



NWA NEWSLETTER

May 2017
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Newsletter Submissions

We welcome articles from members.

Send to: nwanewsletter@nwas.org

by the 15th of the
month for publication
in the following
month's edition at the
earliest. Newsletter
info and a link to
author guidelines
can be found at:

[nwas.org/newsletter/instructions-
for-authors/](http://nwas.org/newsletter/instructions-for-authors/).



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

Meteorology's Newest "Toy": GOES-16!

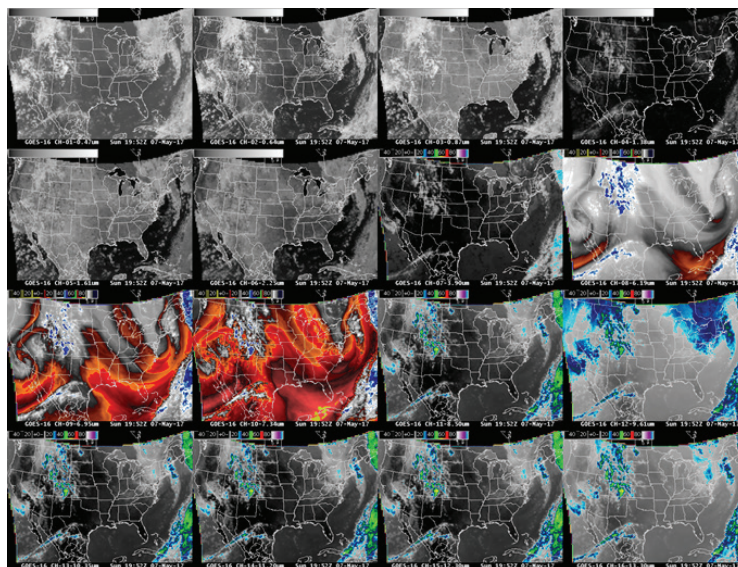
May President's Message by Gail Hartfield

The launch of GOES-R, its establishment as GOES-16, and the subsequent release of the first images spurred a lot of excitement among those in the meteorological community—with good reason. In much the same way the move from the WSR-57/74 to the WSR-88D radars revolutionized the storm interrogation and warning processes, the new and improved capabilities of GOES-16 promise major changes in how we observe the atmosphere.

The reality of GOES-16 has indeed been a long time coming. Development of the GOES-R spacecraft began in 2009, although the folks at the Cooperative Institute for Meteorological Satellite Studies (CIMSS) at the [University of Wisconsin-Madison](http://www.cimss.edu) have been [blogging](#) about GOES-R and its upcoming innovations since 2006. In addition to this and other blogs, there has been an abundance of helpful training provided by CIMSS, the Cooperative Institute for Research in the Atmosphere (CIRA) at Colorado State University, COMET's MetEd program, the National Weather Service, the GOES-R Proving Ground consortium, and others to help prepare operational meteorologists for the new imagery and tools to come. Much of this training makes use of high-resolution imagery from the MODIS and Himawari satellites as a proxy for GOES-16 imagery, and many are freely available (including some on YouTube). I highly encourage all operational forecasters to check them out so they can learn how to take advantage of the new capabilities.

Since GOES-16 data began flowing earlier this year after the spacecraft's launch in late 2016, meteorologists have been treated to spectacular imagery (in test mode) that showcases the high temporal (full disk every 15 minutes, continental U.S. at least every 5

minutes, and sometimes every 30 seconds) and spatial (0.5 to 2 km) resolution that, in time, is likely to alter forecast and warning practices. Convective cloud tops will be monitored for height and phase changes. Three water vapor channels will be used to assess the vertical moisture distribution and identify jet streaks. Smoke plumes from wildfires will be easily tracked. Channel difference fields will allow for improved detection and monitoring of fog and stratus. And data from instruments like the Geostationary Lightning Mapper (GLM), which provides important lightning character, density, and trend information, may add crucial minutes to warning lead times boosting public safety. These are just a few of the many benefits that GOES-16 channels and products will provide to meteorologists from all sectors. It will be fascinating to see how this new information is used for the severe weather season this spring, not to mention summertime MCSs, the upcoming tropical season, and the inevitable bombing winter storms in the winter months.



An image of all 16 channels of GOES-16 imagery from May 7, 2017
(data preliminary and non-operational).

GOES-16 is still in experimental mode as the instruments are being tested and calibrated, but you can see [non-operational imagery via the College of DuPage](#), CIRA's [Regional and Mesoscale Meteorology Branch \(RAMMB\)](#), [NOAA/NESDIS](#), and NASA's [Short-term Prediction Research and Transition \(SPoRT\) Center](#). Please feel free to share some of your early impressions and uses of this data by messaging the NWA on [Facebook](#) and Twitter (@NWA).

The Seals Keep Comin'! Two More Mets Earn the NWA Broadcaster's Seal

First up to the plate is Lewis Dortch of KNBN Rapid City, South Dakota. He and his wife live in the great state of South Dakota. He is the morning meteorologist at KNBN and rightly so—his favorite food is Cinnamon Toast Crunch.

"I could eat a whole box in one sitting," exclaims Dortch. He and his wife are expecting their third child in July. Originally from Asheville, North Carolina, Dortch and his family love to get out and explore the Black Hills of Wyoming and South Dakota. They have been there since 2013.

If Dortch wasn't doing weather, he says, "I would love to be a campground host. I would travel to different campgrounds and make cookies for all the new campers who arrive."
Congrats to Lewis and the whole Dortch clan!



Rachael Kaye

A big round of applause for Rachael Kaye of FOX6 Milwaukee!

Originally from Eastern Pennsylvania, Kaye says she loves cheese, which is perfect for living in Wisconsin. Kaye is an experienced storm chaser with a master's degree in meteorology from Mississippi State University. Even though she says storm chasing is great, "personally, I love sunny and 75!"

Prior to working in Milwaukee, she covered everything from blizzards to tornadoes while working in Peoria, Illinois, at WMBD. Congrats again to Rachael and we can't wait to see her shiny new seal on TV!

Lewis Dortch



Diversity University: The Sound of Warning Silence

Jennifer Hogan, Co-chair NWA Diversity Committee



As we move through the peak of the spring severe weather season, certain NWS and WRN slogans come to mind like "when thunder roars, go indoors." But some are not as familiar with "see a flash, dash inside," a slogan developed specifically for the hearing-impaired community.

It's not well-known that NOAA Weather Radio offers non-verbal information imbedded in the broadcasts. This information, coupled with special output connectors, can be used to warn the hearing-impaired by activating certain types of devices such as vibrators, bed shakers, or strobe lights. Some adapters display different color lights to indicate the type of statement, watch, or warning that was issued in the area. In addition to the NOAA weather radio, there are wireless emergency messages most cell phones receive (depending on carrier and cell phone type). They have a distinctive tone for a text (quick successive vibrations or unique text message tones) that notify users to weather warnings

but can also be used for other local emergencies such as Amber Alerts.

Some NWS offices with SkyWarn training have reached out to the hearing-impaired community with storm spotter training

geared towards their needs. NWS Huntsville held a training course and NWS Austin conducted a weather safety town hall for the hearing impaired community this past April. Both of these communities have conducted specific courses and storm spotter training for the hearing-impaired in the past. Some other storm spotter courses do have interpreters, but not all.

Having specific campaigns and training focusing on the needs of the hearing-impaired community allows one more segment of our society to be involved in weather safety awareness. Outreach into these communities broadens the diversity of a Weather-Ready Nation and continues to support the NWS mission of the protection of life and property.

ONLINE RESOURCES

www.nws.noaa.gov/com/weatherreadynation/dhh_safety.html

www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/info/special_needs.html

www.weather.gov/hun/DeafandHardofHearingApril102017

www.fcc.gov/consumers/guides/wireless-emergency-alerts-wea

www.nws.noaa.gov/com/weatherreadynation/wea.html

www.dps.texas.gov/dem/temo/articles/article3.htm



COMET Quarterly Announcement: Spring 2017

David Russi
COMET Spanish Translator

COMET made several new publications available on MetEd over the last quarter. This update includes 11 new COMET lessons on a variety of topics, and three new lessons in Spanish. Click titles to access them online.

New COMET Lessons

Introductory Lessons

- [Foundations of Meteorological Instrumentation and Measurements](#)
- [Met 101: Introduction to the Atmosphere](#)
- [Met 101: Basic Weather Processes](#)
- [Met 101: Introduction to the World's Oceans](#)

Forecasting

- [Communicating Forecast Uncertainty, European Case](#)

NWP

- [Limitations of High-Resolution NWP Models](#)
- [EPS Products Reference Guide](#)
- [Introduction to EPS Theory](#)

Geospatial

- [Gravity for Geodesy I: Foundations](#)

Satellite Meteorology

- [Using Climatology in Forecasting Convection in West and Central Africa](#)
- [GOES-R Launch Workshop for Broadcast Meteorologists, November 2016](#)

New Spanish Lessons

- [Incertidumbre en los pronósticos de ciclón tropical](#)
- [Introducción a la marejada ciclónica](#)
- [Identificación satelital de estructuras: los ríos atmosféricos](#)

Interested in translation? COMET's new [Translation Resource Center](#) supports the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) community's efforts to expand the availability of training materials through translation. Here you'll find resources to support your translation efforts and a forum to exchange ideas and resources.

Currently, these materials are freely available to everyone, courtesy of our primary sponsors: NOAA's NWS, NESDIS and National Ocean Service programs, EUMETSAT, the Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command, the Meteorological Service of Canada, Bureau of Meteorology, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation.

Look Before You Lock!
The temperature in your car can quickly become deadly!

Fact:
A dark dashboard or seat can easily reach temperatures around 180 to over 200°F.

YOU Can Prevent Heat Related Deaths!

weather.gov/heat

HIGH PLAINS NWA/ CHAPTER NEWS

Jeremy Martin, President

Wesley Hovorka, Secretary

The High Plains Chapter of the AMS and NWA met April 25 at the library in Norton, Kansas. Due to unforeseen obligations, only seven chapter members could attend. Rick Ewald informed the group that there were 12 applicants for the Jim Johnson Scholarship. A member from each office will go through the applications and together they will pick a winner for the \$500 scholarship. Next, Wesley Hovorka gave an update on the 19th Annual High Plains Chapter Conference in Dodge City, Kansas, including that the deadline to book hotel rooms has been extended to July 25. [Check the website for the most up-to-date conference information.](#)

Jeff Kelley then gave a quick treasury report. A full treasury report will be presented at a later meeting. Lastly, there was a discussion on the possibility of making a charitable donation with the extra money in the accounts. If there are any ideas of which charity to pick from other members, please let one of the officers know. The meeting adjourned at around noon.

Dave Floyd, Meteorologist in Charge from the Goodland, Kansas, office, gave the presentation. He discussed a severe weather simulation that took place at the Goodland office. To make the simulation work, the Information Technology Officer transmitted an old severe weather event to the monitors on the operations floor and in the conference room. As part of the simulation, four Emergency Managers (EMs) came to the office to interact with the NWS employees during the exercise. The meteorologists were placed in the operations area and the EMs were placed in the conference room to simulate the fact that they would be in separate locations during the event. For example, the meteorologists contacted the EMs via phone or NWS Chat to inform them of the weather conditions in their respective counties. After the simulation finished, the EMs and meteorologists talked about what they liked and didn't like about the exercise, as well as what could be changed for future events.

www.highplains-amsnwa.org

"Putting Science into Service"



The 42nd NWA Annual Meeting *Hyatt Regency Orange County* *Garden Grove, California* *September 16 - 21, 2017*



Important Dates

- Oral and Poster Presenters Notified: late April
- Preliminary Agenda Posted On-line: Summer 2017
- NWA Annual Meeting: September 16-21

"Putting Science into Service"

Every day, operational meteorologists put their knowledge and understanding of the science of weather, climate, and related fields to work, in service to a wide variety of partners and users. They work together in a circular process chain – with researchers providing relevant study and modeling results to those creating warnings and forecasts and to those charged with clearly conveying this information to the public and other users, in order to help them make crucial weather- and climate-dependent decisions.

The needs of these users then help inform the research, and the process begins anew. Within this process, achieved through strong partnerships among all entities within the weather enterprise, operational meteorologists apply the science to solve weather- and climate-related problems, benefit society, and fulfill countless weather and climate needs.

Helpful Links

- [Annual Meeting Site](#) or [Meeting Registration](#)
- [Hyatt Regency Site](#)

Hotel Information

Hyatt Regency: [See page 5](#) for prices and booking details

Schedule of Events

- WeatherReady Fest: Saturday, September 16
- Broadcast Meteorology Workshop: Sunday, September 17
- Ninth Annual Student Session including Speed Mentoring: Sunday, September 17
- General Sessions: Monday-Thursday, September 18-21
- NWA Annual Awards Luncheon: Wednesday, September 20

Abstract Submission

The period to submit abstracts for this annual meeting is closed. The Committee is excited to have over 250 submissions to review.

Program Committee Co-Chairs

Todd Lericos
NOAA National Weather Services
Las Vegas, NV

Miles Muzio
KBAK-TV
Bakersfield, CA

Broadcaster Meteorology Workshop Program Chair

Mike Goldberg
WTVR-TV
Richmond, VA

[Click for program chair contact info](#)



A monthly look at interesting news factoids and stories from around the globe.

Click titles for details!

[Hail Storm Pounds Homes, Vehicles Across Denver](#)

Golf-sized hail pounded roofs, shattered windows and battered homes and vehicles causing widespread damage Monday, May 8.

[As Heat Index Climbs, Emergency Visits, Deaths Rise in New England](#)

Better known for leaf peeping on crisp autumn days and the nor'easter blizzards that follow, New England is nevertheless subject to spells of punishing summer heat and humidity.

[El Niño Again? This is Why it's Hard to Tell](#)

The tropical Pacific Ocean is once again carrying on a will-it-or-won't-it flirtation with an El Niño event, just a year after the demise of one of the strongest El Niños on record.

"Putting Science into Service"

The 42nd NWA Annual Meeting MEET OUR PLATINUM SPONSORS!



BARON
Critical Weather Intelligence

Visit their webpage at baronweather.com

factor
factoring in the difference



Visit Factor110 on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/factor110) and factor110.com!

[Click for info on sponsoring the #NWAS17 Annual Meeting](#)

HYATT REGENCY ORANGE COUNTY ROOMS: Book now!

Availability Notices:

Please be advised that there are fewer rooms available on Thursday, September 21, than the other days, so when you book your stay and it says not available, that does not mean that all the nights are unavailable. You can adjust your booking and try again.

The conference hotel is the Hyatt Regency Orange County. [Click to book your rooms!](#)

Hotel guest room rates:

Single Occupancy:	\$140.00
Double Occupancy:	\$140.00
Triple Occupancy:	\$165.00
Quadruple Occupancy:	\$190.00

The Guest Room Rates are quoted exclusive of applicable state and local taxes (*which are currently 14.5% Occupancy Tax, 2.5% GGTID Assessment*

Fee and a \$2.00 CA Tourism Tax), applicable service fees, and/or hotel-specific fees in effect at the time of the event. These guest room rates include complimentary standard internet access in the sleeping rooms and public space.

Kid's Suite:	\$40.00 (additional to each rate category)
One-Bedroom King Suite:	\$60.00 (additional to each rate category)
One-Bedroom 2Qn Suite:	\$90.00 (additional to each rate category)
Executive King Suite:	\$80.00 (additional to each rate category)
Two-Bedroom K/K Suite:	\$200.00 (additional to each rate category)
Two-Bedroom K/2Qn Suite:	\$220.00 (additional to each rate category)
VIP Family Suite:	\$180.00 (additional to each rate category)

Parking:

On-site parking is managed under a separate exclusive contract within the hotel. Daily parking rates are as follows:

Self-Parking:

\$6.00 first 30 minutes, \$4.00 each additional hour

\$27.00 daily maximum, \$27.00 overnight

Valet Parking:

\$8.00 first hour, \$12.00 for 2-3 hours
\$27.00 daily maximum, \$27.00 overnight

Oversized Vehicles:

\$65.00 overnight

If a guest is patronizing the hotel lounge or restaurant and has self-parked, they may get parking validation for up to three hours through their server by presenting their parking ticket.

"Putting Science into Service"



The 42nd NWA Annual Meeting Keynote Speaker: Dr. Louis Uccellini



With the Annual Meeting fast approaching, now is a good time to start highlighting our keynote speakers. Each will be highlighted in the coming months leading up to the Annual Meeting. There will be four keynote speakers again this year; we are still gathering information on three. This month, the spotlight is on Dr. Louis W. Uccellini.

Dr. Uccellini is an NWA Charter Member and published an article in the first NWA Digest in 1976.

Dr. Uccellini is the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Assistant Administrator for Weather Services, and Director of the National Weather Service (NWS). In this role, he is responsible for the day-to-day civilian weather operations for the U.S., its territories, adjacent waters, and ocean areas.

Dr. Uccellini received his Bachelor of Science (1971), Master of Science (1972), and Ph.D. (1977) degrees in meteorology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He served as the section head for the Mesoscale Analysis and Modeling Section at the Goddard Space Flight Center's Laboratory for Atmospheres from 1978 to 1989, Chief of the NWS Meteorological Operations Division from 1989 to 1994, and Director of the NWS Office of Meteorology from 1994 to 1999.

For the next 14 years, Dr. Uccellini served as the Director of the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP). He was responsible for directing and planning the science, technology, and operations related to NCEP's nine centers across the U.S.: Central Operations, Environmental Modeling Center, Ocean Prediction Center, Hydrometeorological Prediction Center, Climate Prediction Center, National Hurricane Center, Storm Prediction Center, Space Weather Prediction Center, and the Aviation Weather Center.

He has published more than 60 peer-reviewed articles and several chapters in books on subjects including analyses of severe weather outbreaks, snowstorms, gravity waves, jet streaks, cyclones, and the use of satellite data in analysis and modeling applications. He is the co-author of Northeast Snowstorms, a widely acclaimed two-volume American Meteorological Society (AMS) monograph published in 2004. Dr. Uccellini has also authored chapters in the 1990 AMS publication Extratropical Cyclones, the 1999 AMS publication The Life Cycles of Extratropical Cyclones, and the 2008 AMS publication Synoptic Dynamic Meteorology and Weather Analysis and Forecasting.

Dr. Uccellini has also served on many national and international research and field experiment programs. He has received many awards in recognition of his research and operational achievements including the Maryland Academy of Sciences Distinguished Young Scientist Award (1981), the NASA Medal for Exceptional Scientific Achievement (1985), the AMS's prestigious Clarence Leroy Meisinger Award (1985), and the National Weather Association's Research Achievement Awards for Significant Contributions to Operational Meteorology (1996). He was elected as a Fellow to the AMS in 1987 and served as Co-Chief Editor of Weather and Forecasting from 1988 to 1992. In 2001, he received the U.S. Presidential Meritorious Executive Rank Award, and later received the U.S. Presidential Distinguished Rank Award in 2006. In January 2012, Dr. Uccellini was elected the President of the AMS and served from 2012 to 2013.

CATCH THE NWA ON



SOCIAL MEDIA

NATIONAL WEATHER ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

PUTTING SCIENCE INTO SERVICE
16-21 SEPTEMBER 2017

REGISTRATION
IS NOW OPEN!



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

NWA Sponsored Meetings, Conferences & Special Events in 2017

(Click titles for more information)

August 9-10: 19th Annual High Plains Conference*

Dodge City, Kansas

September 16-21: NWA 42nd Annual Meeting*

Garden Grove, California (see page 4 - 6)

September 16: WeatherREADYfest

Garden Grove, California

October 25-27: FLASH Annual Conference

Atlanta, Georgia

Other Meetings, Conferences & Special Events in 2017

July 17-20: 2017 NOAA Satellite Conference

City College in New York, NY

* CEU options for Seal Holders. One CEU for full day;
.5 CEU for half days

NEW NWA MEMBERS

Please welcome these members who joined the
in April 2017!

Marshall Baldwin
Jonathen Beliera
Stephanie Burnett
Sarah Cantey
Nathan Cantu
Ethan Emery
Nathan Gogo
Charlotte Hendricks
Yara Lasanta

Daulton Lochran
Nathan Martin
Amanda Raborn
Joseph Sciacca
Caitlin Sliva
Christine Steurer
Michael Susko
Blaike Thompson

NOW OPEN

METEOROLOGICAL SATELLITE APPLICATIONS
&
SOL HIRSCH EDUCATION FUND GRANTS

APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED THROUGH JUNE 14

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