

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Paul Croft

The month of June has arrived and it marks a variety of beginnings and endings as well as a halfway point. The summer solstice in the Northern Hemisphere will mark the end of the sun's journey to higher latitudes and the increased daylight we've been enjoying. The NWA midyear meeting, at the end of June, will mark a halfway point, as your Council gathers in Saint Louis to conduct business for the organization.

The midyear meeting demonstrates on going change and continual renewal as does the change of season. Some of our Councilors and Officers have changed, yet the NWA still functions on behalf of the membership year after year. The midyear meeting also provides us with the conundrum that we are both halfway into the woods (or year) and halfway out. In other words, the halfway point is an appropriate time to assess where we have been, and where we are going so that we may improve the understanding and the responses necessary to deal with the continuous current of change in the NWA and operational meteorology – just like climate.

The natural variations of weather and climate on all time and space scales are precisely what we see within our organization, and they are good. Recurring change is necessary for any system to evolve and continue to function. For example, the emergence of a seedling requires very select conditions, yet when a mature tree is in place it may withstand adversity, or simply be replaced by newer growth. A forest (or an organization) is simply a collective of the same with each individual tree (or member) at a different stage in the process and with different abilities. How does the NWA accomplish this renewal and growth? A simple yet solid foundation – its organizational structure and bylaws – allows the emergence of a diverse forest of members that can sustain and replace itself over time.

A forest does not form overnight! Today we have twice the membership, and a much greater diversity of backgrounds and careers within our membership than we had ten years ago. We are more responsive not

only to members, but also to new, current, and recurring issues confronting our members on a daily basis. The NWA is more richly diversified, able to undertake new initiatives, and willing to accept the responsibilities that come with leadership in the operational meteorological community.

But how did the NWA get this far? Consider for a moment what any one of our members *could* have accomplished in the last 5, 10, 15, or 20 years, or perhaps that one of our newest members *will* accomplish: (1) first five years received publications and attended annual meetings – encouraged by peers and future colleagues and presented; (2) next five years became involved in committee work and engaged in active debates and discussions with membership – actively giving-back to the NWA; (3) succeeding five years provided feedback to members, Council, Officers with regard to NWA activities and facilitated the same – professional growth by leadership that served the community and laid a pathway for new opportunities; (4) and during another five years promoted and served the operational community through multiple NWA roles and activities and their improvement – stewardship that provided for sustenance, renewal, and replacement.

Is it impossible for a member to accomplish all of this? Not at all! I know many members who have done just this over the last 20 years or less, and they come from all sectors of our membership. Encouragement, active giving-back, professional growth through leadership, and stewardship are key to any member who strives for the success of NWA and themselves. Do these require positions of elected leadership to accomplish? Absolutely not – the key leaders within the NWA continue to be those members who use their skills and abilities to run our committees, sponsor and help-out local chapters, faithfully participate in our annual meetings, volunteer their time and thoughts, run our annual meetings, and interact within the entire membership community in support of our common goals in operational meteorology.

What is it *you* want the NWA to accomplish? How will *you* make it happen? If a tree falls in the forest, will we hear of, and see, what *you* have done?

- Yours in Service – Paul Croft

BROADCAST COMMITTEE NEWS

Model Ingredients for a Great Weathercast...

In the May report I discussed basic satellite, radar and surface analyses in preparing for your daily broadcast. This month I will take a quick look at the NWP models and how to use them before moving on to graphic elements next month.

When I started analyzing computer models 20 years ago, the Internet was barely accessible for home users and there were certainly no weather Web sites to check each day. Instead, I went to the Valparaiso University weather lab, which was a basement room in an otherwise non-science related building on campus, and I checked the Difax machine. For those too young to remember, the old weather charts from weather centers used to print on large rolls of wet, electrically sensitive paper. Each chart took about 5 minutes to print, and after you tore it off the roll, it took another 5 minutes to dry before analysis. It was all we had, and it worked at the time.

Today we have hundreds of weather Web sites, many displaying computer model data, and unlike 20 years ago, there are many more models to view. There are two things to remember about models. First, never rely on just one model, or the same one every day. Secondly, if you live by a model, you will die by that model. In other words, use your instincts and experience to know when the models cannot be trusted. If you're still a young meteorologist, then over time this skill will improve. However, you might want to start by searching the Internet for weather pages on model biases. Knowing a model's bias will greatly aid you when making a forecast.

So what NWP models do we have today? The NWS GFS (out to 16 days!), Eta, NGM (an old model), and RUC; the MM5; NOGAPS (U.S. Navy Model); ECMWF (European); UKMET (United Kingdom); Environment Canada Model, hurricane models and others. There is a lot of data to view! So, for my daily forecast and 7-day outlook I created a graph on a piece a paper and listed the 8 models I use across the top, with an area to write in the 7 forecast days down the left side of the page. Under each model I note the 850-mb temperature (for forecasting high temperatures) and the weather predicted by the model for each day. On the right side I have a column for my forecast after comparing the model data. While I prefer the GFS and Eta, I have seen days when the Canadian or European models hinted at a weather change that the others missed. Check out ApuzzoWeather.com to see some of the data I use every day.

Learn each model's strengths and weaknesses, and get online and check them 2 to 4 times daily. Make a mental note of their performance during significant weather situations and you will have a solid foundation for your daily forecast. Have fun!

Send your thoughts to me at: rapuzzo@fuse.net.

- Rich Apuzzo, Broadcast Meteorology Committee Chair

COMMITTEE CORNER

The NWA Remote Sensing Committee monitors and addresses current issues in remote sensing that relate to operational meteorology or environmental monitoring. With many new and advanced technologies just on the horizon, such as the National Polar Orbiting Environmental Satellite System (NPOESS), GOES-R, the Lightning Mapper Sensor, dual polarization radar, etc., it is important to understand the benefits of these systems and to educate the operational community on how these systems will improve our capabilities.

Membership of the Remote Sensing Committee represents a cross section of scientists from the federal government, academia, and the private sector. A broad spectrum of disciplines is also represented. Specializing in satellite remote sensing are: Gary Ellrod (Chairman), Jim Gurka, and Ralph Ferraro of NOAA/NESDIS, Brian Motta of NOAA Forecast Systems Laboratory (FSL), Dennis Buechler (University of Alabama-Huntsville), Tom Lee (Naval Research Laboratory-Monterey) and Ken Carey (Mitretek Systems, Inc). Radar scientists on the committee include: Steve Vasiloff (NOAA National Severe Storms Laboratory), Neil Fox (University of Missouri-Columbia), and Mike Eilts (Weather Decision Technologies, Inc). Seth Gutman (NOAA-FSL) specializes in atmospheric profilers, including GPS. Several committee members are actively involved in planning for future technologies.

Recent projects undertaken by the committee included a special session at the NWA 2003 Annual Meeting in Jacksonville on winter weather applications of remote sensing. Speakers touched on topics such as winter storm cyclogenesis, radar interpretation of snow bands, satellite microwave products, and detecting snow, ice and super-cooled clouds from satellites. The committee recently prepared a letter representing the NWA that supports the inclusion of a Lightning Mapper Sensor on GOES-R. The letter was signed by the NWA President and sent to critical government agency planners and administrators.

One of the Committee's current projects is organizing a special session for the NWA 2004 Annual Meeting to be held in Portland, Oregon, on the operational capabilities and benefits of the future NPOESS and GOES-R satellites. In addition to a two-hour session of oral presentations, it is hoped that there will be many supplemental posters on the benefits of the new satellites. Our Remote Sensing Committee website (www.nwas.org/committees/rs/rs.html) is packed with information on our activities, and it provides numerous links to resources on weather satellites, radar, profilers, and lightning detection. Please check it out, and we would appreciate your comments/suggestions on how to serve the operational meteorology community and the NWA membership better.

- Gary Ellrod, Remote Sensing Committee Chair

NWA SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

The 2004 NWA Arthur C. Pike Scholarship in Meteorology is awarded to Jessica L. Fieux of Seminole, Florida. This \$1,000 scholarship will assist Ms. Fieux as she enters her senior year later this summer at **Florida State University** in Tallahassee.

Ms. Fieux, as one of her Professors wrote, "is one of those *very* rare students who entered college with an advanced background in mathematics and a refined interest in meteorology." She has maintained an A average in her course grades, and in addition to her course work, she is working on a research project with Dr. Krishnamurti. Last summer she interned at WTVT Fox 13 in Tampa applying her knowledge in an operational forecasting setting. She considered it a wonderful learning experience. She is looking forward to attending graduate school in the future and getting involved in hurricane research. She is also interested in working with emergency management programs to educate the public on the hazards of severe weather and how to prepare in advance to limit loss of life and property.

The NWA Education Committee received 33 applications for the Arthur C. Pike Scholarship from students at 16 colleges/universities and the competition was tough. Best Wishes to all individuals that applied. Congratulations again to Jessica Fieux!

Applications for the annual \$1,000 NWA Arthur C. Pike Scholarship in Meteorology are due to the NWA Education Committee by 15 April each year.

The 2004 NWA David Sankey Minority Scholarship in Meteorology is awarded to Owen Shieh of Melbourne, Florida. This \$1,000 scholarship will assist Mr. Shieh as he enters his sophomore year later this summer at **Cornell University** in Ithaca, New York.

Mr. Shieh decided on becoming a meteorologist early in life after witnessing many hurricanes affecting the east coast of Florida. In high school, he assisted school administrators in closely monitoring severe weather events and expressing the need for tornado drills. In his senior year, he completed a Community Awareness Project volunteering at the local National Weather Service office and writing a research paper on hurricanes that impact the Florida peninsula. He visited the National Hurricane Center to gain more information and interview forecasters. Owen is an Eagle Scout, was the President of his senior high school class and was elected to three honor societies. His Freshman year at Cornell saw him on the Dean's list and continuing to show a passion for weather in his coursework, actively participating in the student AMS chapter, volunteering as a forecaster on the student weather telephone hotline and working on a research project with faculty and the local historical society to gather an "Oral History of Weather Events for Central New York." He also organized a "weather safety" booth

for the Ithaca Safety Fair sponsored by Alpha Phi Omega, the national community service fraternity, of which he is a member. Owen wants to make lasting contributions to the field of meteorology and to help mitigate the loss of life and socioeconomic damage caused by severe weather.

The NWA Education Committee received 19 applications for the second year of this annual scholarship opportunity. Applications came from students at ten colleges/universities and the competition was great. Best Wishes to all individuals that applied. Congratulations again to Owen Shieh!

Applications for the annual \$1,000 NWA David Sankey Minority Scholarship in Meteorology are due to the NWA Education Committee by 15 April each year.

The NWA AccuWeather Undergraduate Scholarship in Meteorology received 24 applications by 15 May and the winner of this new \$1000 scholarship will be selected/announced later in June 2004.

MEMBER NEWS

Dr. Ken Crawford, a past-president of the NWA (1988), has been named to lead the National Weather Service's Cooperative Observer Modernization Effort. His new title will be program director of integrated surface observing systems. Ken was a chief architect of the modernization plan and now gets to lead the implementation. He begins his full-time appointment with the NWS on 1 August. He will remain State Climatologist for Oklahoma and an interim director of the Oklahoma Climatological Survey will be named. He is also the president-elect of the American Association of State Climatologists.

In his new position, Dr. Crawford will lead the development and implementation of a strategy to improve the NWS observing system to support climate, hydrology and weather analysis and forecasting. He also will help develop and implement concepts for a national mesonet and cooperative observing systems by focusing on improving and creating partnerships between NOAA and public/private weather observing systems.

"We looked for the best to assume the leadership of this critical component of the NWS mission, and we found the best in Ken Crawford," said retired Air Force Brig. Gen. D.L. Johnson, Director of the National Weather Service.

- *US Dept of Commerce News*

New Director Sworn In At NWS Radar Operations Center (ROC). At the start of the 2 June 2004, NEXRAD Program Management Committee meeting, John McNulty, Director of the NWS Office of Operational Systems, administered the oath of office, senior executive service, to **Richard J. Vogt**. Rich, a retired Air Force Colonel was the Deputy Director (a DoD position) and now appointed the third Director of the WSR-88D ROC.

MEMBER NEWS continued

G. Alan Johnson, charter NWA member and Senior Meteorologist at the New Orleans/Baton Rouge NWS Forecast Office (NWSFO) located in Slidell, Louisiana, **retired 3 June 2004 after 45 years of federal service.**

Alan began his career in 1959 at the NWSFO San Antonio and transferred to the office in Wichita Falls, Texas, a year later. Following a brief tour of active duty with the U.S. Air Force, he moved to NWSFO Lubbock, Texas in 1964 where he served as Agricultural Meteorologist and Lead Forecaster. In 1981, he transferred to Slidell where he served until his retirement.

His research specialties included prediction of heavy rainfall/flash floods, Quantitative Precipitation Forecasting, and Winter Weather programs. He also did extensive research in forecasting of sea/lake fog, cyclogenesis in the Gulf of Mexico and forecasting micro-downbursts along the Gulf Coast. He has developed several forecasting decision trees and checklists used frequently by Gulf Coast meteorologists.

Alan conducted a wide range of training workshops and seminars and has published numerous papers in scientific journals including the National Weather Association's (NWA's) *National Weather Digest*. He is a member of the American Meteorological Society (AMS) and a recipient of the AMS' prestigious Francis W. Reichelderfer Award (1986) "for outstanding contributions in developing and applying analysis and forecasting methods directed toward severe weather events that are responsible for flood producing rainfall." In 1991, he received the AMS Fellow Award for long-term contributions to the field of Atmospheric Science.

A charter member of the NWA, Alan chaired several NWA committees, and served as a Councilor from 1996-97 and as Vice-President in 2002. He received the Member of the Year Award in 2002 for his long-term contributions to the NWA especially in committee work, annual meeting planning, recruiting new members and in mentoring many beginning forecasters.

Alan graduated from the University of Texas with a bachelor's degree in Meteorology. He also did graduate work at the University of California in Davis, CA.

While his future plans include launching a consulting firm, Alan says he also intends to leave plenty of time for traveling and fishing. - NWS Focus

Jim Lushine, Warning Coordination Meteorologist at the NWS Forecast Office in Miami, was honored with the Distinguished Service Award at the 18th Annual Florida Governor's Hurricane Conference in Tampa on 26 May 2004. County Emergency Managers throughout south Florida nominated Jim. In addition to his work on hurricane preparedness and the NWS StormReady program, Jim helped create Florida's Hazardous Weather Awareness Week Brochure. Produced in conjunction with

the Florida Department of Emergency Management and other Warning Coordination Meteorologists in Florida, it is one of the most professionally done publications on hazardous weather in the country.

Jim is also a charter member of the Hurricane Liaison Team (HLT) at the National Hurricane Center and a member of the National Lightning Safety Awareness Week Team. He pioneered rip current forecasting in the NWS and currently serves as a member of the NWS Rip Current Technical Committee. A recognized expert on the subject, he has also been honored by the United States Lifesaving Association for publicizing the danger of rip currents.

A member of the NWA and the AMS, Jim has authored or co-authored dozens of papers and articles on severe weather, tropical cyclones, lightning awareness, and rip currents. - NOAA Public Affairs

The National Hurricane Conference honored NWS meteorologist **Bill Read** with its 2004 Special Award for Public Education. Bill, immediate-past-president of the NWA (2003), is Meteorologist-In-Charge of the Houston/Galveston, Texas, NWS Forecast Office. The award recognizes him "for outstanding leadership over the past decade in developing a public education program on hurricane preparedness that is unsurpassed in the nation, including the annual Houston/Galveston Hurricane Workshop co-sponsored by the East Harris County Manufacturer's Association, the largest meeting of its kind in the country."

Prior to joining the NWS in 1977, Bill had an active career in the U.S. Navy including duties as an on-board meteorologist with the Hurricane Hunters. While he has extensive experience with a wide range of severe weather events, tropical storms and hurricanes have frequently played a major role in his professional life. Bill and his NWS team were at the forefront again in July 2003 as Hurricane Claudette made landfall on the Texas coast. He also was part of the Hurricane Liaison Team at the National Hurricane Center in Miami when Hurricane Isabel came ashore on the Outer Banks of North Carolina in September 2003. - NOAA Public Affairs

Andy Shaw has left K2TV in Casper, Wyoming, and is now responsible for product development as a Meteorologist and Broadcast Product Manager at AccuWeather, Inc. in State College, Pennsylvania. He earned the NWA Seal of Approval for TV Weathercasting in October 2000.

**Submit news items to the NWA Newsletter
Via e-mail to:
nwanewsletter@nwas.org or to the NWA Office**

NWA Corporate member, **AccuWeather, Inc.**, announced it had recently made a cash donation to the State College Area School District for use in the district's Summer Field Research Program for high school students.

The donation has enabled the district to purchase portable field meteorology instruments and two infrared thermometers, permitting the program's facilitators to upgrade the quality of materials offered to student participants.

The Summer Field Research Program has been a popular bi-annual program for more than 10 years, and is designed to advance science education at the high school level and eventually the university level. As a result of these programs, more than 80 percent of the past participants have elected to pursue some scientific endeavor for career placement.

"I believe that these summer experiences such as the Summer Field Research Program influence students to choose science as a career," said Thomas C. Arnold, Ph.D., Director of Summer Field Research Programs for State College High School. "Support from scientific organizations such as AccuWeather is vital to the program's success."

Colonel John M. Lanicci assumed command of the Air Force Weather Agency (AFWA) from Col. Charles L. Benson, Jr. in a change-of-command ceremony held at Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska on 2 June 2004.

Brig. Gen. Thomas E. Stickford, Air Force director of weather, Washington, D.C., presided over the ceremony. Gen. Stickford praised Lanicci's accomplishments during his military career and expressed his confidence. "Col Lanicci certainly made tremendous contributions to Air Force Weather through his outstanding vision and ability to bring structure to the strategic planning process," said Gen. Stickford.

In his remarks, Col. Lanicci laid the foundation for his tenure as commander. "We will support our operational units around the world and work hard to help them do their jobs even better in the future through smart and efficient planning and execution of major weather technology programs, in both the terrestrial as well as space environments," said Col. Lanicci.

Air Force Weather Agency maximizes the nation's aerospace and ground combat effectiveness by providing accurate, relevant and timely air and space weather information to Department of Defense, coalition, and national users. AFWA also provides standardized training and equipment to the Air Force weather career field.

Col. Lanicci is a long-term member of the NWA and has been an associate editor of the *National Weather Digest*.
- AFWA Public Affairs

Filename Changeover Scheduled for NCEP GFS Model Output

Beginning on or about 14 June 2004, the NWS National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) will begin the transition in the file naming convention for the Global Forecast System (GFS) model. Currently, most GFS files are identified by the AVN acronym. Over the next six to nine months all references to AVN will be replaced by GFS. As a first step, on or about 14 June 2004, a duplicate file structure will be provided on both the Telecommunication Operations Center (TOC) and NCEP FTP servers. All file structures containing AVN will have a duplicate link containing GFS. These duplicate file structures will remain in place for 6 months. On approximately 1 December 2004, all file structures containing AVN will be eliminated. The NCEP public ftp server is at: <ftp://ftpprd.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/> Information about accessing the TOC ftp server is located at website: weather.gov/tg/anonymou.html.

Removal of Unused NCEP Data Sets

Currently, on both the NWS NCEP and Telecommunication Operations Center (TOC) FTP servers, over 50% of the gridded NCEP model data sets are not being accessed. A review of file access on both FTP servers was conducted during the months of January and February 2004. From this review, a list of the unaccessed data sets has been generated. It is NCEP's intention to remove these data sets. They solicited feedback from users by posting a list of proposed data sets to remove on the NCEP website at: www.nco.ncep.noaa.gov/pmb/products/ftp_removal_list.html. Data sets were only included on this list if they were unused on both the TOC and NCEP servers. User comments on this list were being accepted through mid-June 2004. On 29 June 2004, all files deemed unnecessary will be removed from the NCEP ftp server. This process will provide the additional server resources to host higher temporal and spatial resolution data not currently available.
- Lauren Morone NWS/NCEP

Third Annual NWA Golf Outing

Saturday, October 16, 2004

Heron Lakes Great Blue Golf Course

Portland, Oregon

\$85

Includes greens fees, cart, driving range, lunch, prizes and camaraderie

All proceeds benefit NWA scholarships.

Please contact Betsy Kling to reserve your spot:
BKLING@wkyc.gannett.com

LOCAL CHAPTER NEWS

North Central Alabama Chapter - The chapter met on 6 May 2004 at the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) headquarters in Montgomery, Alabama. The Air Quality Division of ADEM issues daily Air Quality Index (AQI) forecasts for three major cities in Alabama during the warm season (May through September), when the sun angle is high enough to cause ozone problems. ADEM has 24 monitoring stations across the state that measure pollutant concentrations. Meteorologists use current meteorological variables and ozone levels, NWS model output, linear regression equations, and other statistical tools to produce AQI index forecasts. The NWS office in Birmingham plays the AQI forecasts on NOAA weather radio and issues an AQI product when the pollutant levels reach unhealthy levels. After ADEM's presentation, NWS members in attendance pointed out that the gridded digital database produced at each NWS office could provide very useful and detailed meteorological forecast fields to ADEM meteorologists. They were excited about the potential of the digital database and agreed to visit the NWS office for a demonstration.

- Faith Borden

The North Texas Chapter of the AMS/NWA recently supplied judges for the 47th annual Dallas Texas Regional Science Fair. The fair was held on 27 March. In the senior division, First Place went to Paul Hollocker from Williams High School in Plano, TX., for his project on "Hail Damage Simulation and Prevention". The Honorable Mention winner was Jerad Brockman of Bishop Lynch High School in Garland, TX., for his project on "Optimizing a Wind Turbine". In the Junior Division, First Place went to Rachel Reeves of Perry Middle School in Carrollton TX., for her project, "Rain or Snow...Who Really Knows? An in-depth verification of the forecasts by the Dallas/Fort Worth broadcast meteorologists". The Honorable Mention winner was Asil Yassine of Frankford Middle School in Plano TX., for her project "A Study of the Initial Location and Origin of Acid Rain in the DFW Metroplex". The first place winners were awarded NOAA Weather Radios. The honorable mention winners were awarded a years' subscription to *Weatherwise* magazine. Congratulations to all the winners in this regional science fair!" This fair was an example of how the North Texas Chapter is attempting to spread and promote the knowledge of operational meteorology throughout the community.

- Greg Story, Chapter President

Lyndon State College AMS & NWA Chapter members met on 15 April to elect officers for the 2004-2005 school year. Congratulations to new officers: President Jim Politis; Vice President Andrew Little; Secretary Josh

Webber; Treasurer Brian Mellor; Public Relations Officer Ryan Low; and, Community Outreach Officer Steve LaVoie. Their 29th Annual Northeastern Storm Conference was a major success with 39 presentations and 330 attendees. The presentations are now on the chapter Web site: apollo.lsc.vsc.edu/ams The Web site also advertises the 30th Annual Northeastern Storm Conference scheduled for 18-20 March 2005. It will be at a larger facility — the Sheraton Hotel in Burlington, Vermont. Remarks on the chapter Web site include: "Congratulations to Mark Tucker on becoming our new (faculty/staff) advisor. His skills in scripting and Web page design will benefit the LSC AMS & NWA chapter, and help continue its success for the years to come. Unfortunately, we have to say farewell and good luck to our advisor of many years, **Pamela Grube** (Associate Professor of Meteorology who is departing to spend more time with family). Everyone will miss Pam greatly!"

- Julie Soper and Website

Northwest Indiana NWA Chapter at Valparaiso University sent in an Annual Report, which included a summary of activities throughout the year. They also announced the new officers for the 2004-2005 school year. They are President Adam French; Vice president Stacy Gaard; Secretary Zach Horn; and, Treasurer Matthew VanDenBroeke. Their 3 April, Second Annual Great Lakes Meteorology Conference was a success with 86 attendees. Members appreciated the presentations from Rich Apuzzo, NWA Broadcast Meteorology Committee Chair, and Steve Corfidi, Lead Severe Weather Forecaster, NOAA/NWS Storm Prediction Center.

- Excerpt from report by outgoing chapter president, Nick Metz

MEETINGS OF INTEREST

• **The Eighth Annual Great Divide Weather Workshop will be held 8-10 September 2004 in Billings, Montana.** The National Weather Service Office in Billings is sponsoring this workshop. The focus will be on the exchange of weather and hydrologic forecasting information unique to the Northern Rockies and High Plains. The workshop will take place at the Sheraton Hotel in Billings. Abstracts are due by 15 June 2004. More information can be found on Web site: www.wrh.noaa.gov/Billings/GreatDivide.shtml, or contact the NWS Forecast Office in Billings, Montana at (406) 652-0851 or by e-mail at: Byz.Great.Divide.Workshop@noaa.gov.

• **The Eighth Annual High Plains Conference will be held in Goodland, Kansas, 13 - 14 October 2004.** It is sponsored by the High Plains Chapter of the AMS & NWA. The conference will be held in the Murray Center of Northwest Kansas Technical College in Goodland. Abstracts are due 10 September 2004 and may be e-mailed to Bruce.Entwistle@noaa.gov. See Web site: www.highplains-amsnwa.org/8HPC.html for more information.

• **The NWA 29th Annual Meeting will be held 16-21 October 2004, in Portland, Oregon.** See page 7.

For more meetings of interest, please see pages 7 and 8. For job announcements, please see www.nwas.org/jobs.html

MEETINGS OF INTEREST continued

• **The Fifth Annual Southern New England Weather Conference will be held on Saturday, 6 November (8:30 AM – 7:45 PM) in the Clay Center for Science and Technology, Dexter/Southfield School, 20 Newton Street, Brookline, Massachusetts.** The conference is sponsored by the National Weather Service Forecast Office-Taunton, MA; the Blue Hill Observatory Science Center; the Boston Chapter of the American Meteorological Society; the University of Massachusetts-Lowell; and the Southern New England NWA Chapter. All weather enthusiasts are invited to attend. The conference will feature a wide variety of topics, with special guest speakers from across the country. For the agenda and registration information, please see Web site: www.erh.noaa.gov/box/announcement/2004SNEWxConf.html

NOAA ALL-HAZARDS RADIO

NOAA and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection Directorate signed an agreement on 17 June 2004 that allows Homeland Security to send critical all-hazards alerts and warnings directly through the NOAA All-Hazards Network. The Network supplements the existing alert and warning resources and the capability serves as an additional delivery mechanism for sending life-saving information nationally, regionally or locally. In addition, Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency will continue to manage the Emergency Alert System.

"Critical information will now be available when people most need it," said Vice Admiral Conrad C. Lautenbacher USN (Ret.), undersecretary of commerce for oceans and atmosphere and NOAA administrator. "What began as NOAA Weather Radio broadcasts now extends to a range of products and all-hazards purposes. It's gratifying to know that many more lives can now be better protected."
- NOAA Public Affairs

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

Members receive the monthly NWA Newsletter and quarterly *National Weather Digest* as part of their regular, student or corporate membership privileges. Newsletter subscriptions are available at \$18.00 per year plus extra shipping costs outside USA. Single copies are \$1.50.

Contact the NWA Executive Director's office (listed above) with **address changes** by phone, regular mail or e-mail.

IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

1 July 2004 – Annual NWA Awards nominations due (see May Newsletter or Web site: www.nwas.org)

1 August 2004 – NWA Sol Hirsh Education Fund Grant Applications due (see May Newsletter or Web site: www.nwas.org)

8-10 September 2004 – 8th Annual Great Divide Weather Workshop, Billings, Montana (pg 6)

13-14 October 2004 – 8th Annual High Plains Conference, Goodland, Kansas (pg 6)

16-21 October 2004 – NWA 29th Annual Meeting, Portland, Oregon (pg 7)

6 November 2004 – 5th Annual Southern New England Weather Conference, Brookline, Massachusetts (pg 8)

Also check www.nwas.org/meetings.html
and www.nwas.org/award.html

NATIONAL WEATHER ASSOCIATION

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NWA 29th ANNUAL MEETING UPDATE and PREREGISTRATION FORM

The National Weather Association's 29th Annual Meeting will be held at the DoubleTree Hotel & Executive Meeting Center Portland - Lloyd Center, 1000 NE Multnomah, Portland, Oregon, from 16-21 October 2004.

- **17 October: BROADCAST METEOROLOGY WORKSHOPS** will include special presentations, and hands-on workshops appropriate to continuing education for weathercasters, but open to all interested. **Tape Swap Sunday evening** -- bring a vhs tape of one recent weathercast for discussion. Depending on the number of tapes submitted, a tape swap may also be held on Saturday night. Broadcasters will also meet for a no host dinner Monday evening after the Icebreaker. [On Saturday, 16 October, the annual Golf Outing will occur (see page 5)]
- **18-21 October: ANNUAL MEETING GENERAL SESSIONS** from Monday morning through Thursday afternoon will include a wide variety of topics relating to OPERATIONAL meteorology, climatology, hydrology, weather broadcasting, fire weather, new research applications, and related activities. An **Icebreaker** will be held in the exhibit area on Monday from 5:30-7:30 PM. **The Annual Awards Luncheon will be on Wednesday, 20 October.**

The Annual Meeting Program Committee Co-Chairs are: Michael Vescio, Meteorologist In Charge, National Weather Service Forecast Office, 2001 NW 56 Drive, Pendleton, OR 97801; michael.vescio@noaa.gov, and **Steve Todd**, Meteorologist In Charge, National Weather Service Forecast Office, 5241 NE 122nd Ave, Portland, OR 97230; steve.todd@noaa.gov. **Broadcaster Workshop Program Chair is Bryan C. Karrick**, KCCI-TV, 888 Ninth Street, Des Moines, IA 50309-1288; bkarrick@hearst.com. Contact them with your suggestions and to volunteer to help with the program. For information on exhibits, accommodations, registration and the overall meeting program, please contact the NWA office at Tel/FAX: (434) 296-9966 or e-mail: NatWeaAsoc@aol.com.

HOTEL INFORMATION: The DoubleTree Hotel Portland - Lloyd Center is at 1000 NE Multnomah, Portland, Oregon 97232. It is a full-service hotel in the "Center of the City". The NWA discount room rates are \$91 for a single or double room; each additional person will be \$15. To reserve a room, please call the DoubleTree Hotel Portland - Lloyd Center at 503-281-6111 (reservations department) or their toll-free number 1-800-996-0510 and request the group rate for National Weather Association. **Please reserve rooms by 15 September 2004 to be able to obtain the discount rate.**

ANNUAL MEETING PREREGISTRATION: The NWA Annual Meeting preregistration fee includes a preprint volume with program and abstracts. For the period of days registered for, it also includes: admission to all presentation, workshop and exhibit sessions, coffee/refreshment breaks and the Monday evening icebreaker.

THE PREREGISTRATION FEES payable to the NWA by 8 OCTOBER 2004 are:

- **For 17 October, Broadcast Meteorology Workshops:** \$60 for NWA members and presenters (student and retired members \$35); \$75 for non-members (student and retired non-members \$45).
- **For 18-21 October, Annual Meeting sessions/activities:** \$140 for NWA members and presenters (student and retired members \$80); \$170 for non-members (student and retired non-members \$100). This fee includes the Awards Luncheon on Wednesday.

Special one-day rates for each day during the period 18-21 October (for those that cannot attend the entire conference) are: \$50 for NWA members and presenters (student and retired members \$35); \$70 for non-members (student and retired non-members \$45). Day rates do not include the Wednesday Annual Awards Luncheon. **Extra Award Luncheon tickets** are available at \$25 each.

To preregister, please copy this form and mail it with full payment of fees by 8 October 2004 to: NWA Meeting, 1697 Capri Way, Charlottesville VA 22911-3534 USA. Make payment to "NWA" in US funds by US bank check, money order or government/institution purchase order.

Name (for nametag): _____

Street Address: _____

City/State/Zip Code: _____

Employer, School or other Affiliation: _____

Telephone and e-mail address: _____

Arrival Date at meeting: _____ Departure Date from meeting: _____

Preregistration fees: \$ _____ Golf Outing fee (\$85): \$ _____ Your check number: _____

Number of extra Awards Luncheon tickets (\$25 each): _____ Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Circle all applicable remarks: NWA member NWA local chapter member non-member Student Retired
Session Chair Presenter Program committee member Local Arrangements committee member

I will be bringing a tape for the Tape Swap I'll be available for Tape Swap on Saturday I'll be available for Tape Swap on Sunday

FOR INDIVIDUALS REGISTERING AFTER 8 OCTOBER 2004 OR AT THE ANNUAL MEETING, fees will be increased by 10 to 20 percent. The fees will be posted at the meeting and on the NWA Web site (www.nwas.org).