate to continuing education for weathercasters, but open to all interested. The annual TAPE SWAP will be on Sunday evening.

20-23 October: ANNUAL MEETING GENERAL SESSIONS will include a mix of formal presentations, poster sessions, training workshops, and exhibits on a wide variety of topics relating to OPERATIONAL meteorology, hydrology, weather broadcasting, new research applications, and related activities.

The Annual Meeting Program Committee Co-Chairs are: **Patrick T. Welsh**, Science and Operations Officer, National Weather Service Forecast Office, 13701 FANG Road, Jacksonville, FL 32218; pat.welsh@noaa.gov and **Richard Bagby**, Associate Professor, Department of Applied Aviation Sciences, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, 600 S. Clyde Morris Boulevard, Daytona Beach, FL 32114-3900 bagbyr@erau.edu.

**ABSTRACT SUBMISSION: The deadline for submission of abstracts is 1 June 2003.** Abstracts can be sent via e-mail to Richard Bagby at bagbyr@erau.edu. Please write "NWA Abstract" in the subject box. The abstract may be included within the body of the e-mail or as a WordPerfect or Microsoft Word attachment. Please include the following information in the e-mail message: full abstract title, author(s) name(s) and affiliation(s)/address(es) [designate which author(s) will be giving the presentation and whether poster or oral presentation is preferred], audio/visual requirements including software (e.g., PowerPoint, Corel, Internet access) and equipment (e.g., laptop, PC, overhead projector), and list the primary contact with their phone number and e-mail address.

**ABSTRACTS may also be sent via an Internet online form on the NWA Web site: [www.nwas.org/2003abstracts.html](http://www.nwas.org/2003abstracts.html).** Simply fill out the form in its entirety (you may cut-and-paste your abstract from your word processor into the form), and click on the "Submit Query" button at the bottom of the form.

If you are unable to submit your abstract via e-mail or the online form, please contact Richard Bagby at (386) 226-6858 or by FAX (386) 226-7739. Presenters will be notified regarding the disposition of their abstracts by 15 August 2003.

### **ANNUAL MEETING HOTEL INFORMATION:**

The Adam's Mark Hotel is at 225 Coastline Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32202. It is a full-service hotel located downtown along the St. John's Riverfront. The NWA discount room rates are \$81 for a single room and \$101 for a double room. Please call the Adam's Mark Hotel at 904-633-9095 (reservations department) between 8 AM and 5 PM Monday-Friday or call their Central Reservation Department at 1-800-444-ADAM at anytime and request the National Weather Association 28th Annual Meeting

group rate. Please reserve rooms by 18 September to be able to obtain the discount rate.

A Golf Tournament is also being scheduled for Saturday, 18 October to benefit NWA Scholarship Funds. For information on exhibits, special accommodations, registration and the overall meeting program, please contact the NWA office at Tel/FAX: (434) 296-9966 or e-mail: NatWeaAsoc@aol.com.

### **Advance notice on a meeting for May 2004 --**

**Symposium on the 50th anniversary of the Joint Numerical Weather Prediction Unit: The foundation for operational numerical weather prediction, will be held 24 – 27 May 2004 in College Park, Maryland.** The NWS National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP), US Air Force Weather Agency (AFWA), US Navy Fleet Numerical Meteorology and Oceanography Center (FNMOC), **National Weather Association** and the AMS will co-sponsor this symposium to be held 24-27 May 2004 at the University of Maryland in College Park, MD. Operational numerical weather prediction in the US started with the Joint Numerical Weather Prediction Unit (JNWPU) on 1 July 1954, staffed by members of the US Weather Bureau, the Air Force and the Navy. The origins of NCEP, AFWA and FNMOC can all be traced to the JNWPU. It is only fitting to celebrate the early developments and the remarkable improvements in forecast skill and support of the nation's economy and well-being that have been achieved over the last 50 years. The planned sessions include a Historical Overview; Early Models in Europe, Japan and the US; Models: then and now; Data Assimilation: then and now; Forecasters' Role: then and now; End-to-End Operational System; Long-range Forecasting; and The Future. Sessions will include invited papers and round table discussions. This meeting will complement the Norman Phillips Symposium, held as part of the 84th AMS Annual Meeting in Seattle, Washington, 11-15 January 2004, honoring one of the giants in the field of numerical weather prediction, who also had a leading role at NCEP. The organizing committee includes Eugenia Kalnay (co-chair), Louis Uccellini (co-chair), Kenneth Carey, Carl Thormeyer and Major Trey Cade. We plan to create a volume with the papers presented at this historic meeting. A CD-ROM with preprints will be available to the registrants. Please indicate your interest in participating and/or presenting a paper by contacting Eugenia Kalnay at [ekalnay@atmos.umd.edu](mailto:ekalnay@atmos.umd.edu) and Kenneth Carey at [kcarey@mitretek.org](mailto:kcarey@mitretek.org). Preliminary programs, registration, hotel, and general information will be posted on the AMS Web site: [www.ametsoc.org/AMS](http://www.ametsoc.org/AMS) in mid-September.

Browse to the NWA Web site at  
[www.nwas.org](http://www.nwas.org)  
for more meeting news.

## **JOB CORNER**

*Space was not available this month for the usual Job Corner. Please see previous newsletters and 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.*

## BOOK REVIEW

*The Book of Clouds* by Dr. John A. Day provides a visual "knockout" with 150 of its 205 pages devoted to a display of all cloud types and optical phenomena, which many sky-watchers wish they had photographed. Starting with "Ten Reasons to Look Up and See", which teachers and TV Weathercasters can use in developing enthusiasm for sky-watching, the reader gets immersed in the portfolio of cloud images and sky panoramas. Striking displays of unusual clouds appear, ranging from lenticular "flying saucer" clouds to contrails and funnel clouds. Vivid optical effects appear for deliberate scrutiny, including the fleeting steps to a sunset green flash, which many sky watchers have never seen.

How did clouds get those Latin family names (cumulus, stratus, cirrus, and nimbus)? Prof. Day acquaints the reader with Luke Howard, British "Godfather of Clouds," who in **1803** (*that's right – two hundred years ago*) presented to the Askesian Society (his local scientific society) the nomenclature scheme still in use today with minor modifications.

Storm cloud photographs range from thunderstorms with lightning to a hurricane seen from space. Excellent textual explanations relate clouds to storm systems and to weather forecasting.

Many who enjoy this book will wish to capture their own sky images. For them the text concludes with a dozen tips for improving skill in cloud photography. An illustrated glossary precedes the very helpful index.

Meteorologists and weather enthusiasts will get new opportunities through *The Book of Clouds* to popularize "sky watching" by recommending the book to others. Users will find it reader friendly, visually inspiring, and mentally enlightening.

*The Book of Clouds* by John A. Day, First Edition published 2002 by Silver Lining Books, New York, NY, ISBN 0-7607-3536-0. - Review by Fred W. Decker, Ph.D.

## NATIONAL WEATHER ASSOCIATION

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**Submit newsletter items directly to:** Editor NWA Newsletter, Frank Brody at [NewsletterNWA@aol.com](mailto:NewsletterNWA@aol.com) 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 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

23 March – World Meteorological Day (see Web site:  
[www.wmo.ch](http://www.wmo.ch) for more information)

27–29 March 2003 – Seventh Annual Severe Storms and  
Doppler Radar Conference in Des Moines, Iowa.

4–5 April 2003 – Third Conference on Isentropic Analysis and  
Forecasting on the campus of Millersville University.

5 April 2003 – Great Lakes Meteorology Conference at  
Valparaiso University, Indiana.

15 April 2003 – NWA - Pike Scholarship applications due (see  
Jan Newsletter or [www.nwas.org/scholarship\\_app.html](http://www.nwas.org/scholarship_app.html))

1 June 2003 – Abstracts due for NWA Annual Meeting (pg 7)

22-28 June 2003 – National Lightning Safety Awareness Week  
[www.nwas.org/links/lightning.html](http://www.nwas.org/links/lightning.html)

18-23 October 2003 – NWA 28th Annual Meeting (pg 7)

Please see **MEETINGS** on pages 6-7 for additional dates.