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

No. 14 – 1

Newsletter JANUARY 2014

The January 2014 Arctic Outbreak

Just how cold was the Jan. 6, 2014, cold air outbreak compared with past events? To find out, Greg Carbin (NWA Rapid Response Team member) reviewed past daily records from the National Climatic Data Center for all December-January-February (DJF) days back to 1979. To determine the magnitude of a cold event during this period, he multiplied the total number of daily minimum temperature records by the average departure from the previous record on each day. The analysis showed that Christmas Day of 1983 was the coldest DJF day since 1979 with over 1,900 daily minimum temperature records and an average -8.66 F departure from the prior daily record (see Figs. 1 and 2).

On Monday morning, Jan. 6, 2014, the temperature difference between Minnesota and Florida was more than 100 F. Greg scoured the Storm Prediction Center (SPC) surface data archive back to 1973, looking at the 1200 UTC simple surface temperature differences between Minneapolis (MSP) and Miami (MIA). He used every day available in the archive when both stations reported at 1200 UTC. There were 12,292 days that met this criterion, out of a possible 14,981 days, or 82% of the total 1200 UTC observation days since 1973. The morning of Jan. 6, 2014, ranked 10th in terms of strongest MSP-MIA temperature gradient back to 1973.

Fig. 3 (page 3) shows a chart of the December/January (D/J) daily grid average contiguous U.S. (CONUS) temperature for the long-term period, 1900-2014, using gridded data from the 20th Century Reanalysis, as well as up-scaled North American Regional Reanalysis (NARR) and SPC grids. According to this analysis, the coldest day in the long-term record was Dec. 24, 1983, with a daily grid average temperature of 12 F. Interestingly, new daily CONUS cold records were recently set during the period Dec. 6-8, 2013. Jan. 6, 2014 comes in at 17.9 F and does not establish a new record

See COLD, page 3

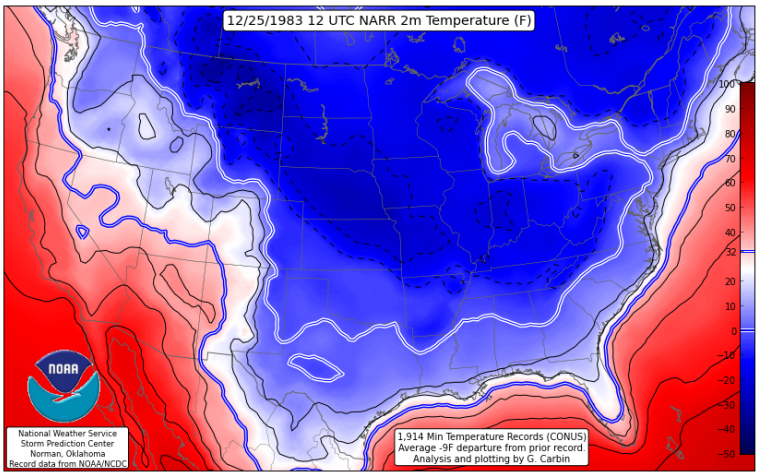


Figure 1. Map of the 1200 UTC Dec. 25, 1983, CONUS 2 m (~6 ft) temperature analysis from the NARR.

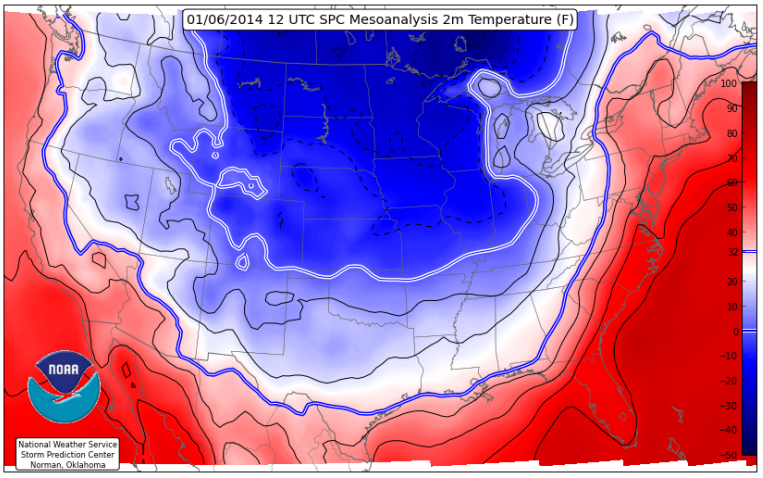


Figure 2. Map of the 1200 UTC Jan. 6, 2014, CONUS 2 m (~6 ft) temperature analysis from the SPC mesoanalysis data.

INSIDE THIS EDITION ...

2014 NWA OFFICERS/COUNCILORS

PRESIDENT:
Jeffrey P. Craven
W296 Young Road
Eagle, WI 53119-1902
(262) 510-9405
president@nwas.org

PRESIDENT-ELECT 2015:
Dr. Elizabeth Page
UCAR/COMET
P.O. Box 3000
Boulder, CO 80307
(303) 497-8315
epage@ucar.edu

VICE-PRESIDENT:
Jeff Evans
1017 Academic Way
4th Floor, Love Bldg FSU
Tallahassee, FL 32306
(850) 942-8833
jeffry.evans@noaa.gov

SECRETARY (2014-2015):
Michael Vescio
2214 NW Ingram Ave.
Pendleton, OR 97801
541-969-2138
Vescio.Michael@yahoo.com

TREASURER (2013-2014):
Dr. John R. Scala CCM
Consultant and WGAL-TV Meteorologist
2150 Meadow Ridge Drive
Lancaster, PA 17601-5761
(717) 799-6700
scalawx@comcast.net

COUNCILORS for 2012 through 2014:
Faith Borden
400 Parkway Road
Charleston, WV 25309-6628
faith.borden@noaa.gov

Ken Carey
Director of Strategic Solutions
Earth Resources Technology (ERT) Inc.
6100 Frost Place Suite A
Laurel, MD 20707-2928
301-361-0626
ken.carey@ertcorp.com or
kencarey24@gmail.com

John Ferree
120 David L. Boren Blvd. Suite 2312
Norman, OK 73072-7317
(405) 325-2209
john.t.ferree@noaa.gov

continuing COUNCILORS
for 2012 through 2014:
Paul Schlatter
1325 East West Highway
SSMC2 Room 18234
Silver Spring, MD 20910-944
paul.t.schlatter@noaa.gov

COUNCILORS for 2013 through 2015:
Greg Carbin
120 David L. Boren Blvd. Suite 2310
Norman, OK 73072-7278
gregory.carbin@noaa.gov

Jacqui Jeras
WJLA-TV
1100 Wilson Blvd.
Arlington, VA 22209
jacquijerasweather@gmail.com

William Murray
President, Partner and CEO
The Weather Factory
3522 Vann Road - Suite 102
Birmingham, AL 35235
205-602-7249
bill@integralhospitality.com

Cathy Zapotocny
6707 North 288th Street
Valley, NE 68064
402-359-4381X605
cathy.zapotocny@noaa.gov

COUNCILORS for 2014 through 2016:
John Gagan
National Weather Service
5805 West Highway EE
Springfield MO 65802
417-863-8028
jandjgagan@gmail.com

Mike Goldberg
WTVR-TV
3301 West Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23230
mgoldberg@wtvr.com

Chuck Graves
Dept. of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences
Saint Louis University
3642 Lindell Blvd
St. Louis, MO 63108
(314) 977-3121
gravesce@slu.edu

continuing COUNCILORS for
2014 through 2016:
Elise V. Schultz
University of Alabama in Huntsville
Earth System Science Center
320 Sparkman Drive
Huntsville, AL 35805
(256) 961-7856
elise.schultz@nsstc.uah.edu

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT:
Bruce G. Thomas
Midland Radio Corporation
Chief Meteorologist
5900 Parretta Drive
Kansas City, MO 64120-2134
(816) 462-0415 (O)
(816) 916-0801 (C)
bthomas@midlandradio.com

STUDENT EX-OFFICIO:
Jonathan Belles
Florida State University
Dept. Earth, Oceanic and
Atmospheric Sciences
Tallahassee, FL 32313
(727) 412-4578
jonathan.belles@yahoo.com
@JonathanBelles

COMMISSIONER OF COMMITTEES
(NON-VOTING MEMBER):
Richard Okulski
810 Main Street
Caribou, ME 04736-4452
207-492-0180 x 222
richard.okulski@noaa.gov

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
(NON-VOTING MEMBER):
Janice Bunting
National Weather Association
350 David L. Boren Blvd.
Suite 2750
Norman, OK 73072
405-701-5167
exdir@nwas.org

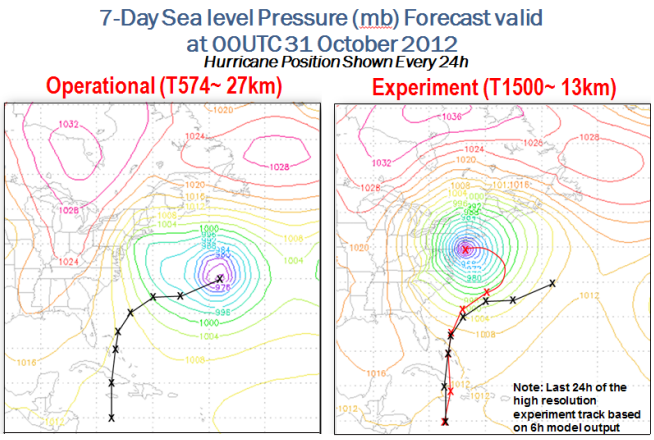
ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
(NON-VOTING MEMBER):
Ruth Aiken
National Weather Association
228 West Millbrook Road
Raleigh, NC 27609-4304
Tel: (919) 845-7121
Fax: (919) 845-2956
assist@nwas.org

New Technology for the Weather Enterprise

Jeff Craven, NWA President

The Weather Enterprise is entering exciting times as technology continues improving our capabilities at a fast pace to give advanced notice of hazardous weather conditions through numerical weather prediction (NWP) and remote sensing. The unfortunate landfall of Sandy in the New Jersey area sparked a series of scientific and political discussions that led to the congressional Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013 (aka Sandy Supplemental). These resources allowed the Natoinal Weather Service (NWS) National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) to upgrade the computational capacity of their super-computers by almost three-fold in 2013. Plans are to increase the capacity from 208 to 1,900 teraflops by 2015, representing an increase of nearly 10 times over the current capability.

These high performance computing (HPC) advances will help in a number of ways to provide higher resolution and more accurate model output to the Weather Enterprise on an accelerated schedule. These include the operational implementation of the 3-km High Resolution Rapid Refresh model (HRRR) and 13-km Global Forecast System (GFS) this year. Testing on Sandy indicates that the 13-km GFS 5-day forecast turned the storm into New Jersey five days out, as opposed to the much publicized turn out to sea in the 27-km operational GFS (see image). There are many other plans for utilizing the increased HPC to generate the NCEP NWP output used by all aspects of the Weather Enterprise in developing our core forecasts and warnings.



The forecast tracks of Sandy in the operational 27-km GFS (left panel) and the experimental 13-km GFS (right panel). Image credit: NWS.

Improvements in remote sensing have recently been achieved with the full upgrade of the NEXRAD network to dual polarization. The Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite R-Series (GOES-R) is scheduled for launch in 2016 and should become operationally available around 2017. The improvements in temporal and spatial resolution along with a number of new channels and sensors on GOES-R will likely change how satellite data are used in forecast and warning operations. Routine satellite products will be available on time scales similar to radar, and will even feature data on the order of 1 minute for mesoscale severe weather sectors. Although radar has typically dominated warning operations, satellite will take on an increasing role as infrared cloud top cooling products and global total lightning data have shown lead times for severe storms on the order of 45 minutes or more.

Looking to the future of NWP over the next five to10 years, the HRRR could be run on the order of 500-m resolution in moveable mesoscale sectors based on the maximum hazardous weather threat of the day. The idea of Warn-on-Forecast would require running models every 5 to10 minutes out to 2 to 3 hours with horizontal resolutions of 1 km or less to simulate convective weather evolution and severe weather probabilities.

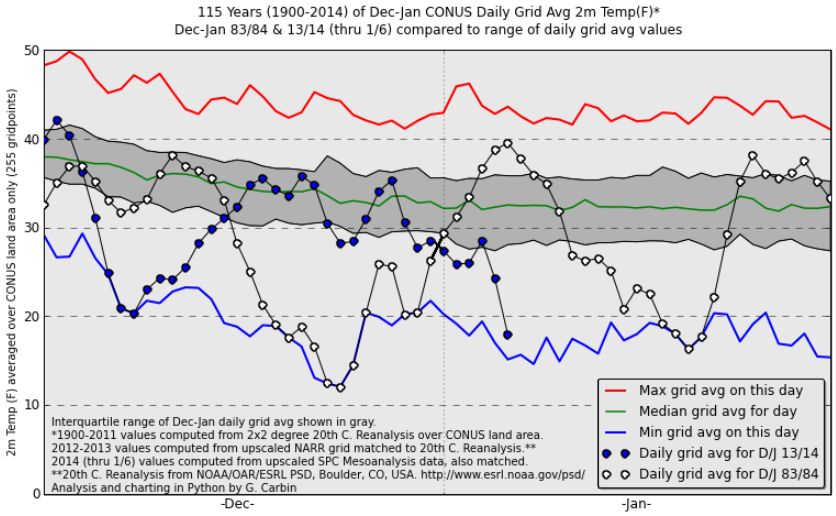
Although operational meteorologists will certainly welcome all of these new observed and model output data, there are significant challenges as well. Since we can't possibly look at each piece of data before making a forecast, we will have to build systems that help us manage all of the data and help us know what to look at and when. The culture of the operational forecaster throughout the Weather Enterprise will evolve as customers demand more lead time, more precision, and more uncertainty/confidence information in the forecast. The NWA stands poised to be at the forefront of this evolution and assist the operational community with the information sharing and project collaboration accomplished through attending our annual meetings, writing journal and newsletter articles, accessing information and training on our Web page, and participating with our social media accounts.

COLD from page 1

for the date in this analysis. The D/J 1983-84 daily values are also shown on the chart for comparison to 2013-14 (through Jan. 6). Both 1983-84 and 2013-14 show 21 days out of 37 with a daily grid average temperature at or below the 25th percentile. Also, while the recent 37-day period set three new daily record lows (Dec 6-8, 2013), the same period in 1983-84 established eight new record lows.

Based on this analysis, Jan. 6, 2014 places 40th for the coldest CONUS day on record.

Figure 3 (at right). Statistics of the CONUS 2 m (~6 ft) temperature analysis for December-January 6 1900-2014.



Three Rivers NWA Chapter News

October - December 2013
California University of Pennsylvania (CalU)

John Troutman, Secretary

The Three Rivers Chapter of the NWA prides itself on its continued success and service through our member's involvement in conferences, educational outreach, colloquia, social events and internships/research.

CONFERENCES:

Ten of our chapter's members attended the 38th NWA Annual Meeting in Charleston, S.C. from Oct. 12–17. The students enjoyed daily weather briefings and presentations by professionals in meteorology. They were required to use Twitter to post interesting facts that they learned daily. Two members participated in the undergraduate student poster session: Chapter President Elizabeth Smith presented "Investigating the Impact of Two-Inch Soil Temperatures on Snowfall," and member Jamie Melzer presented "Enhancing Flash Flood Warnings in Flood-Prone Areas of the Pittsburgh CWA." Elizabeth was honored with third place in the student poster contest.

On Oct. 25 and 26, 18 students represented our chapter at the 2013 Annual Meeting of the Pennsylvania Geographical Society. Four members presented research at the meeting, two had oral presentations and two had posters. Chapter President Elizabeth Smith won first place in the undergraduate paper presentation contest, and chapter member Brittany Kusniar won first place in the undergraduate poster contest.

EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH:

In November, four chapter members of our educational outreach committee visited two schools. Jason Dohoda, Jay Kanish and Michael Camper visited Montour High School in McKees Rocks, Pa. They talked to students who are currently taking the high school's meteorology class and discussed higher education and career options in meteorology. They also helped the students with in-class forecasting skills and assignments. The visit was coordinated with CalU meteorology alumna Katie Mercadante who is currently a teacher at the high school; Katie has incorporated a meteorology class into the curriculum. Jason and Damon Matson visited Brockway School District located in Brockway, Pa. Damon is a graduate of Brockway High School and coordinated the visit. They presented a slideshow to the first-graders about the four seasons and held an open discussion about tornadoes with the eighth grade students. The tornado discussion was presented in a fact-or-fiction format using the 1996 film "Twister".

Chapter members and CalU alumni in Charleston, S.C., for the 38th Annual NWA Meeting: (front to back, left to right) Carrianne Carstater, Elizabeth Smith, Thomas Hafer, Damon Matson, Jason Dohoda, Katie Mercadante, Jamie Melzer, John Troutman, David Fischer, Joshua Gebauer, Ryan Lingo, Kevin Wagner, Brendan Linton, and Ryan Adams.

In December, Jason visited Trinity West Elementary School and held an assembly with the second grade class discussing different natural disasters including hurricanes, tornadoes, and tsunamis. The students participated in a tsunami recreation activity where the students acted as the underwater earthquake and the waves crashing into the coast, and learned how to build and use a tornado-in-a-bottle. Jason visited this school a second time for an assembly with the kindergarten class that was a joint project between CalU and Clarion University of Pennsylvania. Jason was joined by Clarion student Jennifer Cochran who is an early childhood and special education major. They presented the slide show about the four seasons and had student volunteers show how the seasons change as the Earth rotates around the sun.

COLLOQUIA SERIES:

In November, Fred McMullen was the first speaker of our 2013-14 Colloquia Series, which is open to any interested students, faculty, and staff. He's the warning coordination meteorologist WCM at the NWS office in Pittsburgh and spoke about his career,

See THREE, page 5

CHAPTER NEWS

THREE from page 4

specifically the WCM role. He emphasized the need for more effective communication between scientists and the public and how creating relationships with private sectors is helping to bridge the information gap between meteorologists and the public.

SOCIAL EVENTS:

We held our annual winter social on Dec. 7 at a local restaurant. Chapter members, alumni, professors and guests enjoyed this fun, relaxing event.

INTERNSHIPS/RESEARCH:

In November, we started our summer internship presentations after each chapter meeting. Members who completed an internship during the past summer create an informational presentation for the chapter members. We also started broadcasting our internship presentations online so alumni, friends, family, and other NWA chapters can enjoy our presentations. For more information, please contact our chapter president Elizabeth Smith at SMI6142@calu.edu.

The first was given by Elizabeth, who had a summer internship through the Hollings Program at the NWS in Cheyenne, Wyo. During her time in the office, she forecasted, conducted research, visited instrument sites, used the Weather Event Simulator, helped during severe weather events, and watched a stratospheric balloon launch.

The second presentation was by Thomas Hafer on his internship at the West Texas Weather Modification Association in San Angelo, Texas. He worked with CalU meteorology alumnus Jonathan Jennings on cloud seeding operations during convective weather in West Texas. They used planes equipped with hygroscopic flares to enhance rainfall from clouds.

The third presentation was given by Jamie Melzer and Brittany Kusniar. They worked two days a week for the Student Volunteer Program at the NWS in Pittsburgh, Pa. Their shifts included participation in forecast briefings, hydrologic data recording and forecasting, training modules, project work, social media monitoring, and balloon launches. Jamie and Brittany had the opportunity to work during severe weather events in which they sat on special forecast briefings, observed forecasters issue watches/warnings, answered phone calls, monitored social media, talked to reporters, and issued Local Storm Reports. They also became Upper-Air Certified, allowing them to launch a weather balloon on their own.

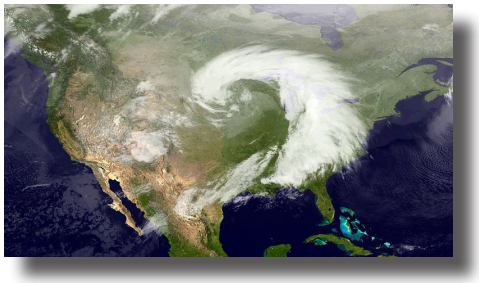
http://hera.calu.edu/clubs/weather/

High Plains NWA Chapter News

William Taylor, President
Tim Burke, Secretary

The High Plains NWA Chapter had a virtual meeting on Jan. 8, 2014, at 2 p.m., with 25 members present. The call began with a webinar from Greg Carbin at the Storm Prediction Center in Norman, Okla., titled "Meteorological Memories of 2013" or "The Top Ten Weather Events of 2013". Greg went through the year in review somewhat chronologically:

1. Over 700 reports of severe weather were received during Jan. 28-31, including the EF3 killer tornado at Adairsville, Ga. An EF4 tornado struck Hattiesburg, Miss., on Feb. 10 causing over $94 million in damage.



The storm system on Feb. 10 which resulted in the Hattiesburg tornado. Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

2. Portland, Maine, set a new all-time single snowstorm record of nearly 40 inches during the Feb. 7-10 Nor'easter. This storm was 35 years to the day after the famous Feb. 7, 1978, Nor'easter.
3. The March-April period saw a flip-flop in temperatures between 2012 and 2013. Temperatures in 2012 were unusually warm, and in 2013 were nearly just as unusually cold. March-April 2013 was relatively quiet, with only 14 tornadoes reported in March, the fewest since 1969.
4. May 18-20 was the only time in the modern record in May with three consecutive days of EF4-5 tornadoes. The Moore, Okla., EF5 tornado May 20 killed 24.
5. The widest tornado on record at 2.6 miles occurred on May 31 in El Reno, Okla. Lack of more substantial damage on the ground resulted in an EF3 rating despite Doppler radar evidence of much stronger winds.
6. Two distinct derecho events occurred on June 12 and 13, from the Midwest to Mid-Atlantic. Both caused considerable damage but neither was as extensive as the June 29, 2012, derecho.
7. Nineteen firefighters lost their lives near Yarnell, Ariz. on June 30 when weather conditions conspired to produce extreme wildfire behavior. This was the greatest loss of wildland firefighters from a single fire in over 80 years.
8. In July and August, widespread record rains helped ease the long-term drought in the central U.S. Philadelphia experienced a deluge of over 8 inches in a single day on July 28.
9. Serious flooding occurred in Colorado September 9-15. During this seven-day period, Boulder received 12.91 inches of rain, or about 75 percent of their normal yearly rainfall.
10. The most active tornado day in 2013 occurred on November 17. A preliminary total of about 75 tornadoes included three killer tornadoes, claiming eight lives, all in Illinois.

The business meeting started with President Bill Taylor of the North Platte, Neb. NWS office welcoming everyone. Treasurer Scott Bryant, from the Hastings, Neb., NWS office gave the treasury report. Our chapter is now a Tax Exempt, 501-3 organization. Scott also indicated volunteers were needed from each office for the Jim Johnson Scholarship committee. The next subject discussed was the upcoming High Plains Conference in Hastings, Neb. The Conference is planned for August 6 and 7. Registration fees will be waived for student presenters. The details are still being worked out, but student presenters will be partially compensated for travel. The conference registration fee will be low in cost. Anyone wanting to present at this conference should send abstracts to Rick Ewald at the Hastings, Neb., NWS office. Our Chapter website will have periodic conference updates. The next meeting is planned for March and is hoped to be a face-to-face meeting.

http://www.highplains-amsnwa.org

A Job Well Done

Rich Okulski
NWA Commissioner of Committees

Committees are the backbone of the NWA. Whether it is organizing webinars on interesting topics, peer reviewing papers for our electronic Journal of Operational Meteorology (JOM), providing content for our social media sites, or planning the association's future, committee members are critical to the NWA's vitality, ability to keep current members engaged, and recruiting of new members.

Rich Okulski

Critical to the success of any committee is the leadership of the chair. We must say goodbye to three of our committee chairs at the end of 2013. Social Media Committee Chair Diane Cooper led efforts to develop a social media presence for the NWA during the past three years. Through her leadership, our association maintains a continuous stream of information in this relatively new form of communication. Strategic Plans Committee Chair John Scala helped lead the search for a new Executive Director and the move of the NWA Headquarters to Norman, Okla. Publications Committee Chair Matt Bunkers led the implementation of the JOM, which has allowed authors to publish their papers in an electronic format at a low cost compared with other options. The NWA recognized Matt as the 2013 Member of the Year for his leadership with the JOM. We thank Diane, John and Matt for their hard work and dedication to their committees and the NWA.

New JOM Papers

Since our last update, six papers (2013 JOM 18-22 and 2014 JOM 1) have been published the NWA's Journal of Operational Meteorology. Thank you to the Publications Committee, all JOM authors, reviewers and technical editors for making the JOM such a success.

2013:

JOM 18: A Wet-Bulb Globe Temperature Validation Study using Standard Meteorological Inputs and Modeled Solar Irradiance, by D. P. Sauter.

JOM 19: Principles and Applications of Dual-Polarization Weather Radar. Part I: Description of the Polarimetric Radar Variables, by M. R. Kumjian.

JOM 20: Principles and Applications of Dual-Polarization Weather Radar. Part II: Warm- and Cold-Season Applications, by M. R. Kumjian.

JOM 21: Principles and Applications of Dual-Polarization Weather Radar. Part III: Artifacts, by M. R. Kumjian.

JOM 22: Scale Normalization for Instrument Flight Rules Condition-Frequency Effects in Aviation Forecast Performance Statistics, by M. Lorentson.

2014:

JOM 1: Extensive Observations of the Transition Region of a Winter Storm, by T. A. Coleman, T. A. Murphy, K. R. Knupp, L. D. Carey, and M. E. Anderson.

You can read the papers by logging on to the NWA Member Portal at member.nwas.org/ and clicking on JOM link under Additional Member Resources on the right.

If you are interested in submitting a paper to JOM, go to www.nwas.org/jom/index.php for author information.

New NWA Members in December 2013

Regular/Military/Retired

Michael J. Bettwy
Tracy N. Humphrey
Kenneth D. Jackson
Daniel Reilly
William Vanderbrink

Students

A. N. Barnes
Andrew Lahr
Brannon L. Marlin
David Reimer
Stephen Weber
Thomas E. Winning

2014 National Awareness Events

Severe Weather Preparedness Week	March 2-8
Flood Awareness Week	Mar 16-22
Tsunami Preparedness Week	Mar 23-29
Air Quality Awareness Week	Apr 28-May 2
Safe Boating Week	May 17-23
Heat Awareness Day	May 23
Hurricane Preparedness Week	May 25-May 31
Rip Current Awareness Week	Jun 1-7
Lightning Safety Awareness Week	Jun 22-28

Click on the week's title for corresponding website and more information about that week.

39th NWA ANNUAL MEETING

Salt Lake City, Utah: 18–23 October 2014

Where:

The meeting sessions will take place at the Sheraton Salt Lake City Hotel, 150 W 500 S, Salt Lake City, UT, 84101. http://www.sheratonsaltlakecityhotel.com/

Theme:

"Building a 21st Century Weather Enterprise: Facilitating Research to Operations – Optimizing Communication and Response"

Among the greatest challenges for the Weather Enterprise in the 21st century is to produce the highest level of science-based hazard information, while at the same time communicating the associated uncertainty, impacts, and risks in a manner that results in the maximum benefit to society. Events such as the Moore and El Reno tornadoes in Oklahoma and the Yarnell Hill and Rim wildfires in the Western U.S. highlight the need for both excellent forecasts and effective communication. The results from innovative research must be efficiently transferred to governmental and commercial providers of environmental information services. Additionally, forecasts must be effectively communicated in a manner that elicits an informed response by private citizens, organizations, businesses, and emergency managers and other first responders. Given these challenges, the focus of the 2014 NWA Annual Meeting will be to share research results that can improve operations and on communication platforms and methods that promote appropriate societal response.

Important Dates:

May 31: Abstracts for Oral presentations due
June 7: Abstracts for Poster presentations due
Oct. 18–23: The 39th NWA Annual Meeting

Schedule of Events:

Sunday, Oct. 19: The annual Broadcast Meteorology Workshop
Sunday, Oct. 19: The Seventh Annual Student Session
Oct. 20-23: The general sessions
Wednesday, Oct. 22: The NWA Annual Awards Luncheon

For more information on exhibits, special accommodations, registration and the overall meeting program, keep checking the 2014 Annual Meeting Page (http://www.nwas.org/meetings/nwa2014/) or contact the NWA office at 405-701-5167 or exdir@nwas.org.

NWA will provide updates on-line, on the NWA Facebook Page, Twitter and other social media. Please use the hashtag #NWAS14 for any tweets associated with the 2014 Annual Meeting.

Abstract Submission:

Submit abstracts for oral presentations by May 31 and abstracts for poster presentations by June 7.

Abstracts should be sent via the online form on the NWA website at: www.nwas.org/2014abstracts.php. If you are unable to submit your abstract via the online form, contact the NWA office at 405-701-5167 or email: exdir@nwas.org.

The Program Committee will notify presenters, via email, regarding the disposition of their abstracts by July 18. A preliminary agenda will be posted on the NWA website by early August 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.

Contacts:

Annual Meeting Program Committee Chair:
Randy Graham
Science and Operations Officer
National Weather Service Forecast Office
Salt Lake City, UT
annualmeeting@nwas.org

Broadcaster Workshop Program Chair:
Mike Goldberg
WTVR-TV
Richmond, VA 23230
mgoldberg@wtvr.com

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2014 NWA sponsored Annual Meetings, Conferences and Special Events (Click titles to visit websites)

Feb. 8: The 2014 National Storm Conference

Free and open to the public, it's a full day of presentations from the nation's top severe weather experts. Storm spotters, chasers, forecasters, researchers, emergency managers and others gather at the conference for a day of learning and fun.

Feb. 10–11: National Tornado Summit & 2014 National Severe Weather Workshop

Breakout sessions will be conducted as part of the National Severe Weather Workshop at the 2014 National Tornado Summit in Oklahoma City. Sessions will focus on hazardous weather information-sharing, and discussions on the effective transmission of messages about meteorological risk.

March 1: Third Annual Severe Weather Awareness Day

The Middle Tennessee Chapter of the NWA and the Nashville NWS Forecast Office are holding this conference in Nashville, Tenn, to remember the 40th Anniversary of the April 3, 1974, Super Outbreak. The Ohio Valley NWA Chapter is also a participant.

March 7–9: 39th Annual Northeastern Storm Conference

The Lyndon State College Chapter of AMS and NWA will sponsor this conference at the Holiday Inn in Rutland, Vt.

March 27–29: 18th Annual Severe Storms and Doppler Radar Conference

Sponsored by the Central Iowa NWA Chapter, it will be held at the Courtyard by Marriott in Ankeny, Iowa.

Oct. 18–23: 39th NWA Annual Meeting

It will be held in Salt Lake City, Utah (#nwas14) at the downtown Sheraton Hotel. See page 7 for details.

Other Meetings, Conferences and Special Events

Feb. 2–6: 94th AMS Annual Meeting

The meeting will be held in Atlanta, Ga. and the theme is "Extreme Weather–Climate and the Built Environment: New Perspectives Opportunities, and Tools."

Feb. 5: National Weatherperson's Day

Thank a weatherperson for their public service. The date commemorates the birth of John Jeffries, a Boston physician and one of America's first weathermen. He was born on Feb 5, 1744 and kept weather records from 1774 to 1816.

March 15: Central Indiana Severe Weather Symposium

This biennial all day symposium is geared toward providing advanced training for spotters and weather enthusiasts. With attendance growing, it now will be held at Butler University in Indianapolis, Ind.

April 9-13, 2014: National Tropical Weather Conference

The conference will bring the current director of the National Hurricane Center and three former directors together to discuss tropical systems and forecasting. Conference presentations will cover tropical systems, mitigation, forecasting, seasonal forecasting, and more. NWA Seal holders can receive CEUs for attending.

April 14–17: 2014 National Hurricane Conference

This annual conference will be held at the Hilton Orlando in Orlando, Fla.

May 28: 35th Anniversary Colloquium: Advances in Extratropical Cyclone Understanding and Prediction Since the 1979 Presidents' Day Storm

It will be held at National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Center for Weather and Climate Prediction in College Park, Md.

Nov. 3–7: 27th Conference on Severe Local Storms

It will be at the Madison Concourse Hotel in Madison, Wis. The formal call for papers will be on the American Meteorological Society (AMS) website soon.

Winter Quarterly Announcement for COMET

Wendy Schreiber-Abshire

COMET Sr. Project Manager/Meteorologist

Greetings! If you plan to be at the AMS 94th Annual Meeting in Atlanta, please stop by and see us on the exhibit hall floor in booth 225. Following are highlights from the most recent MetEd publications. The new materials this quarter are focused on aviation and satellite meteorology, several with emphasis on Africa, as well as radar applications in the Caribbean.

Please follow the links to the modules of most interest to you for more information:

Satellite Meteorology:

Introduction to VIIRS Imaging and Applications (https://www.meted.ucar.edu/training_module.php?id=1075)

Aviation:

WRF-EMS Aviation Products (https://www.meted.ucar.edu/training_module.php?id=1002)

Tropical Fog: A Look at Fog That Impacts Aviation in Guyana (https://www.meted.ucar.edu/training_module.php?id=1007)

Africa Aviation:

Writing TAFs for Ceilings and Visibility, Africa Edition (https://www.meted.ucar.edu/training_module.php?id=1012)

Nowcasting for Aviation in Africa (https://www.meted.ucar.edu/training_module.php?id=1020)

African Satellite Meteorology (ASMET) with Aviation Focus:

Forecasting Fog for Aviation: Kenya Case Study (https://www.meted.ucar.edu/training_module.php?id=1027)

Detecting Clear Air Turbulence South African Case Study (https://www.meted.ucar.edu/training_module.php?id=1078)

Convective Weather and Aviation in West and Central Africa (https://www.meted.ucar.edu/training_module.php?id=1079)

Caribbean Radar Training:

Caribbean Radar Cases (https://www.meted.ucar.edu/training_module.php?id=968)

Caribbean Radar Products (https://www.meted.ucar.edu/training_module.php?id=1021)

IMPORTANT DATES

Feb. 2–6: 94th AMS Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Ga.

Feb. 5: Weatherperson's Day

Feb. 8: The 2014 Texas Severe Storms Association (TESSA) National Storm Conference in Arlington, Texas

Feb. 10-11: National Tornado Summit & 2014 National Severe Weather Workshop in Oklahoma City, Okla.

See page 8 for more important dates

Newsletter Submissions

We welcome Newsletter article submissions from members. Email articles to nwanewsletter@nwas.org by the 25th of the month for publication in the following month's edition at the earliest. For information about the Newsletter and a link to author guidelines: http://www.nwas.org/newsletters.

NWA Newsletter (ISSN 0271-1044)
Technical Editor: Winnie Crawford
Editor and Publisher: Janice Bunting, Executive Director Elect

Published monthly by the National Weather Association, 228 West Millbrook Road, Raleigh, N.C. (USA) 27609-4304; phone ~ (919) 845-1546; fax ~ (919) 845-2956; exdir@nwas.org; www.nwas.org.

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

Members receive the Newsletter on-line and access to an on-line 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.