

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Paul Croft

After my February message, I was hoping for a period of less unusual weather events, but abnormally heavy rains were again reported in Hawai'i, record snows in Des Moines and a (possible, first-ever) *Hurricane in the South Atlantic!* Without weather satellite imagery we may have never observed that classic signature off Southeastern Brazil, 25-28 March 2004. No doubt, satellite meteorologists and many other individuals/agencies will have a lot to be happy about on 1 April, celebrating the 44th anniversary of the first TIROS launch of 1 April 1960.

In the NWA we could celebrate daily about the terrific volunteers we have and the work they do, especially those in our committees, and it is my pleasure this month to share this column with our Commissioner of Committees, Dave Knapp. Dave has direct oversight of the 15 standing committees on behalf of the Officers and Councilors. (For the list of NWA committees and their chairpersons, see the February Newsletter or the NWA Web site: <http://www.nwas.org/committees/chairs.html>.) Each committee is tailored to a specialized area of meteorological interest and expertise or to an important NWA activity or outreach function, and each is critical to our organization's success.

Committees monitor events, developments, and items of interest in their subject areas as well as the impacts that these may have on members and the public. Each committee member is encouraged to be an agent within their sphere of influence, and devise innovative ways to positively impact the NWA membership, as well as our fellow scientists, broadcast professionals, and enthusiasts in the weather community. The committees are also sources of ideas, NWA Newsletter articles (and "Committee Corner"), manuscripts for the *National Weather Digest* and *Electronic Journal*, new members, nominations for awards, as well as a pool of candidates for officer and councilor leadership positions.

Oversight of the committee structure is accomplished by the Commissioner of Committees (appointed by the NWA Council) who is responsible for coordinating committee activities directly with each committee chair. The Commissioner assists each chairperson to ensure

that each committee contributes in a manner consistent with the NWA Mission Statement and goals of the NWA as defined by the Strategic Plan. The Commissioner is the primary conduit between the NWA Council and the committees. In this capacity, the Commissioner maintains Council awareness of major committee issues, as well as committee membership changes, while also relaying important information, guidance, requests, and tasks from the President and Council to each of the committees.

Each year, the committees try to meet at least once in person and many times via e-mail to work issues, outline plans for the coming year and review accomplishments for the previous year. This year, we specifically asked each committee to submit annual goals/objectives tied to one or more of the NWA Strategic Plan goals submitted by the Strategic Planning Committee and approved by the NWA Council during the October 2003 NWA Annual Meeting. Our committees maintain information on the NWA Web site and are thus able to keep the NWA members updated on projects and professional development opportunities.

During the NWA Annual Meetings, each committee chair is invited to the NWA Council meeting to present highlights of their annual written report detailing their activities and future plans. This provides an opportunity for direct interaction with the Council and face-to-face feedback with each committee chair. It also provides time to bring committee concerns or new initiatives directly to the Council. The committee chairs make use of this feedback and interaction to refine their goals, plans, and activities for the following year. The Council makes use of this interaction to better manage and assist the committees in fulfilling their mission within the NWA.

Committee membership is open to all NWA members who express an interest in serving. If you have such an interest, please review the committee Web pages and contact the chair of the committee, which is of most interest to you. When a committee chair desires to add a new member to the committee, he/she submits the name and a short background paragraph on the new person for approval to the NWA President through the Commissioner of Committees. Committee members and chairpersons serve for three-year terms. Committee chairs are often selected from those who have served as a member of that particular committee.

The approval of a committee chair is similar to that of a new committee member. The committee chair

BROADCAST COMMITTEE NEWS

Ingredients for a Great Weathercast ...

It seems that no matter where you work, someone else knows better than you how to do your job. If you are still new to broadcasting (less than 5 years on-air), then getting advice from others is smart. Once you're established in the business, you should have a pretty good feel for the ingredients of a solid weathercast. However, with so many people telling you what's right and wrong, you may be unsure of yourself even after a decade or more of weather broadcasting. So, it's time to get on the track to developing a consistent, exciting and informative weathercast.

There are experts who are paid to "survey" the audience and tell us what our viewers want to see. The problem is that no matter what part of the country you serve, the message is the same. It sounds something like; "Local, Local, Local" or "Forecast Driven"...ever heard those terms? I don't know about you, but in my 18 years of experience in 5 markets, I have met different people with different backgrounds who enjoy a diverse selection of outdoor activities. I have seen areas with widely varying geography and metropolitan areas with economic bases ranging from agricultural, to industrial, to hi-tech. How can all these people and places be served properly by one or two broadcast styles? The answer is, they can't. Then again, I have been doing this long enough to know that you must give some heed to the experts or you may be looking for work elsewhere. Here is how you balance the forces and provide the best weathercast possible.

Know the people you serve. Whether you are new to town, or have been around a while, take some time to research your area. What is the economic base? Is it farming, industrial, the service industry, hi-tech, or a mix? Is golf a big activity or do boating and fishing dominate the recreational activities of the viewers? How about skiing or mountain climbing? All of these aspects determine what your viewers really want in their local forecast. However, you can't just ignore the national weather features. Without the big picture, it's very difficult to tell the local story. This is one of those touchy areas for some stations. Are there a lot of people who travel, or is there a big local tourist industry? Maybe the community has expanded as people moved there from around the country. They may have left family behind in the other cities. If either situation is true, a brief look at national weather will serve you and your viewers well and happy viewers are what we seek.

In future articles I will expand on specific ideas for the above situations. Until then, remember that no formula works everywhere and you must serve uniquely your community or you may be moving to a new one soon.

Send your thoughts to me at skyeeye@fuse.net.

- Rich Apuzzo, Broadcast Meteorology Committee Chair

recommends his/her successor to the Commissioner of Committees and the candidate's name and biography are then submitted to the NWA Council for approval. Upon approval, the Commissioner of Committees informs the outgoing chair and the new chair, with the remainder of the succession process coordination left to these two individuals.

Committee member participation is at the discretion of the member as it is a voluntary effort. Some committee members may be able to devote only a few hours a month to committee work while others can afford several days per month. Others, due to personal and professional time constraints, often serve as technical experts and occasionally participate in committee projects as time allows. In some committees, the activities are focused on ongoing projects and in others, the tasks may be confined to a particular time of year. Regardless, our committee members provide very important work and insight that guides the NWA daily and annually in its mission. Committees are often the best way for our membership to contribute and to directly impact critical decisions that influence our service to the operational, research, and broadcast meteorology communities, and the public.

The diversity of committees, and the wide variety of projects being worked on is an indication of how fortunate we have been in the NWA to achieve so many accomplishments from the work of our volunteer members. As past and present members of NWA Committees, we (Dave and Paul) have found it to be a privilege to serve and it has been very rewarding to us personally and professionally.

Thank you to all volunteers for your willingness and commitment to serve. Thanks also to the many members who continue to check off the volunteer statement on the annual dues renewal invoices and who have not yet been called. We want to fix that loop back to you and are working on it. Currently we have many more volunteers than committee spaces open. Some committees have near a hundred volunteers waiting to be called. If you have an initiative that you want to lead the way on, don't wait for the call, please contact the appropriate committee chair (or Dave Knapp or Paul Croft) and offer your suggestion.

As an example of recent committee action -- over the past few months, the Remote Sensing Committee members have been gathering information on the Lightning Mapper Sensor (LMS). They convinced the NWA Council to send letters of support to leaders in many government agencies requesting advocacy for the LMS to be added to the GOES-R series, and if possible, an earlier demonstration geostationary platform as soon as feasible.

The Annual Meeting Program Committee has just begun work gathering ideas from other committees and the NWA President to begin setting the schedule of events for the mid-October meeting (page 7). The awards committee has also begun work updating and announcing the NWA annual award opportunities (pages 3-4).

- Yours in Service - Paul Croft and Dave Knapp

CALL FOR PAPERS - THE NWA METEOROLOGICAL SATELLITE APPLICATIONS AWARD

The Meteorological Satellite Applications Award has been established by the National Weather Association (NWA) 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 stipend 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 also must be a U.S. citizen or hold permanent resident status.

Submission of Papers: Student papers should not exceed ten (10) pages including 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 2004 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 2004 at the Annual Meeting (and earlier to the individual).

All members - please help spread the word about this award/grant initiative.

Submit news items, conference announcements, short technical articles...to the NWA Newsletter via e-mail to nwanewsletter@nwas.org

NWA ANNUAL AWARDS 2004

The National Weather Association (NWA) began its award program in 1977 to provide deserved recognition to those individuals involved in operational activities. The Awards Program recognizes the professional as well as the volunteer. The emphasis is on the people who perform the day-to-day jobs of providing meteorological information and weather support services to the public. Names of previous winners and additional award information are available on the Web site: www.nwas.org/award.html. Please review the award categories carefully and use the category most appropriate for the nomination being submitted. Self nominations will not be accepted.

Award Categories are:

Operational Achievement Individual Award: This award is presented to a NWA member who has made a significant contribution to operational meteorology (e.g., an accurate and timely forecast for one or more significant weather events or for long-period achievement).

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.

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

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 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.

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.

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. →

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, and advances in aviation meteorology including research in detection and forecasting of aviation hazards.

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.

Narrative nominations (no more than two pages) with additional endorsements should be forwarded by

1 July 2004, to:

NWA Awards Committee
Mary M. Cairns, Chairperson
1697 Capri Way
Charlottesville, VA 22911-3534

Although there is no rigid time requirement for the awards, the Committee prefers that the accomplishment, if not on a continuing basis, occur within 18 months prior to the nominations. Additionally, if the nomination is not selected as the winner, it will remain a valid nomination for two additional years unless the nominee's position is no longer applicable to the award. The nomination may be updated by the submitter in each of those additional two years. Winners for 2004 will be honored at the NWA Annual Meeting Awards Luncheon, 20 October 2004, at the DoubleTree Hotel - Lloyd Center, Portland, Oregon.

NWA - SOL HIRSCH EDUCATION FUND GRANTS

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 2004 to:

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

Winners will be announced at the NWA Annual Meeting, 20 October 2004. Awards will be sent to the selected teachers/schools soon thereafter.

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

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

The NWA Council established a standing Publications Committee in late 2003, following the recommendations of an Ad Hoc Committee appointed in 2002 by President John McLaughlin. The job of the Ad Hoc Committee was to look into problems associated with the *National Weather Digest* (NWD), particularly those concerning delays in publication and distribution.

The new Publications Committee (PubCom) oversees all NWA publications, specifically the NWD, the monthly Newsletter, and the online *Electronic Journal of Operational Meteorology*. PubCom members include the editors of the three publications (NWD Co-Editors Major (Lt Col select) Pete Roohr and Dr. Pat Market, plus Technical Editor Dr. Scott Rochette, Newsletter Editor Janice Bunting, and *Electronic Journal* Co-Editors Jeff Craven, Alan E. Gerard and Dr. Steve Vasiloff), plus Frank Brody and other NWA member's interested and willing to serve. A number of Ad Hoc Committee members have agreed to continue as members of the PubCom, including Steve Weiss, Dr. Jim Moore, Ron Przybylinski, and Carolyn Kloth. Kevin Lavin will play an advisory role due to his continued heavy involvement in the publication process. One of the goals of the PubCom is to provide assistance to the Executive Director in the many publication tasks.

The Council stipulated that the Chair of the PubCom should NOT be one of the publication editors. Carolyn Kloth serves as the PubCom's first Chairperson.

The NWD co-editors and Ad Hoc Committee laid groundwork for improving the paper submission and review process for the NWD, and the PubCom will continue to evaluate it. Kevin Lavin and the NWD co-editors are addressing the timeliness issue by doubling-up the 2003 and 2004 issues so a normal publication schedule should return by the end of 2004.

The PubCom's next priority is to look at updating the appearance of the NWD, including the design of the cover, type of paper used, and perhaps the increased use of color. The latter touches on the issue of publication costs, which is another area for investigation. The overall goal is for the NWD to become the flagship publication that all NWA members will be proud of.

The PubCom members are very interested in hearing from NWA members regarding any of the organization's publications. Also, if you are interested in serving on the PubCom, please contact the committee Chairperson (**Carolyn.Kloth@noaa.gov or cmk1903@netzero.net**).

Keep sending in papers and news items for the *National Weather Digest*, *Electronic Journal*, and Newsletter. The next time you do a paper or presentation, please consider submitting a version of it to the appropriate NWA publication. We need your support and appreciate your submissions.

- Carolyn Kloth, Publications Committee Chair

NWA NEWSLETTER CHANGES

Frank Brody, charter NWA member and NWA Newsletter editor since January 2001, transitioned the newsletter duties to another member in February 2004. Frank will now have more time to devote to his family and work on other projects

Frank was instrumental in establishing good resources for articles and speeding up the process of publishing the Newsletter. Kevin Lavin wrote, "Thanks also to you and your family for the hours you gave to the NWA and its membership over the last three years, not only for the Newsletter, but for putting together comprehensive lists of Universities and private-sector companies." Frank will continue to play a role in NWA publications, as a member of the new Publications Committee.

Frank is the Meteorologist-In-Charge of the NWS Spaceflight Meteorology Group (SMG) based at the NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas.

Janice Bunting of Fort Worth, Texas, has assumed the duties of Editor of the Newsletter. She was a meteorologist with the NWS for 11 years with prior experience in private-sector meteorology. She is very grateful for Frank's help and guidance during the transition of the editor duties.

Please note that articles for the NWA Newsletter should now be submitted to nwanewsletter@nwas.org.

MEMBER NEWS

New NWS Southern Region Deputy Director

Steven Cooper has been appointed deputy director of the National Weather Service (NWS) Southern Region. Steve had served as Chief of the Southern Region's Climate, Water and Weather Division. He replaces Gary Grice, who retired in January.

"Steven Cooper not only brings a rich and varied level of experience and expertise to his new position, he has consistently demonstrated outstanding leadership skills," said Bill Proenza, director, NWS Southern Region. "His innovative leadership style has been instrumental in the development of numerous initiatives and programs that have proven highly beneficial to the Southern Region and the National Weather Service. His dedication and hard work played a critical role in the successful modernization of the NWS Southern Region during the last decade – and his continuing leadership will enhance the performance of the National Weather Service in the years ahead."

In 1980 he launched his career as a meteorology intern and then forecaster at the Weather Forecast Office in Albuquerque, NM. He served as meteorologist-in-charge of the NWS offices in Bristol, TN, and Amarillo, TX, before joining the team at Southern Region Headquarters in Fort Worth, Texas in 1992. He served as assistant chief

of the Meteorological Services Division until he was promoted to chief of the Southern Region's Climate, Water and Weather Division in 2000.

He and his Meteorological Services Division team were recognized with NWS Modernization Awards in 1995 and 1996. He led the successful implementation of NWS modernization and restructuring across the southern United States – during the mid 1990s. He received the Commerce Department's Bronze Medal for coordinating weather support for the 1996 Paralympics – and the National Weather Service Southern Region Isaac M. Cline Award for Leadership in 2002.

Along with former Deputy Regional Director Grice, he co-developed an innovative Southern Region leadership development program called Building Leaders for A Solid Tomorrow (BLAST).

He received a Bachelor of Science degree in meteorology from Florida State University in 1980 and a Master's degree in geography (Climatology) from the University of New Mexico in 1985.

- From NWS Southern Region Public Affairs

NWS MIC Moves to Tennessee

Larry Vannozi reported to the National Weather Service Forecast Office (NWSFO) in Nashville, TN, in January as the new Meteorologist-in-Charge (MIC). He replaced Derrel Martin who served as Nashville's MIC for over 25 years.

Larry had been the MIC at NWSFO Lubbock, TX, for the past two years. Larry has been with the NWS for 17 years and has also worked at NWS Offices in Houston and Albuquerque, and at the NWS Southern Region Headquarters in Ft. Worth, TX.

LOCAL CHAPTER NEWS

High Plains Chapter - The chapter met on 20 January 2004 in Hill City, Kansas, at Gwen's Hometown Cafe. Fifteen current and new members were present, including three first time attendees who were welcomed by President Mike Moritz. Kansas State Climatologist Mary Knapp, from Kansas State University, gave an enlightening presentation on the climate of Kansas and Nebraska. Mary's presentation showed the comparison of 30-year averages of precipitation across Kansas. She noted that the latest 30-year normal, based on data from 1971-2000, was the wettest normal on record. When current events are compared to normal, they are compared to the wettest period on record. Mary Knapp also described a report showing that No-Till farming practices have resulted in decreased stream flows, basically due to decreased runoff. The 8th High Plains Conference is in the planning stages and will be held at the Northwest Kansas Technical College in Goodland, KS on 13 – 14 October 2004. More details will be released as speakers are lined up and an agenda is set. Updates will be posted at Web →

site www.highplains-amsnwa.org/. Keynote speakers are still being sought and anyone interested in speaking at the conference should contact Bruce Entwistle, Science and Operations Officer at NWS Goodland, KS at bruce.entwistle@noaa.com or 785-899-2360.

Officers for 2004 are: President Bruce Entwistle; Vice-President Tim Burke, NWS Dodge City, KS; Treasurer David Lawrence, NWS Hastings, NE; Secretary Julia Berg, NWS Hastings, NE; Past President Mike Moritz, NWS Hastings, NE. Jared Guyer has volunteered to continue as the chapter webmaster, even though he is now working at the NWS/SPC in Norman, OK. Ray Burgert, NWS Dodge City, and Brad Schick, NWS Goodland, will serve as assistant webmasters.

- Tim Burke, Secretary

CENTRAL IOWA CHAPTER - The chapter is partnering with the 2004 Summer Iowa Games, to increase lightning and severe weather awareness in Iowa. The chapter is sponsoring two sports, softball and golf, for \$1000 each. The games will be held in Ames, Iowa, 16-18 July 2004. The NWA logo and weather safety promotional material will be provided to over 10,000 athletes and participants. In addition, the NWA has been invited to host a weather booth at the games, providing weather safety information, activities, and games.

The Iowa Games are a multi-sport festival of Olympic-style competition for Iowa's amateur athletes of all ages, abilities and gender. The purpose of the Iowa Games is to provide Iowa citizens with a wholesome avenue for positive personal development through sports and physical activity, to recognize their dedication and achievement, to enable all citizens the opportunity to utilize quality sport facilities and to create an amateur sports network of administrators, officials, and volunteers throughout Iowa to further develop amateur athletic programs. For more information on the Iowa Games browse to: <http://www.iowagames.org/> and for more information on the chapter and its press releases on lightning safety see Web site: <http://www.iowa-nwa.com/>

- Andy Kula

MEETINGS OF INTEREST

• **Eighth Annual Northern Plains Convective Workshop will be held in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, 14-16 April 2004.** One session of this workshop will focus on the 24 June 2003 tornado outbreak over southeast South Dakota, including a presentation from researcher Tim Samaras, whose team recorded the record-breaking pressure drop with the Manchester Tornado. For more information see **Web site: sio.midco.net/8thworkshop/**

• **The Air Weather Association (AWA) Reunion will be held 28 April – 2 May 2004 in Cocoa Beach, Florida at the Holiday Inn Oceanfront Resort.** For more information, please see Web site: www.airweaassn.org or call (434) 296-2832. The AWA is open to all individuals who serve or have served in a USAAF or USAF weather unit.

• **Third GOES Users' Conference will be held in Boulder, Colorado, 10-13 May 2004.** GOES-R to be launched in 2012, will house an advanced imager, hyper-spectral suite (including atmospheric sounding and coastal waters capabilities), lightning mapper, solar imager and space environment monitor. The focus of the conference will be to help users prepare to acquire, digest and use GOES-R data and to assist with the advanced planning of requirements, products, communications, and distribution of data. The conference will consist of speaker presentations, poster sessions, and facilitated breakout sessions. Abstracts are invited for poster papers focusing on GOES-R potential applications, GOES-R as part of the Global Observing System, and the smooth transition to GOES-R. See Web site: www.osd.noaa.gov/announcement/index.htm for more information.

• **First World Conference on Broadcast Meteorology will be held 2 – 5 June 2004 in Barcelona, Spain.** The NWA is a co-sponsor of this conference being run by the International Association of Broadcast Meteorologists (IABM). This will be a scientific conference, with a diverse group of attendees and presenters engaged in discussing the current state of weather broadcasting in the world, examining ways to reduce the impact of natural disasters and debating pertinent issues. Conference details can be found at www.IABM.org.

• **Symposium on the 50th Anniversary of the Joint Numerical Weather Prediction Unit: The Foundation for Operational Numerical Weather Prediction will be held 14-17 June 2004 in College Park, Maryland.** The National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP), Air Force Weather Agency (AFWA), Fleet Numerical Meteorology and Oceanography Center (FNMOC), National Weather Association and American Meteorological Society (AMS) invite your participation in a "Symposium on the 50th Anniversary of Operational Numerical Weather Prediction." Program, registration, hotel, and general information are posted on the symposium Web site www.ncep.noaa.gov/JNWPU50/. **Preregister by 30 April at reduced rates.** Students -- note group rates (for 10 or more) are available.

• **The 2nd International Conference on Volcanic Ash and Aviation Safety will be held 21-24 June 2004 at the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center Hotel in Alexandria, Virginia.** Conference is sponsored by the Office of The Federal Coordinator for Meteorology (OFCM). Abstracts are due 12 April 2004; exhibits are also being accepted. For more information, see Web site: www.ofcm.gov/

• **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. A call for papers and registration information are on Web site: www.wrh.noaa.gov/Billings/GreatDivide.shtml or contact the NWS Forecast Office in Billings, Montana at (406) 652-0851.

*Check the NWA Web site www.nwas.org
for more information on Local Chapters, Meetings,
Hot Topics, the history of the NWA, job announcements,
committee actions and more.*

NWA 29th ANNUAL MEETING

Call for Abstracts

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

The Annual Meeting will include:

16 October: Training will be offered by corporate members, exhibits will set up, and the third annual golf outing will occur.

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

18 - 21 October: ANNUAL MEETING GENERAL SESSIONS will include a mix of formal presentations, poster sessions, training workshops, and exhibits on a wide variety of topics relating to OPERATIONAL meteorology, hydrology, weather broadcasting, new research applications, and related activities. Special Sessions on Fire Weather, operational climatology and local/regional NWP are being planned.

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. The 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.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION: The deadline for submission of abstracts is **1 June 2004**. Abstracts may be sent via an Internet online form on the NWA Web site at: <http://www.nwas.org/2004abstracts.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 can also be sent via e-mail to michael.vescio@noaa.gov. Please write NWA Abstract in the subject box. The abstract may be included within the body of the e-mail or as a WordPerfect or Microsoft Word attachment. Please include the following information in the e-mail message: full abstract title, author(s) name(s) and affiliation(s)/address (es) designate which author(s) will be giving the presentation and whether poster or oral presentation is preferred, audio/visual requirements including software (e.g., PowerPoint, Corel, Internet access) and equipment (e.g., laptop, PC, overhead

projector), and list the primary contact with their phone number and e-mail address.

If you are unable to submit your abstract via e-mail or the online form, please contact the NWA office at Tel/Fax: (434) 296-9966.

Presenters will be notified regarding the disposition of their abstracts by 15 August 2004. Prior to the meeting an FTP site will be established for authors to download their presentations so that it 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 DoubleTree Hotel Portland - Lloyd Center is at 1000 N.E. 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.**

Thanks to Betsy Kling, the **Third Annual Golf Outing** is being scheduled for Saturday, 16 October to benefit the NWA Scholarship Fund. The **NWA Annual Awards Luncheon** will be at the DoubleTree Hotel on Wednesday, 20 October.

The preliminary agenda is expected to be published in early August in the Newsletter and on the NWA Web site. Registration information and forms will be available by June. 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.

JOB CORNER

Space is not available in this issue to list jobs. The NWA posts jobs from equal opportunity employers at no cost, for the benefit of NWA members. Please see the Job section on the NWA Web site (www.nwas.org) for complete announcements and job links. Members who do not have Internet capability may request announcements from the NWA office at (434) 296-9966. Employers should send job announcements via e-mail to NatWeaAsoc@aol.com.

National Weather Association supporting and promoting excellence in operational meteorology and related activities since 1975

JOIN THE LIVE WEBCAST ON NWS PROPOSED PARTNERSHIP POLICY, 14 APRIL, 1-4 PM (ET)

The American Meteorological Society will host a national live Webcast on Wednesday, 14 April 2004, 1-4 pm (eastern time) to facilitate open discussion on the National Weather Service's proposed new policy on partnerships in the provision on weather, water, climate and related environmental information. Participation is open to all parties in the atmospheric science community who wish to listen to a panel discussion and send in questions or comments on the NWS proposed policy. There is no charge for the Webcast, however, participants are encouraged to register in advance to receive background materials and further updates on the Webcast. **Registration is available on the AMS Web site at www.ametsoc.org.** Questions can be submitted before the Webcast via e-mail to: QuestionsToPanel@ametsoc.org

The NRC report, *Fair Weather - Effective Partnerships in Weather and Climate Services*, encouraged all parties involved in weather and climate services to seek a neutral host, such as the AMS, to provide a venue for discussions and dialogue related to public-private partnership. This Webcast is the first step in such an ongoing dialogue.

The Webcast will center around a panel discussion featuring members of the AMS Ad Hoc Committee on the Weather and Climate Enterprise. Panelists will include: Dr. Elbert (Joe) Friday, AMS Past President; Dr. Susan Avery, CIRES, University of Colorado and current AMS President; Dr. Edward Johnson, NWS Strategic Planning and Policy Office; Mr. Steven Root, President & CEO of WeatherBank, Inc., and Chair of the Commercial Weather Services Association; Mr. Matthew Parker, Westinghouse Savannah River Company and National Council of Industrial Meteorologists; and, Mr. John Toohey-Morales, of NBC Telemundo and AMS Commissioner on Professional Affairs.

The deadline for submitting comments on the draft policy is 14 May 2004 via Web site: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/fairweather>.

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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 the *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 e-mail, phone or regular mail.

IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

14-16 April 2004 – Northern Plains Convective Conference
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

15 April 2004 – Pike & Sankey Scholarship applications due to
NWA office (see Jan Newsletter or Web site)

10-13 May 2004 – GOES User's Conference, Boulder, CO

15 May 2004 – Applications due for NWA - AccuWeather
Undergraduate Scholarship (Feb Newsletter or Web site)

1 June 2004 – Abstracts due for NWA 29th Annual Meeting,
Portland, Oregon (see page 7)

14-17 June 2004 – Symposium on the 50th Anniversary of the
Joint Numerical Weather Prediction Unit, College Park, MD

15 June 2004 – MetSat Award Applications due (page 3)

Please see **MEETINGS** on page 6 and
AWARDS on pages 3-4 for additional information

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