

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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*by Dave Knapp*

As an organization, we have had a rather busy and positive start to the year. Operationally, we have dealt with a warmer than normal winter across most of the country, with lower than normal precipitation totals in many regions and even severe drought conditions across parts of the country. However, I'm sure those living in the Pacific Northwest and Hawaii would love some extended periods of dry weather and clear skies, while those of us in the Southwest would appreciate some of that rainfall.

In late January, I attended the annual AMS Meeting in Atlanta presenting Army Research Lab studies. I also had a number of opportune meetings with other NWA members there and even attended a NWA Remote Sensing Committee meeting led by Ken Carey. Many topics were covered at the AMS Annual Meeting, but the debate over the impacts of global warming on all aspects of our daily lives continues unabated and opinions are as many and varied as ever before. How all this effects us in the world of operational meteorology seems to be evolving with each meeting and conference session on the subject. The connection between global warming and more active hurricane seasons was a hot topic at the conference and I was happy to see more information on this topic become available. In February, a *Statement on Tropical Cyclones and Climate Change* was released from the World Meteorological Organization CAS Tropical Meteorology Research Program, Steering Committee. I encourage you to take the time to review it, as it presents many sides to the current scientific arguments and discussions on this topic. The statement is at Web site: [www.bom.gov.au/info/CAS-statement.pdf](http://www.bom.gov.au/info/CAS-statement.pdf). For members not capable of obtaining Internet service, the NWA office may be able to assist with fax or regular mail copies.

I was pleased to see many NWA members actively participating in the many conferences in Atlanta. Participation ranged from oral and poster presentations to AMS committee membership and participation on steering committees in the broadcast and operational meteorology focus areas. These are excellent examples of our membership being actively engaged and participating at every opportunity across the wide spectrum of operational meteorology matters. Your work in the scientific community totally supports our 2006 NWA theme: "Working Together to Support Our Customers".

The NWA Council has been busy addressing a number of topics. Here are some brief highlights:

The Strategic Planning Committee submitted the results of their work on two new plans the Council tasked after the NWA Annual Meeting in 2005. Led by the motivating efforts of Chairperson Frank Brody and the tireless work of committee member Fran Holt, the committee completed work on two new plans:

- ***The NWA Operating Plan***
- ***NWA Annual Plan***

These plans will augment the NWA Strategic Plan ([www.nwas.org/committees/spc](http://www.nwas.org/committees/spc)). The ***Operating Plan*** provides detailed "sub-goals" and "suggested activities" corresponding to each of the 11 Strategic Plan goals. The Operating Plan will serve as a 5-year guiding plan and will be somewhat fluid as the changes in the scientific and organizational landscapes affect the operational meteorology community. The ***Annual Plan*** focuses on high priority goals and activities for the coming calendar year. Each year, the incoming NWA President and Council will tailor and implement an Annual Plan, based on a draft submitted by the Strategic Planning Committee. The Operating Plan and 2006 Annual Plan are being reviewed by the Council and some tasks have already begun. When the plans are fully approved they will be posted on the NWA Web site for the information of all. The 2006 Annual Plan will also be published in the Newsletter.

Betsy Kling, a Councilor and Public Relations Chair of the Broadcast Meteorology Committee, attended the Broadcasters Weather Summit meeting in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, in January. Her goal was to learn the ropes on providing access to satellite uplinks so broadcasters can do live reports during our Annual Meeting this October in Cleveland. Betsy reported that she spent valuable time with the marketing and technical personnel responsible for such "live shots". She also learned more meeting planning tips to help in our goal to continue to improve the NWA Annual Meetings and make them more attractive and rewarding to all members. We are sure to see some of Betsy's lessons learned in action in Cleveland, Ohio, 14-19 October 2006.

NWA scholarships, grants and annual awards were reviewed and approved to continue this year. Please read the Call for Award Nominations enclosed. This should be a record year for nominations with all the great operational weather support accomplished associated with

the increase in hurricanes and other severe weather events. One way we can promote excellence is to recognize those individuals and groups that have excelled above and beyond.

We are planning now for the annual midyear NWA Council meeting, to be held in early June in the Dallas/Ft. Worth, Texas area. During such meetings, the Council addresses the many action items remaining open from past Council meetings, any new actions and issues that need to be addressed, and any new concerns from the membership. I encourage all members to let us know if you have any topics or concerns that the NWA leadership should be addressing. Your input is important, and this is a good time to let us know your thoughts. Feel free to contact me or any of the Council members before 1 June.

As I close this month's message, it is with great sadness that I inform you that the National Weather Association suffered the loss of one of its great leaders on 25 February 2006. Charter member and past-president Rod Scofield died at the young age of 63 from pancreatic cancer and its complications. We have put together a necrology on this page, but could have filled these eight pages and more with Rod's accomplishments to his primary customers – operational meteorologists. For over 30 years, Rod studied weather satellite data in its many forms, determined its numerous uses for analysis and forecasting, and spread the good news to operational meteorologists throughout the world in his writings, presentations, workshops and hands-on training sessions. Sol Hirsch, NWA executive director emeritus and Chair of the Education Committee, always marveled at Rod's presentations being so clear and understandable – his lessons were easily learned and ready to be put to use immediately even by the least experienced meteorologists. Our heartfelt thoughts and sympathy go to Rod's family. On behalf of all NWA members, we sent a donation to a memorial fund for Rod at Saint Paul's Episcopal Church in Waldorf, Maryland. – *Dave Knapp (president@nwas.org)*

## IN MEMORIAM

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**RODERICK ARTHUR SCOFIELD (1942-2006)** was born in Louisville, Kentucky on December 3, 1942. In November 2005, he was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. He died at his home in Pomfret, Maryland on 25 February 2006. He obtained a B.S. Degree in Physics from the University of Louisville in 1964. He earned an M.S. in Meteorology from Saint Louis University in 1969 and a Ph.D. from the same institution in 1973. He joined NOAA and spent one year at the NWS Techniques Development Laboratory (now called the Meteorological Development Lab), one year in the NWS National Meteorological Center Development Division (hurricane modeling) (now called the Environmental Modeling Center (EMC) of the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP)), and 30 years in the National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NESDIS), Office of Research and Applications (ORA) in Camp Springs, Maryland. He received several outstanding performance awards for his efforts

in developing satellite analysis and forecasting techniques for flash floods, heavy precipitation, and Quantitative Precipitation Estimation (QPE), Forecasting (QPF) and Nowcasting (QPN). He presented many seminars and conducted workshops in NWS forecast offices, at the Cooperative Program for Operational Meteorology, Education and Training (COMET) (Boulder, CO), the Virtual Institute for Satellite Integration Training (VISIT) (Fort Collins, CO), the NWS Technical Training Center in Kansas City, the Operational Support Facility (in Norman, OK), at many Universities around the country and at NWA and AMS meetings. He also taught at the Satellite Education Conference at West Chester, PA, and in the AMS/NOAA DataStream Atmosphere, Water in the Earth System, and Ocean Science Education programs.

In 1984, he was named a NWS Visiting Professor of Satellite Meteorology. He was also an associate editor of the *Monthly Weather Review*. In November 1985, he was a member of a U.S. delegation to attend a technical exchange conference in Wuhan, China on flash flood forecasting techniques. He also made professional visits, presented seminars and conducted workshops in: Brazil, Taiwan, Venezuela, England, Puerto Rico, Canada, Italy, Spain, Egypt, the People's Republic of China, India, and Peru. In November 1986, he received the National Weather Association (NWA) annual research achievement award for outstanding contributions to operational meteorology through continuing research. In June 1989, he received a NOAA Bronze Medal for outstanding research and leadership in the application of meteorological satellite data to the improvement of heavy precipitation and flash flood forecasts. In May 1992, he received a Medal from the Central Weather Bureau of Taiwan for his outstanding leadership in the applications of satellite data for flash flood forecasting over Southeast Asia. Rod was also a great supporter of Professional Associations. He participated actively in: Sigma Xi (a science honorary), National Weather Association (NWA), American Meteorological Society (AMS), and the American Geophysical Union (AGU). He was a Councilor in the NWA from 1995-1996. He received the 1999 AMS Francis W. Reichelderfer Award, the 1999 U.S. Department of Commerce Gold Medal for research and leadership in the use of satellite data in Flash Flood Forecasting, the 1999 NOAA Group Bronze Medal for presenting workshops on flash flood forecasting at NWS Training Centers and was President of the NWA for the year 2000 (the NWA's 25th anniversary year). Rod also received the University of Louisville Arts & Sciences Alumni Fellow Award for 2000. In 2001, he was elected an AMS Fellow and received a NOAA Group Bronze Medal for operational implementation of an automatic satellite precipitation algorithm for predicting flash floods. He has written over 175 papers that include journal articles, conference proceedings, tech memorandums, notes and reports, and he contributed to chapters in text books. His teaching will continue for years to come as aspiring meteorologists read his many reports. NWA members attending Rod's funeral also learned of the many great works he performed in his local community and at Saint Paul's Episcopal Church in Waldorf, Maryland.

Rod is survived by his wife of 41 years, Joyce Wiedmar Scofield of Pomfret; three children: Michelle Eileen Preil of Louisville, Matthew Roderick Scofield of Churchton and Brett Edward Scofield of Bowling Green, Ky., two daughters-in-law: Stacey and Kellie, and two grandchildren: Julianna and Ethan.

# Call for Nominations for the 2006 NWA ANNUAL AWARDS

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The National Weather Association (NWA) began its annual awards program in 1977 to provide deserved recognition to those individuals involved in operational activities. The NWA Annual Awards Program recognizes the professional as well as the volunteer. The emphasis is on the people who perform the day-to-day tasks of providing meteorological information and weather support services to the public.

Please review the award categories carefully and use the category most appropriate for the nomination being submitted.

## **Award Categories are:**

**Operational Achievement Individual Award:** This award is presented to a NWA member who has made a significant contribution to operational meteorology. This could be for an accurate and timely forecast for one or more significant weather events or for long-period achievement in operational weather support or related activities.

**Operational Achievement Group Award:** This award is presented to a group of two or more individuals for a significant contribution to operational meteorology. At a minimum, a majority of the group (greater than 50%) must be NWA members.

**Member of the Year Award:** This award is presented to a NWA member who has made significant contributions to the organization over a period of time.

**T. Theodore Fujita Research Achievement Award:** This award is presented to a NWA member whose research has made a significant contribution to operational meteorology.

**Broadcaster of the Year Award:** This award is presented to a NWA member Radio or Television weathercaster, or other member of the broadcast media, whose activities have significantly contributed to the development and presentation of quality and timely weather information to the public service. Radio and Television weathercaster candidates must be current NWA Seal of Approval holders and have had the NWA Seal of Approval for at least one year prior to being nominated for this award.

**The Larry R. Johnson Special Award:** This award is presented to an individual or a group to recognize unique events or extraordinary accomplishments, which significantly contributed to operational meteorology.

**Walter J. Bennett Public Service Award:** This award is presented to an individual or organization directly assisting the meteorological community in providing weather-related information to the public. Individuals and organizations in the meteorological profession are ineligible for this award.

**Public Education Award:** This award is presented to an individual or organization providing significant contributions to increase the public's weather awareness.

**Local Chapter Award:** This award is presented to a Local Chapter of the NWA whose activities have significantly increased awareness of the weather and of the NWA in their local area.

**Aviation Meteorology Award:** This award is presented to an individual or group to recognize significant contributions to aviation meteorology, such as impact of operational forecasts on aviation operations or advances in aviation meteorology including research in detection and forecasting of aviation hazards.

**Other Special Achievement Awards** are detailed on the NWA Web site at: [www.nwas.org/award.html](http://www.nwas.org/award.html). Names of previous annual award winners and additional award information are also available on that Web site:

## **Submitting Nominations:**

**Please use the award cover sheet that can be copied from the NWA Web site at: [www.nwas.org/award.html](http://www.nwas.org/award.html) or sent via Fax from the NWA office (call: 434-296-9966), attach a narrative nomination (up to two pages in length) with no more than three supporting letters of endorsement. Nominations should be mailed by 1 July 2006 to:**

**NWA Awards Committee  
Daniel McCarthy, Chairperson  
1697 Capri Way  
Charlottesville, VA 22911-3534**

Although there is no rigid time requirement for the awards, it is preferred that the accomplishment, if not on a continuing basis, occur within 18 months prior to the nominations. Self nominations will not be accepted. If the nomination is not selected as the winner, it will remain a valid nomination for two additional years unless the nominee(s) are no longer in positions applicable to the award. The nomination may be updated by the submitter in each of those additional two years. Presentation of the annual awards for 2006 will be made at the NWA Annual Meeting, Awards Luncheon, 18 October 2006, at the InterContinental Hotel in Cleveland, Ohio.

## **NWA - SOL HIRSCH EDUCATION FUND GRANTS for K-12 teachers**

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The NWA Education Committee needs help from all members, to inform teachers in grades K-12 that \$500 grants are available annually from the NWA. These grants are designed to help teachers improve their meteorology education programs. The teachers selected will be able to use the funds to take an accredited course in atmospheric sciences, attend a relevant workshop or conference, or purchase scientific materials or equipment for the classroom. Seven grants or more are possible this year, thanks to the many members who have contributed to this fund. The grants honor Sol Hirsch, who retired in 1992 after being the NWA Executive Director for 11 years.

**Completed applications are due by 1 August 2006 to:**

NWA Education Committee  
P.O. Box 15011  
Baltimore, MD 21282-5011

Application guidelines are available at Web site: [www.nwas.org/solhirsch.html](http://www.nwas.org/solhirsch.html), or can be obtained via mail or fax by contacting the NWA office at [NatWeaAsoc@aol.com](mailto:NatWeaAsoc@aol.com) or Tel/Fax: (434) 296-9966.

## BROADCAST COMMITTEE NEWS

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### “American Idol” for Meteorologists...

As our new Broadcast Meteorology Committee Chair Mike Goldberg handles a variety of important issues that have come up, he has asked if I would mind writing another article for the newsletter. That's like asking if I would mind enjoying a filet mignon served with a nice glass of wine in front of a large window while watching a line of strong thunderstorms moving across my area. I enjoy writing, especially to the wonderful membership of the NWA.

**This is an exciting time of year for two reasons: severe thunderstorms and job searching.** The first is obvious, but as I work with more students, the second brings almost as much anticipation, patience and frustration as storm chasing on the Central Plains. Whether they are students that graduated in December, or those about to graduate in May or June, their tapes and resumes are arriving in newsrooms around the country and piling up on the desks of news directors and human resource managers. The excitement really picks up in April and May before simmering down a bit by late summer and early autumn. Remember that at the same time, professionals are also looking, and even competing with some of the jobs that the students seek – and jobs are very limited in number. Let me go over some helpful advice for those looking, whether amateurs or pros.

Nobody likes putting together a resume and cover letter, but even in this electronic age, those papers are necessary. More and more job searching is online, but you limit yourself greatly if you only put your tape and resume online. Believe it or not, news managers do not just sit around and surf the net. Quite often, they will sit in front of the TV and VCR watching tapes, and looking at resumes, so the printed version is very important. Not only that, but they will keep those physical copies for their records. I find that most resumes are too cluttered and hard to read. Your future boss does not need to know everything you did at every job. Remember that these people work in television already, so they know what meteorologists and weather anchors do. If there was something truly outstanding, make note of it. However, if you were an on-air weathercaster, it's likely that you produced the show, made the graphics, worked on some graphics system, so you don't need to list that for each job. Simply note the dates of your work, the title of your position, the shift you worked (or the name of the program on which you worked) and that's it. For students, job history is limited. You can certainly list any retail or restaurant jobs you held. It shows that you were employed and with that comes some responsibility.

Once you do that, create a separate area listing your skills. There you can write about the graphics machines and other equipment you used, the kinds of stories you did outside of the news/weather show and other duties you think add to your value. Don't lie or exaggerate. If you physically touched three different graphics systems, you are not “familiar” with those systems. Only after months of work do you really know how to use a weather graphics system. Training on those machines takes one to two weeks for pros, but don't worry. Unless you are skilled on a system, most bosses will provide training on whatever equipment they use when you get there.

If you have awards or achievements you want on the resume, list those in a separate area. References are helpful but not necessary for pros since news managers have ways to check on applicants, but they are important for students who have no established background. This is a funny thing – don't list your

goals! It is obvious by your submission that you want a job there, so you don't need to say it. Finally, if you want to put your education on the resume, just list the degree, and in what field, and the year. Listing graduation dates, multiple degrees (unless necessary for the job), and GPAs is a waste of time. You could be a 4.0 student and fail in a TV career.

I didn't get to tapes (or CDs, DVDs, Jump Drives, etc.), so maybe I will offer an article next month. However, let me finish with a quick thought on cover letters. They are simply an introduction to you. Once again, listing the job you applied for is not necessary. You may want to discuss, in positive terms, your current situation and why (without bragging or sounding too obvious) you want the open position. Just a couple of lines will do. You can also add some personality there and be a little more personal than on a resume, but whatever you do, remember to keep it short. The news director wants a quick read so he/she can scan your resume and then move on to the most important element, your presentation. Okay, here is one quick tape suggestion. Montages are not necessary (I never used one in 20 years!), but if you want one at the start of your tape, keep it under 20 seconds. The boss wants to see how you interact with other anchors and your full weathercast, and they won't give your recording much time before they pop it out, so make it solid from the start.

Send your thoughts to me at [rapuzzo@fuse.net](mailto:rapuzzo@fuse.net)

- Rich Apuzzo, Past Chair, Broadcast Meteorology Committee

(Editor's note: The October 2005 NWA Newsletter contains an article from Alan Sealls with more tips for job applicants. The Newsletter can be viewed at [www.nwas.org/newsletters/newsletter.html](http://www.nwas.org/newsletters/newsletter.html).)

## LOCAL CHAPTER NEWS

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The first meeting of 2006 for the **Central Alabama NWA Chapter** was held on 23 February at the NWS Forecast Office in Calera, Alabama. Officers for this year are: President Mark Rose, Vice-President Krissy Scotten, and Secretary Geoffrey Healan. There were twelve in attendance including meteorologists from the state and federal government, local media, and Department of Defense. Opening remarks from Mark Rose included announcing dates and times of future meetings and discussing membership dues. Meetings will be scheduled once a quarter with two meetings in the Birmingham metro area and two meetings in the Montgomery metro area. The featured speaker at the meeting was Tim Coleman. Tim is a research meteorologist working on his dissertation at the University of Alabama at Huntsville. He spoke about gravity waves and their impact on operational meteorology. The presentation was divided into three main sections: gravity wave generation, gravity wave maintenance, and gravity wave impacts. Information about chapter activities can be found at Web site: [www.nwas.org/~nwaca](http://www.nwas.org/~nwaca). - Geoffrey Healan, Secretary

### Visited the NWA Web Site Lately?

*The pages are updated frequently with news, job listings, detailed information on scholarships and grants, training materials and great articles in the Electronic Journal of Operational Meteorology.*

**[www.nwas.org](http://www.nwas.org)**

## REMOTE SENSING COMMITTEE

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The NWA Remote Sensing Committee, whose goal is to help NWA members maximize awareness and use of the broad spectrum of remote sensing tools and techniques, met face-to-face during the 86th AMS Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, to discuss and agree on initiatives we believe will best meet our committee goals during 2006. There were ten committee members in attendance, along with NWA President Dave Knapp, the most since the committee was formed. After introductions, thanking those who were leaving the committee and welcoming new members Jian Zhang (National Severe Storms Laboratory) and Wayne MacKenzie (University of Alabama-Huntsville), we discussed our current mission to, "Monitor and address current remote sensing issues of importance to the operational hydrometeorological community". We decided to work towards revising this mission to be more proactive and provide more timely assistance for our diverse customer base.

### **Our committee agreed to focus our efforts on three main goals in 2006:**

- (1) Identify the need for training on the use of both current and emerging remote sensing tools and techniques
- (2) Lead a special session at the 2006 NWA Annual Meeting on integration of, and training on, current and emerging remote sensing applications and technologies
- (3) Publish, with the NWA President's and Council's approval, a letter of support for the GOES Microwave Sensor

Our emphasis on remote sensing training seems to be well founded, being confirmed by a recent release by the American Meteorological Society on "Research and Operational Use of Environmental Satellites in Weather Applications as Part of an Integrated Earth Observing System" that urged, among others, the following action: "**Emphasize education and promote online training in the use of environmental satellite remote sensing data and products in weather applications.** The variety of satellite data available for weather and climate analysis with each passing year is increasing, with finer spatial resolutions, expanded spectral capabilities, faster refresh rates, etc. Keeping up with the evolving capabilities and applications that these data can provide requires a modern and ongoing educational infrastructure. From an operational standpoint, the forecast community needs to be kept abreast of new developments in satellite-based applications." We agree with this statement and our committee will investigate and seek to determine the remote sensing training needs of NWA members. If available information is insufficient to assess these needs we may decide to survey our membership.

To enhance and facilitate communication among and support for committee activities, we will provide regular articles for the NWA newsletter, hold quarterly conference calls to exchange information and keep each other informed. We also agreed to encourage applications for the **Dr. T. Theodore Fujita Research Achievement Award**, an award presented to a NWA member whose research has made a significant contribution to operational meteorology.

It is our pleasure to serve the NWA membership. If you would like to find out more information about the activities of the NWA remote sensing committee, please view Web site: [www.nwas.org/committees/rs/rs.html](http://www.nwas.org/committees/rs/rs.html).

- Ken Carey, Chair, Remote Sensing Committee

## CALL FOR PAPERS – THE NWA METEOROLOGICAL SATELLITE APPLICATIONS AWARD

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The Meteorological Satellite Applications Award was established by the National Weather Association (NWA) in 1999 to stimulate interest and foster the study and use of satellite remote sensing data in weather analysis and forecasting. **Undergraduate students are invited to write an original paper on meteorological satellite applications.** Themes of the papers may include original research, case studies, or a survey of applications. **The recipient of the award will receive a Grant of \$500 and be invited to present their paper at the NWA Annual Meeting.** The student must be enrolled as an undergraduate at the time the paper is written and be in good academic standing at the college or university attending. The student must be a U.S. citizen or hold permanent resident status.

**Submission of Papers:** Student papers should not exceed ten (10) pages including figures, photographs and appendices.

Candidate authors should submit:

- an original and three copies of their paper
- a letter of application with the paper title, university affiliation, and contact information including mailing address, phone, fax, and e-mail address if available
- a letter from their Department Head or other faculty member that confirms the student author was an undergraduate when the paper was written and that the student is in good academic standing at the college or university. Additionally this letter should highlight the original research or contributions the student has made to this paper.

**Submissions should be sent by 15 June 2006 to:**

National Weather Association  
Attn: MetSat Applications Award  
1697 Capri Way  
Charlottesville, VA 22911-3534

Formal Announcement of the recipient of the award will be made in October 2006 at the Annual Meeting (and earlier to the individual).

## GOES-R USERS' CONFERENCE

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NOAA will hold the **Fourth GOES-R Users' Conference in Broomfield, Colorado, 1-3 May 2006.** **GOES-R, the third generation of the GOES series, will provide new data from the geostationary perspective unlike anything seen before in the history of Earth observations.** This new GOES will scan the Earth nearly five times faster than the current GOES imager, at four times the spatial resolution. These new satellites will also provide the user community (television meteorologists, private weather companies, aviation and agriculture communities, and national and international government agencies) with significantly more data, containing noteworthy improvements in temporal and spatial resolutions over data currently provided.

NOAA's James Gurka, who is organizing the conference said, "Now is the time for the user community to assist NOAA in fine-tuning the details of GOES requirements, products, communications, and distribution of data. We are ensuring that users will be ready for GOES-R."

For more information and to register, please visit Web site: [www.osd.noaa.gov/announcement/index.htm](http://www.osd.noaa.gov/announcement/index.htm).

## MEETINGS OF INTEREST

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- **28th Annual National Hurricane Conference will be held 10-14 April 2006 in Orlando, Florida.** Details on this conference are at Web site: [www.hurricanemeeting.com](http://www.hurricanemeeting.com).
- **The Tenth Annual Northern Plains Convective Workshop will be held 17-19 April 2006 in Aberdeen, South Dakota.** More information can be found on the Conference Web site at: [www.crh.noaa.gov/abr/?n=10th\\_npc\\_workshop.php](http://www.crh.noaa.gov/abr/?n=10th_npc_workshop.php). The point-of-contact is Ken Harding of the National Weather Service office in Aberdeen, [kenneth.harding@noaa.gov](mailto:kenneth.harding@noaa.gov).
- **The Fourth GOES-R Users Conference is planned for 1-3 May 2006 at the Omni Interlochen Hotel in Bloomfield, Colorado.** See page 5 for more information, or go to Web site: [www.osd.noaa.gov/announcement/index.htm](http://www.osd.noaa.gov/announcement/index.htm).
- **The Air Weather Association Reunion 2006 will be held 10-14 May 2006 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Omaha, Nebraska.** See the Air Weather Association Web site [www.airweaassn.org](http://www.airweaassn.org) for more information.
- **The Tenth Annual Great Divide Weather Workshop will be held 3-5 October 2006 at the Sheraton Hotel in Billings, Montana.** NOAA's National Weather Service Offices in Billings and Glasgow are sponsoring this workshop that focuses on the exchange of weather and hydrologic forecasting information unique to the Northern Rockies and High Plains. A call for papers as well as registration information will be made available during spring 2006. More information can be obtained on Web site: [www.weather.gov/Billings](http://www.weather.gov/Billings), or by contacting the NWS Forecast Office in Billings, at (406) 652-0851 or e-mail: [Wr.Great.Divide.Workshop@noaa.gov](mailto:Wr.Great.Divide.Workshop@noaa.gov).
- **The Tenth Annual High Plains Conference will be held 4-6 October 2006 in Dodge City, Kansas.** The High Plains Chapter of the AMS-NWA sponsors it. The theme, High Plains Severe Storms, will focus on events ranging from severe thunderstorms and tornadoes, to drought, dust storms, flash flooding, and winter weather. Topics from both the research and the operational communities are welcome. Each session will open with an invited speaker. Remaining speakers will each receive 20 minutes for their presentations and any questions. This conference is intended to be less formal than national conferences, so those who are presenting for the first time, and those whose work has not yet gone through the academic peer review process, are welcome to participate. The Chapter will sponsor a student competition. Students are encouraged to submit papers for presentation on all topics in meteorology. First and second place papers will receive scholarships of \$500 and \$250 respectively. Students should contact the Conference Committee for information. **The deadline for submission of titles and one page abstracts is 8 September 2006.** Please include the author's name and affiliation, corresponding author address, telephone/fax number, and e-mail address. Send submissions to: Tenth High Plains Conference Committee, National Weather Service, 104 Airport Road, Dodge City, KS 67801 (tel: 620-225-6514; fax: 620-227-2288; e-mail: [Matt.Gerard@noaa.gov](mailto:Matt.Gerard@noaa.gov)). For more information contact the Conference Committee or visit Web site: [www.highplains-amsnwa.org](http://www.highplains-amsnwa.org).
- **The NWA's 31st Annual Meeting will be held at the InterContinental Hotel, 9801 Carnegie Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio, 14-19 October 2006.** Go to page 7 of this Newsletter, or the NWA Web site: [www.nwas.org](http://www.nwas.org) for details.

- **The Seventh New England Weather Conference will be held on 28 October 2006 at the facilities of the Dexter and Southfield Schools, and the Clay Center Observatory, in Brookline, Massachusetts.** It is sponsored by the Southern New England Chapter of the NWA and several other sponsors. Watch Web site: [www.sneweatherconf.org/index.shtml](http://www.sneweatherconf.org/index.shtml) for details.

## The AccuWeather Undergraduate Scholarship in Meteorology

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Thanks to the generosity of AccuWeather, Inc., this scholarship opportunity is available through the NWA. The AccuWeather scholarship offering began in 2004 and this will be the third year it has been offered.

**Offering:** One scholarship per year in the amount of \$1000.

**Administration:** The scholarship selection will be administered by the NWA Education Committee. The NWA office will announce the call for applications each year in March. Applications close 15 May and the scholarship designee will be notified by mid-June.

**Eligibility:** Undergraduate students going into their sophomore year or higher grade and majoring in operational meteorology (forecasting, broadcasting or consulting) may apply. If the undergraduate student is classified as a senior they must either have one more fall (Sep. – Dec.) semester to compete after the scholarship is awarded.

**Award Criteria:** The scholarship will be awarded based on:

- a) official college transcripts (academic achievement),
- b) two letters of recommendation (at least one from a current or former meteorology professor),
- c) a letter (not longer than one page) from the applicant describing their involvement/interest in operational meteorology.

**Logistics:** Scholarship money will be transferred following the financial guidelines of the college or university involved. If there aren't any financial guidelines from the school, the NWA will make the \$1,000 check payable to both the student and the education institution at the beginning of the September - December semester or quarter.

**Applications for the NWA AccuWeather Undergraduate Scholarship in Meteorology to be awarded in 2006 must be submitted to the NWA office by 15 May 2006.** The office address is on the application form. The application form is available to copy from the NWA Web site at: [www.nwas.org/accuweatherscholarship\\_app.html](http://www.nwas.org/accuweatherscholarship_app.html) or it can be obtained from the NWA office at: Tel/Fax: (434) 296-9966.

## EARTH DAY and SKY AWARENESS WEEK

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**Earth Day** is scheduled for Saturday, 22 April 2006 in most of the U.S. Some locations will have activities at other times in April or in early May. See Web site: [earthday.envirolink.org/](http://earthday.envirolink.org/) for a list of activities scheduled. **Sky Awareness Week** follows from 23-29 April. See Web site: [www.weatherworks.com/skyawareness.week.html](http://www.weatherworks.com/skyawareness.week.html) for ideas on how to advertise it in your communities and for suggestions to give to teachers to help improve education in meteorology.

# NWA 31st ANNUAL MEETING

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## *Call for Abstracts*

**The National Weather Association's 31st Annual Meeting will be held at the InterContinental Hotel, 9801 Carnegie Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio, from 14-19 October 2006.**

The Annual Meeting will include:

**14 October, Saturday:** Training may be offered by corporate members, exhibits will set up, and the fifth annual golf outing in support of scholarships will occur.

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

**16 - 19 October, Monday - Thursday:** ANNUAL MEETING GENERAL SESSIONS will include a mix of formal presentations, poster sessions, training workshops, and exhibits on a wide variety of topics relating to OPERATIONAL meteorology, hydrology, weather broadcasting, new research applications, and related activities.

*In keeping with the President's theme for this year, "Working Together to Support Our Customers," related presentations will be most welcome. Abstracts will also be most welcome for special sessions on:*

- *Remote Sensing Applications and Technologies, a session honoring the late Roderick A. Scofield*
- *Better use of Uncertainty and Probabilistic Forecasting for winter weather, heavy rain, aviation, severe weather, tropical weather, long range forecasting and climate change related products*
- *The Hurricane Seasons of 2005 and 2006*
- *Great Lakes Meteorology*

Student presentations will be reviewed by the NWA Weather Analysis and Forecasting Committee members and monetary awards will be presented to the best in undergraduate and graduate student categories.

The Annual Meeting Program Committee Chairperson is: **Theresa Rossi**, NWA past-president (1994) and NOAA/NWS Forecast Office MIC, 192 Shafer Road, Moon Township, PA 15108; Theresa.Rossi@noaa.gov. The Broadcaster Workshop Program Chair is **Bryan C. Karrick**, NWA Councilor and KCCI-TV meteorologist, 888 Ninth Street, Des Moines, IA 50309-1288; bkarrick@hearst.com.. Contact them with your suggestions and to volunteer to help with the program.

**ABSTRACT SUBMISSION:** The deadline for submission of abstracts is **1 June 2006**. Abstracts should be sent via the online form on the NWA Web site at: [www.nwas.org/2006abstracts.html](http://www.nwas.org/2006abstracts.html). Simply fill out the form in its entirety (you may cut-and-paste your abstract from your word processing program into the form), and click on the Submit Query button at the bottom of the form. Abstracts will be published in the Meeting Agenda as submitted, so please make sure that they have been carefully reviewed and edited before they are submitted.

If you are unable to submit your abstract via the online form, please contact the NWA office at Tel/Fax: (434) 296-9966 or [NatWeaAsoc@aol.com](mailto:NatWeaAsoc@aol.com).

Presenters will be notified regarding the disposition of their abstracts by 15 August 2006. Prior to the meeting an FTP site will be established for authors to upload their presentations so that they can be run on NWA computers. This will facilitate a smooth transition from one speaker to the next during the Annual Meeting sessions.

**ANNUAL MEETING HOTEL INFORMATION:** The InterContinental Hotel is at 9801 Carnegie Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44106. It is a full-service hotel and information can be viewed at Web site: [www.ichotelsgroup.com/h/d/ic/1/en/hd/clehajust](http://www.ichotelsgroup.com/h/d/ic/1/en/hd/clehajust). NWA discount room rates are \$99 plus tax for a single, double, triple or quad room. The discount rate will be honored three days before Group arrival through three days after Group departure.

To reserve a room, please call the InterContinental Hotel at 216-707-4000 or 1-877-707-8999 and request the group rate for the National Weather Association Annual Meeting.

**Please reserve your hotel room NO LATER THAN 5:00 PM EST 13 September 2006 to be able to obtain the NWA discount rate.**

**ADDITIONAL PLANS:** Thanks to Betsy Kling, the Fifth Annual Golf Outing is being scheduled for Saturday, 14 October to benefit the NWA Scholarship Fund.

The NWA Annual Awards Luncheon will be at the InterContinental Hotel on Wednesday, 18 October 2006.

The preliminary agenda is expected to be published in early August in the Newsletter and on the NWA Web site ([www.nwas.org](http://www.nwas.org)). Registration information and forms will be available on the Web site and Newsletter by June.

Broadcasters that may be interested in sending live or taped shows from Cleveland to their home station, please e-mail Betsy Kling at: [betsykling@wkyc.com](mailto:betsykling@wkyc.com).

For more information on exhibits, special accommodations, registration and the overall meeting program, please contact the NWA office at Tel/FAX: (434) 296-9966 or e-mail: [NatWeaAsoc@aol.com](mailto:NatWeaAsoc@aol.com).

## MEMBER NEWS

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### Welcome to two new corporate members:

#### **NBC WEATHER PLUS**

NBC Universal  
1 MSNBC Plaza  
Secaucus, NJ 07094  
Tel: 201-583-5000  
Internet: [www.nbcweatherplus.com](http://www.nbcweatherplus.com)  
POC: Jeff Thein e-mail: [weatherplus@nbcuni.com](mailto:weatherplus@nbcuni.com)

#### **JEPPESEN San Jose**

225 West Santa Clara Street, Suite 1600  
San Jose, California 95113-1743  
Tel: 408-961-2106  
Internet: [www.jepesen.com](http://www.jepesen.com)  
POC: Ray W. Stovall e-mail: [ray.stovall@jepesen.com](mailto:ray.stovall@jepesen.com)

**Ron Bianchi**, long-term individual member and corporate member contact, informed of the move of Pelmorex to a new building and of a new point of contact:

#### **PELMOREX INC.**

**The Weather Network/MeteoMedia**  
2655 Bristol Circle,  
Oakville, Ontario. L6H 7W1 CANADA  
Tel: 800-463-9463 or 905-566-9511  
Internet: [www.theweathernetwork.com](http://www.theweathernetwork.com)  
POC: John Mills, V.P. of Content  
e-mail: [jmills@pelmorex.com](mailto:jmills@pelmorex.com)

Ron is on assignment working for the Canadian Government Weather Service (exchange program with the Government). He is now the Operations Manager at the Ontario Storm Prediction Centre in Toronto.

## SEVERE WEATHER READINESS

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For dates of Severe Weather Awareness Events in your State see Web site: [www.weather.gov/om/severeweather/severewxcal.shtml](http://www.weather.gov/om/severeweather/severewxcal.shtml)  
Other severe weather preparedness dates coming up are:

**21-27 May** – Hurricane Preparedness Week  
see Web site: [www.nhc.noaa.gov](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov)

**18-24 June** – Lightning Safety Awareness Week  
see Web site: [www.nwas.org/links/lightning.html](http://www.nwas.org/links/lightning.html)

## NWA Newsletter (ISSN 0271-1044)

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Web site: [www.nwas.org](http://www.nwas.org)

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

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

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

## IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

- 10-14 April** – 28th Annual National Hurricane Conference  
Orlando, FL (pg 6)
- 15 April** – **Pike & Sankey Scholarship applications due** to the NWA office (see Jan-Feb Newsletter or Web site)
- 18-19 April** – Tenth Annual Northern Plains Convective Workshop, Aberdeen, SD (pg 6)
- 22 April** – Earth Day (pg 6)
- 23-29 April** – Sky Awareness Week (pg 6)
- 1-3 May** – Fourth GOES-R Users Conference (pg 5)
- 10-14 May** – Air Weather Association Reunion, Omaha (pg 6)
- 15 May** – **NWA AccuWeather Undergraduate Scholarship applications due** to the NWA office (page 5)
- 1 June** – Abstracts due for NWA Annual Meeting (pg 7)  
Please see **MEETINGS** on page 6 for additional dates  
Also check Web site: [www.nwas.org/meetings/meetings.html](http://www.nwas.org/meetings/meetings.html)

**NATIONAL WEATHER ASSOCIATION**  
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*Supporting and Promoting Excellence in Operational  
Meteorology and Related Activities since 1975*