



NWA NEWSLETTER

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IMPORTANT DATES

March 15: Deadline for submitting abstracts to the 41st Annual Meeting ([see page 6](#))

March 31-April 2: 20th Annual Severe Storms & Doppler Radar Conference

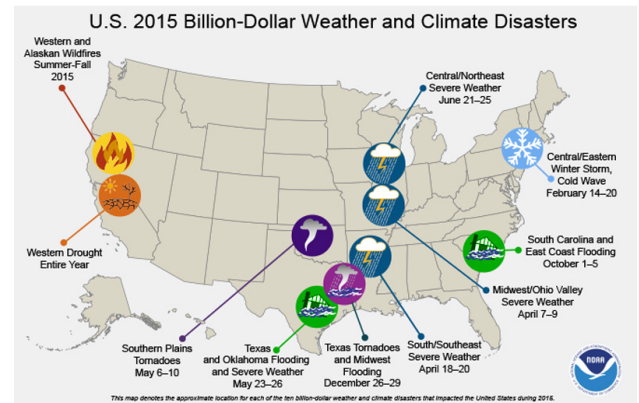
June 13: Deadline for NWA Awards Nominations ([see page 4](#))

Sept. 10-15: 41st NWA Annual Meeting ([see page 6](#))

The NWA: Connecting operational meteorologists in pursuit of excellence in weather forecasting, communication and service.

Weather-Ready Nation: Educating on Disaster Preparedness

Each year, billions of dollars of weather- and climate-related natural disasters affect the United States. 2015 saw a total of 10 weather and climate disaster events that saw expenses total \$1 billion or more including drought, severe storms, floods, wildfires and winter weather. Last year, 155 people died as a result of these events. On average, the U.S. experiences roughly five billion-dollar disaster events per year since recording started in 1980, and averaged 10.8 events in the past five years. In partnership with NOAA, the Weather-Ready Nation (WRN) initiative was created to help inform and educate the public of these events and how be prepared when disaster strikes.



[Click for more on the Weather-Ready Nation](#)

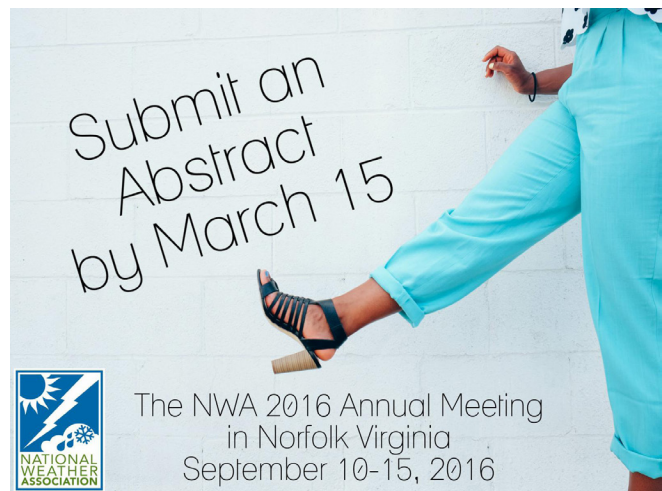


Now celebrating its second anniversary, WRN still works hard to save lives and build an informed community. Through motivating people and communities to increase preparedness for natural disasters, the initiative hopes to reduce lives lost in the face of weather- and climate-related tragedies.

To help spread its message, WRN partners with organizations, businesses and groups across the country to build the WRN Ambassador program. These ambassadors work to promote

the WRN message: to engage with NOAA personnel, share success stories, and serve as an example by educating employees on workplace preparedness.

As a WRN ambassador, the NWA works to help inform and engage the public through social media posts once a week as part of a WRN program called Weather-Ready Wednesdays. On average, we reach roughly 3,000 people between our Twitter and Facebook posts, hoping that at least one person who reads it will be better informed for any weather or climate disaster they may encounter. This is our job as a WRN Ambassador. Anyone can become a WRN Ambassador: how about you?





SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS



NWA Scholarships

Open until April 29 2016

Broadcast Meteorology Scholarship

David Sankey Minority Scholarship

Open until May 27 2016

Ken Reeves Memorial AccuWeather
Undergraduate Scholarship

Dr. Roderick A. Scofield Meteorology
Scholarship

NWA Grant

Open until June 3 2016

Meteorological Satellite Applications Award Grant

NWA Teacher/Educator Grant

Open until June 3 2016

Sol Hirsch NWA Education Fund Grants for K-12 Teachers/Educators

The NWA wants you to spread the word and
encourage students, teachers and educators
to apply for these opportunities!



WWW.NWAS.ORG

Why the National Weather Association?

February President's Message

By Dave Freeman



“Why have you always been so involved with the NWA?”

The question caught me a bit off guard – it came from a colleague that I had just met at an Annual Meeting. But even so, the answer came easily and goes back to the very first Annual Meeting I ever attended. That was (gasp!) 1990, in New Carrollton, Maryland. I remember walking in feeling a bit apprehensive. I was young and knew a lot less than I know now, which is still not enough.

I was greeted warmly by Executive Director Sol Hirsch, and very quickly discovered that I had found a home. Several things struck me right away about the NWA that kept me coming back year after year.

The NWA is by, for and about the operational forecaster.

Every single Annual Meeting I have ever attended, I have learned something that I put to use the next week in my work. This is an organization dedicated to those of us who live where the rubber meets the road: making a forecast, diagnosing severe weather, issuing or communicating warnings.

The NWA is welcoming.

This is reflected both in the atmosphere (pardon the pun) of the meetings where easy conversation occurs between old friends and new, and in the formal efforts of the organization to broaden its scope. From the student mentoring program, to the Women in Meteorology luncheon, to the newly established Diversity Committee, if you love weather, you are welcomed.

The NWA encourages and maintains a learning mode.

I remember being asked to contribute to a presentation about busted forecasts a number of years ago. Naturally it was an intimidating request; not only being asked to share some of your work, but also to specifically share something that you didn't do well. But the presentation turned out to be fantastic because the presenter modelled a learning mode. When you come right down to it, we probably learn more from busted forecasts as long as we are in that mode. That was an important moment for me in how I looked at my work.



The NWA is integrated.

When you come to an NWA meeting, it is a tossed salad of operational meteorology. Broadcasters, government forecasters, researchers, private meteorologists, academicians, students, military members, all attend the same meeting! The opportunities that are created for partnerships, and for learning, are greatly magnified by this characteristic of the NWA. While I value the many broadcaster friends I have, I am also deeply grateful for the many friendships I have made with people in other paths of service. I am the richer for it.

The NWA is supportive.

No matter where you are in your learning, your colleagues in the NWA will help you move forward. If you are a student, you will be welcomed and mentored. If you are a weathercaster and you want to become a meteorologist, you will be welcomed and assisted. If you are a meteorologist who wants to develop professionally, you will find that support in the NWA. I will close with a quick story that illustrates this.

Many will remember the late Dr. Jim Moore, a past NWA President (1999). Dr. Moore was famous (or infamous) for his bad jokes and wonderful spirit. And he was well known for his presentations on the value of isentropic analysis in forecasting. At one point in our office we began experimenting with some isentropic products on our system but we were having trouble operationalizing it. At an NWA Annual Meeting I went up to Dr. Moore, introduced myself and asked if I could buy him lunch and ask him some questions about this process. He readily agreed and it was a marvelous help. Now understand, I didn't really know Dr. Moore, I was just a guy who went up to him at the meeting and asked for help. He was happy to give it. The next year, I approached him again and we did the same thing. Over lunch I quizzed him about what we were experiencing, and he generously guided my learning. To me, this unselfish sharing of knowledge and insight was a true example of the spirit of this wonderful organization.

So that, my friends, is “Why the NWA?” I hope that you will also value these qualities of the Association and invite your colleagues, associates and partners to become part of the NWA.

You're On Social Media... So Are We!



NWA Fall Scholarship Winners

Submitted by Jeffrey Tongue – Education Committee Chair



Congratulations to Jillian Young, recipient of the 2015 NWA Phillips Family Undergraduate Meteorology Scholarship. Jillian, a junior major in the State University of New York at Oneonta meteorology program is the 2015 NWA Phillips Family Undergraduate Meteorology Scholarship winner.

Jillian is an extremely active student. She was on the 2015 organization team for the Student Mentoring Session at the NWA Annual Meeting and is doing so again for our meeting in Norfolk.

Dr. Todd Ellis called Jillian his “best student ever” as she “possesses a singular passion for meteorology and public welfare. In fact, her passion for meteorology in terms of service to the profession, desire to engage in independent undergraduate research, and to excel in her coursework is unrivaled.” Her passion for operational meteorology has led her to complete volunteer internships at the Binghamton, New York, NWS office and she is now a Pathways Student at the NWS office in La Crosse, Wisconsin.

The Education Committee was very impressed by Jillian’s application as it directly related to the spirit of the Phillips Family Scholarship. As Jillian put it, “Ryan Phillips proves that one can succeed professionally while bringing success into other’s lives through volunteering.”

Runners up for the scholarship were Kevin Larson from Texas A&M University and Kelley Moody from Chapman University in Orange, California. Both were awarded annual NWA memberships.

Congratulations to Raymond (Rod) Truesdell, recipient of the 2015 NWA Arthur C. Pike Meteorology Scholarship. Rod, a graduate student of applied meteorology at Mississippi State returned to college after a nearly 30-year hiatus for a new vision of the future. He is deeply involved with Science Olympiad and has a great passion for science communication. Rod is true inspiration that education is a lifelong endeavor.

The Education Committee found his application inspiring as it really reminds one that you can always do what you want in life and not to give up. Jason Carter, science teacher at Evergreen Community Charter School, described Rod as “awe-inspiring” for the many ways he has volunteered countless hours and committed so much to educating and invigorating students in science.

Rod has a 4.0 GPA at Mississippi State University; he plans to graduate this summer and seek out new opportunities in meteorology.



Runner ups for the scholarship were Marissa Zautenbacher from Penn State University and Grant Larkin from Western Kentucky University. Both were awarded annual NWA memberships.

Note: The Education Committee chose not to award the NWA Bob Glahn Scholarship in Statistical Meteorology this year due to a lack of qualified applicants that fit the focus of the scholarship.

Click for more information on [NWA grants and scholarships](#).

Please also see the ad on [page 2](#).

NWA Annual Awards Program

Do you know someone who deserves special recognition?

Nominations are now being accepted through June 13 for the 2016 NWA Annual Awards.

There will be a Webinar on the Award Submission Process in April 2016

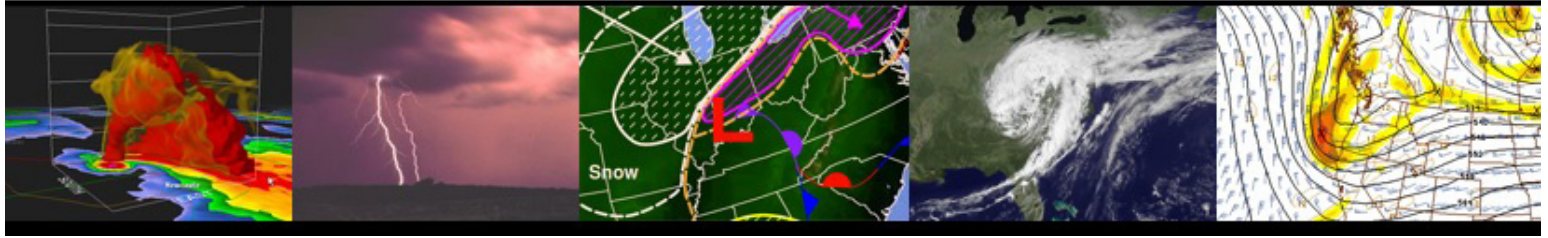
WELCOME!

New local chapter approved!

We are excited to announce the addition of a new local chapter. While the name is not new, *The Southern New England Chapter of the NWA* has been re-organized, and the name transferred to the new group. We look forward to all you will add to our association!!

www.nwas.org/local.php

Journal of Operational Meteorology



One short contribution and two articles have been published in the NWA's JOM since the beginning of the year. The JOM is an open-access journal.

JOM 2016-1: Utilization of Real-Time Vineyard Observations to Produce Downscaled Temperature Forecasts for Frost Protection Operations, by David W. Reynolds, Timothy Coleman, Daniel J. Gottas and Thomas Lefebvre.

JOM 2016-2: The Operational Use and Assessment of a Layered Precipitable Water Product for Weather Forecasting, by Anita Leroy, Kevin K. Fuell, Andrew L. Mothan, Gary J. Jedlovec, John M. Forsythe, Stanley Q. Kidder and Andrew S. Jones.

JOM 2016-3: Observations and Operational Considerations of the 4 June 2013 Chaff Event in Northern Alabama, short contribution by Todd A. Murphy, Ryan A. Wade and Brian C. Carcione.

The JOM publishes submissions in four categories: Article, Short Contribution, Images of Note and Commentary. The JOM is a peer-reviewed, all-electronic journal with an international scope, providing authors with the benefits of economical publication costs and rapid publication following acceptance. If you are interested in submitting a paper to the JOM, please go [to the website for author information](#).

Thank you to the JOM authors, reviewers and editors for continuing to make JOM a success!

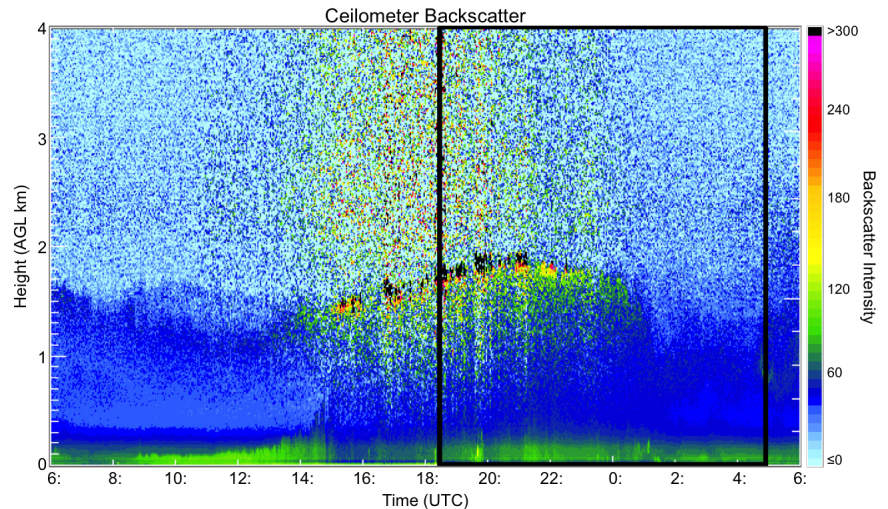


Figure 6 from JOM 2016-3. This is the time-height cross section of backscatter intensity from the University of Alabama in Huntsville lidar ceilometer valid for from 0600 UTC June 4 to 0600 UTC June 5, 2013. Increasing intensity indicates an increase in atmospheric aerosol concentration. Backscatter intensity saturated at black indicates cloud. The black box outline represents the time period when chaff was observed by the NWS Huntsville radar.

Outstanding Accolades for Two NWA Members' Service



NWA member Lance Bosart will be awarded the Citizen of the University Award on April 16, 2016, at the University at Albany Excellence Awards Gala. The award recognizes his outstanding contributions and dedication.



Congratulations to NWA member Alex Garcia for being selected as the 2016 National Weatherperson of the Year by the Federal Alliance for Safe Homes.

NEW NWA MEMBERS

Please welcome these members who joined the NWA in January 2016!

Regular/Retired/ Active Military Members:

Garry Booker
Christopher Kerr
Stephen Bieda III
Stephanie Waldref
Richard Lam
Fred Allen
Robert Dixon
Caroline Zielinski
Jared Rennie
Ian Giammanco
Byron Jackson
Zachary Uttech
Dean Davison

Darla Givens
Bryan Shaw
Jacob Chalupsky
Mallory Nicholls
Micah Kinnis

Student Members:

Alex Daly
Dwayne Macie
Kimberly Reed
Kelley Murphy
David Marshall
Scot Pilie'
Camille Grieci

Call for abstracts: 41st NWA Annual Meeting, September 10-15, 2016

Location: Norfolk, Virginia

41st NWA Annual Meeting Venue and Hotel:

[Norfolk Waterside Marriott](#), 235 East Main Street, Norfolk, VA 23510

Theme: Better Science, Better Communication, Better Results

Operational meteorologists constantly strive to improve the science behind the forecast. We also want to make sure the people we serve receive, understand and then act on the information that we provide. If we utilize the best possible science and are effective communicators, lives will be saved and impacts to the economy minimized. Join the National Weather Association in Norfolk and help the weather enterprise advance on this path of service.

Important Dates in 2016

- **Abstract Submission Deadline:** March 15
- **Oral and Poster Presenters Notified:** April 15
- **Preliminary Agenda Posted On-line:** July 1
- **2016 NWA Annual Meeting:** September 10-15

Schedule of Events

- Broadcast Meteorology Workshop: **Sunday, September 11**
- Ninth Annual Student Session including Speed Mentoring: **Sunday, September 11**
- General Sessions: **Monday-Thursday, September 12-15**
- NWA Annual Awards Luncheon: **Wednesday, September 14**

Abstract Submission

Submit abstracts for oral and poster presentations by March 15, 2016

In addition to the traditional sessions on severe weather, weather and forecasting, etc., the Program Committee is specifically soliciting abstracts which relate to one of the following sub-themes:

- Coastal Flooding, Storm Surge and Sea Level Rise
- Integration of New Technology (Dual-pol, GOES-R/JPSS, MYRORSS, Proving Ground, FACETS)
- Advances in Numerical Weather Prediction (Warn-on-Forecast, Storm-Scale Ensembles)
- Innovations in Communicating High-Impact Weather Events (Social Media, Commercial Services, Simplification)
- Case Studies of High-Impact Events
- Weather Support for the Armed Forces

Abstracts should be sent via the on-line form on the NWA website at: [2016 NWA Annual Meeting Abstract Submission Form](#). If you are unable to submit your abstract via the on-line form, please contact the NWA office at 405-701-5167 or e-mail: nwahelp@nwas.org.

The Program Committee will notify presenters, via e-mail, regarding the disposition of their abstracts by April 15. A preliminary agenda will be posted on the NWA website by early July for presenters to review.

Students, please complete the abstract submission form section regarding student awards. If you concur, your presentations will be reviewed by the NWA Weather Analysis and Forecasting Committee members. Monetary awards will be presented to the best oral presentations and posters in undergraduate and graduate student categories.



The Annual Meeting Program Committee Co-Chairs are:

Ken Carey

ERT, Inc
Laurel, MD 20707

annualmeeting2016@nwas.org

Mike Vescio

NOAA National Weather Service
Pendleton, OR 97801

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The Broadcaster Workshop Program Chair:

Mike Goldberg

WTVR-TV
Richmond, VA 23230

broadcasterworkshop2016@nwas.org

Additional Information

For more information on exhibits, special accommodations, registration and the overall meeting program, keep checking the [2016 Annual Meeting Page](#) and its links, or contact the NWA office: 405-701-5167 or nwahelp@nwas.org.

NWA will provide updates on this Web page, on the [NWA Facebook Page](#), [Twitter](#) and other social media. Please use the hashtag [#NWA516](#) for any tweets associated with the 2016 Annual Meeting.



Photo courtesy of Visit Norfolk

41st NWA Annual Meeting, Hotel Details

Meeting Venue and Hotel: Norfolk Waterside Marriott, 235 East Main Street, Norfolk, VA 23510

(<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/orfws-norfolk-waterside-marriott/>)

Reservations may be made online or by calling 1-800-874-0264 and telling them you're attending the National Weather Association meeting.

The room block is open until August 17, 2016, or until the NWA block is full.

Hotel rates are as follows:

Number of Guests 1-4

Nightly Rate Before Tax: \$87.00

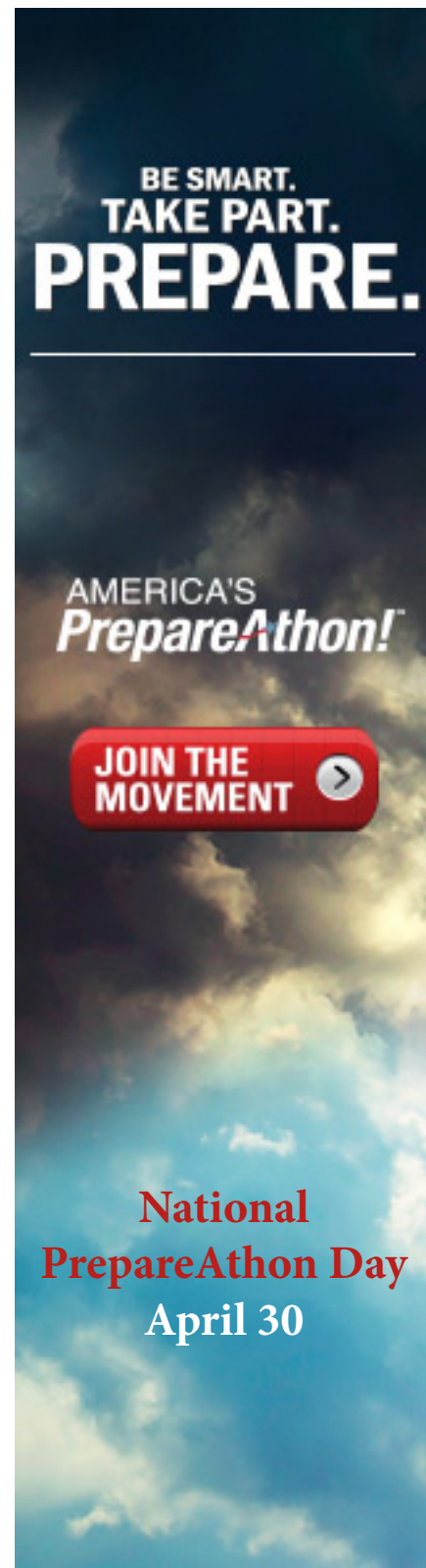
Click to make your
reservation
<http://goo.gl/G8OzpV>

- Prices listed are per night and do not include tax or fees. The current tax rate is 14% and/or \$2.00 per room night occupied. Rates are subject to change.
- When requesting the room, they will ask how many will occupy the room. This will enable them to provide the correct type of room for the number of guests. (i.e., one bed vs. two beds). Rooms with two double beds cannot be guaranteed in advance unless this request appears as confirmed on your reservation.
- All reservation requests will require a credit card or a one room night deposit, to guarantee the room. Any deposits will be refunded for rooms canceled more than 72 hours prior to scheduled arrival. If you do not check into the hotel on your scheduled arrival date and do not cancel more than 72 hours in advance, one (1) room night cost will be charged to the credit card used to guarantee the room.
- Name changes to room reservations may be made up to one day prior to arrival.
- Check-in is available after 4 p.m. on arrival day; check-out is at 11 a.m.
- Complimentary Internet in all NWA attendee guest rooms.
- The hotel has a [smoke-free policy](#).

Additional Information

- Reduced overnight Self-Parking of \$14 (Main Street garage only). A 6% tax will apply.
- Valet parking is available for \$26/day for hotel guests.
- Taxi rides between the airport and hotel average around \$30. The hotel does not provide shuttle service.

The meeting sessions will be held at the hotel. [Visit Norfolk](#) has more info restaurants, transportation and activities in the Norfolk area.



Sol Hirsch Education Fund Grant at Work

One of the four winners for the grant in 2015-2016 was Kaci Heins with Northland Preparatory Academy in Flagstaff Arizona.

The project is called: *Eyes in the Sky: Learning in a Near Space Classroom*. It is a high altitude ballooning project that impacts all of the schools 6th grade class (100+ students) in that it brings science from abstract to the actual.

The students are working hard to prep the payload for NPA-3 on March 9 at 9 a.m.

You can follow the journey on Instagram and Twitter using the hashtags #NPAballoon to the moon 2016 and #NPAstratospartan.

[Click to see a video of a launch.](#)



A Northland Prep balloon launch

New



Webinar Series

For the Webinars Wednesday that were recorded using GoToWebinar, please type in your name and email in order to watch them.

Month	Topic	Hosting Committee(s)
December 2015	2016 Goals and the Annual Meeting	PDC/Nominating/NWA President
January 2016	Weather to Support Agricultural Activities	PDC
February 2016	Decision Support (starts at the 5:30 mark)	WAF
March 2016	Communicating Forecast Information	Societal Impacts
April 2016	Award Submission Process	Awards
May 2016	Workforce Diversity	Diversity
June 2016	Communicating via Posters	Specialized Operations
July 2016	New Forecast Techniques in Remote Sensing	Remote Sensing
August 2016	Student Opportunities and Mentoring	PDC

Instructions for accessing and viewing future Webinars Wednesdays will be provided on the [Member Portal](#) and via email.

We hope as many NWA members as possible can join us in 2016 for this exciting NWA monthly series.



March's Webinar Wednesday

Multi-Sector Communication for Large Events: Decision Support Services and the Super Bowl Please join the NWA Societal Impacts Committee in facilitating a discussion with meteorological and policy experts from the National Weather Service and Earth Networks about Decision Support Services and how different sectors of the Weather Enterprise can play an important role in supporting large events, including the need for coordination to ensure consistency of messaging. We'll talk about these and related issues in light of a recent event: Super Bowl 2016.

Moderator: Jen Henderson, Ph.D. Candidate in Science and Technology Studies, Virginia Tech

Panelists:

Mark Hokezema, Chief Meteorologist of Earth Networks

Scott Carpenter, Decision Support Services Program Manager, NWS Western Region

Wendy Levine, NWS Headquarters, Office of the Chief Operating Officer, Senior Policy Lead

Google Hangout on Wednesday, March 2 at 2 p.m. EST.

A link to the webinar will be emailed to members and posted on our website and social media.

NWA Sponsored Meetings, Conferences & Special Events in 2016

(Click titles for more information)

March 4-6: 41st Annual Northeastern Storm Conference (NESC)

It will be at the Holiday Inn in Saratoga Springs, New York.

March 5: 21st TESSA National Storm Conference

It will be at Colleyville Center in Colleyville, Texas. Free and open to the public.

March 31-April 2: 20th Annual Severe Storms & Doppler Radar Conference

It will be in Ankeny, Iowa at the Courtyard by Marriott.

April 2-3: 14th Annual Southeast Severe Storms Symposium

It will be at the Mississippi State University.

September 10-15: 41st NWA Annual Meeting

"Better Science, Better Communication, Better Results" is the theme of the 2016 Annual Meeting being held in Norfolk, Virginia. [See page 6.](#)

Other Meetings, Conferences & Special Events

March 1-2: National Tornado Summit

This summit (held in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma) strives to improve disaster mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery in order to save lives and property in the U.S. It also serves as a national forum for insurance professionals and regulators as well as international, national and state experts to exchange ideas and recommend new policies to improve emergency management.

March 4: 20th Annual Severe Weather Symposium

It will be at the Ohio State University.

March 4-5: 2016 Pacific Northwest Weather Workshop

It will be at the NOAA Western Regional Center in Seattle, Washington.

March 23: World Meteorological Day 2016

March 21-24: 2016 National Hurricane Conference

It will be at the Hilton Orlando in Orlando, Florida.

March 27-April 2: Tsunami Preparedness Week

April 13-16: National Tropical Weather Conference

It will be held in South Padre Island, Texas.

April 30: National PrepareAthon Day

May 4-6: National Earthquake Conference

2016 NEC: "What's New? What's Next? What's Your Role in Building a National Strategy?"

October 14-19: 64th Annual IAEM Conference and EMEX

The International Association of Emergency Managers will hold this year's annual conference in Savannah, Georgia.

Do you have
a passion
for writing

YES ?

Then come join
the dream team!

nwanewsletter@nwas.org

Newsletter Submissions

We welcome Newsletter article submissions from members. Send articles by the 15th of each month to nwanewsletter@nwas.org for publication in the following month's edition at the earliest. Information about the Newsletter and a link to author guidelines can be found at www.nwas.org/newsletters/.



NWA Newsletter

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Submit newsletter items to nwanewsletter@nwas.org using the Instruction for Authors at www.nwas.org/newsletters/newsletter_instructions.php.

Members receive the Apex award winning Newsletter online and access to an online portal which includes the Journal of Operational Meteorology as part of their regular, student or corporate membership privileges.

Address, phone number, email and affiliation changes can now be made online: member.nwas.org.

