Announcing the Candidates for NWA 2017

Voting closes December 31, 2016

Click for candidates’ bios. Paper ballots have been mailed out already. You can vote on paper or click to vote online.

President-Elect

Paul Schlatter
Science and Operations Officer,
NWS Boulder/Denver Forecast Office
Boulder, Colorado

Alan Sealls
Chief Meteorologist at WKRG-TV
Mobile, Alabama

Treasurer

Lans Rothfusz
Deputy Director,
National Severe Storms Laboratory
Norman, Oklahoma

Keith Stellman
Meteorologist in Charge -
NWS Atlanta/Peachtree City
Peachtree City, Georgia

The NWA: Connecting operational meteorologists in pursuit of excellence in weather forecasting, communication and service.
Councilor Candidates for NWA in 2017 - Voting closes Dec. 31

James-Paul “J-P” Dice
Chief Meteorologist WBRC-TV
Birmingham, Alabama

Christina Crowe
Special Advisor to the Director of the NWS
Silver Spring, Maryland

Dr. Gina Eosco
Senior Social Scientist and Risk Communication Expert, Eastern Research Group, Arlington, Virginia

Dr. Chad Gravelle
NOAA/NWS Operations Proving Ground Chief Scientist and GOES-R Satellite Liaison
Kansas City, Missouri

Jared Guyer
Lead Forecaster, NOAA/NWS Storm Prediction Center
Norman, Oklahoma

Joseph Murgo
Chief Meteorologist WTAJ-TV
Altoona, Pennsylvania

Scott M. Rochette, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Synoptic Meteorology
Department of the Earth Sciences,
The College at Brockport, New York

Jon W. Zeitler
Science and Operations Officer, NWS Austin/San Antonio Forecast Office
New Braunfels, Texas
We have a Thanksgiving tradition in my family of going around the table and having each person share the things they are thankful for in the past year. It is a very sweet tradition, and it helps to keep us focused on what is truly important in life.

In that spirit, may I say how grateful I am for the success of our 2016 Annual Meeting in Norfolk. Attendance was strong, the spirit was great, papers and posters were enlightening, and all signs point to a healthy organization that continues to grow and develop.

One of the indicators of this continued progress was a request by our National Weather Service to communicate directly with the Association, its leadership and members, about an ongoing, critical reassessment of the future of the NWS.

This spring, the NWA Council was asked to allow time at its mid-year meeting in June to hear a progress report on the National Weather Service’s Operations and Workforce Analysis (OWA) project. The Council was glad to clear a part of the agenda to hear a briefing on this important effort to shape the National Weather Service for the challenges of the coming decades.

The NWA was also asked to put a presentation on OWA in the program of our Annual Meeting, which we accommodated. We believed it was natural for this topic to be discussed at our Annual Meeting because it is the place where operational meteorologists from all disciplines gather to learn from each other.

Behind the scenes, there was another event that I believe marks a milestone in the continued development of the National Weather Association. Dr. Kathryn Sullivan, Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and NOAA Administrator, presented the opening keynote address of the Annual Meeting on Monday morning. In addition, Dr. Sullivan asked to meet with the NWA Council formally, accompanied by the Director of the National Weather Service (and NWA Charter Member and past Councilor) Dr. Louis Uccellini. The purpose of Dr. Sullivan’s request was to discuss the OWA with the NWA leadership, and hear concerns and answer questions from Council members.

I believe this is a first for the NWA, and yet another sign that the operational meteorology community has a strong voice in this Association. We appreciated this opportunity to speak directly with Dr. Sullivan and Dr. Uccellini about the OWA, and how it will shape the National Weather Service’s future. All of us are partners with the NWS, and all of us have a keen interest in ensuring that it remains ready to meet the challenge of keeping the United States WeatherReady.

To commemorate the end of the “War to End All Wars,” Armistice Day was established on November 11, 1919, the first anniversary of World War I’s end. It became a national holiday in 1938 and officially became Veterans Day in 1954 when President Eisenhower changed the name of the observation from Armistice Day to Veterans Day.

As we celebrate Veterans Day and honor the veterans in our weather community, we remember the significant role weather has played in battles being won or lost. As the science of meteorology advanced into the twentieth century, significant war-time decisions were made using weather forecasts. The forecast for the D-day (June 6, 1944) invasion is probably the most famous. The operation was actually delayed a day from the original date of June 5 due to the weather forecast. Many variables had to come together for the largest sea-born invasion in modern history to occur: winds, cloud cover, full moon, and wave height were all considerations for a successful mission. The Allied meteorologists used their local knowledge of English Channel weather and a vast array of weather observations for their forecasts. Their recommendation to General Eisenhower was to delay launch one day to June 6 to avoid inbound weather. He agreed.

The German weather group predicted the weather to remain cloudy, rainy, and windy for most of the month of June. They felt secure that the Allies would not attack due to this weather forecast, so much so that one of their higher ranking commanders left France to go home and bring gifts of Parisian shoes to his wife. This invasion may not have turned out the way it did had weather forecasting not played a part.

Fast forward 72 years to present day where the meteorological science, tools, and knowledge have expanded greatly. We are anxiously awaiting the addition of the new GOES-R data to our repertoire of meteorological tools that will help enhance forecast accuracy for civilian as well as military operations.

The partnership between the military and the weather communities will always be an important one. To all of those who are serving, or who have served, in our great military, thank you.
GOES-R Launched November 19

The Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite-R (GOES-R), one of the nation’s next generation of geostationary weather satellites, launched from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida on November 19. The data from this satellite will improve the observation of weather phenomena that directly affect public safety, protection of property, and our nation’s economic health and prosperity.

Some of the benefits we expect from this new data set include:
- Improved hurricane track and intensity forecasts
- Increased thunderstorm and tornado warning lead times
- Earlier warning of ground lightning strike hazards
- Better detection of heavy rainfall and flash flood risks
- Improved flight route planning
- Improved air quality warnings and alerts
- Improved solar flare warnings for communications and navigation disruptions
- Better monitoring of space weather to improve geomagnetic storm forecasting

For more information on the GOES-R program and all its benefits to operational weather forecasting, go to the GOES-R website. If you want to learn more about the specifics of the Atlas 5 rocket check out Spaceflight Now.

Click here for photos and videos from the day’s launch.

Evolution of the National Weather Service
With a growing population at risk, an economy that is increasingly vulnerable to weather, an aging infrastructure and a changing climate, the National Weather Service is taking steps to evolve into an even more effective agency.

Extreme Levels of Smog in India’s Capital Prompts School Closures
Extreme levels of smog in India’s capital prompted New Delhi’s chief minister to close all schools for three days.

Giant Ice Balls Form on Beach in Siberia
Residents of a remote seaside area in northwest Siberia were greeted in late October with a beautiful and surprising natural phenomena: giant ice balls.

U.S. Had its Third Warmest October and Second Warmest Year to Date
The contiguous U.S. October average temperature was 57.7°F, 3.6°F above the 20th century average, making it the third warmest October in the 122-year period of record and the warmest since 1963.

Watch the Grim, Ongoing Loss of the Arctic’s Historical Ice
The Arctic’s sea ice has been diminishing so much there’s a good likelihood in future summers the region will be completely liquid, allowing the ocean to absorb more sunlight and accelerate global warming.

Southeast Wildfires
Wildfires spread across Southeast U.S. where severe to exceptional drought conditions prevail.
Did you miss any Webinar Wednesdays? Or want to watch them again?

- Krissy Hurley presented the October webinar titled “Degenderizing IDSS: Unique Challenges from the NWS Female Meteorologist Perspective.”
- Trevor Boucher, David Droby, Will Minkoff and Andrew Leeper presented November’s webinar, titled “The Virtual Operations Support Concept: Advanced Social Media Strategy in the Weather Community.”

Voting for NWA officers closes 12/31

NEW NWA MEMBERS
Please welcome these members who joined the NWA in September and October 2016!

Regular Members:
Jared Allen
Haley Clawson
Eddie Dixon
Amos Dodson
Ben Dorenbach
Anne Elise Parks
Anthony Guiffride
David Harvey
Dr. Bernard Loewenthal, Jr.
Kris Mattarochia
Patrick Obrien
Elisa Raffa
Emily Roehler
Kathleen Schlachter
George Schlager
Peter Speicher
Deitra Tate
William Strange

Student Members:
Lauren Arvai
Matthew Beckwith

Joseph Curtis
Adrianna Davies
Jessica Dobson
Julian Gordon
Austin Guarniere
Timothy Gunke
Olivia Jancse
Steven Jester
Nicholas Johnson
Evan Jones
Kalitta Kauffman
Elizabeth Kowalczyk
Melanie Layden
Michael Marston
Nicholas Morgan
Jordan Morley
Mackenzie Nuthals
Jamin Rader
Shannon Satterlee
Jeremy Shermak
Chanelle Stigger
Matthew Thigpen
Tevin Wooten

Links to these and all previous webinars are on the NWA website through the member portal.

The next webinar will be presented by the NWA Societal Impacts of Weather and Climate Committee on December 14, where they will discuss what “societal impacts” means to different sector perspectives—private, public, social science, student, professional, etc. The time and platform for this webinar will be announced soon. Watch NWA social media and emails for more information.

NWA Sponsored Meetings, Conferences & Special Events
(Click titles for more information)

March 10-12, 2017: 42nd Northeastern Storm Conference
Saratoga Springs, New York; sponsored by Lyndon State AMS and the NWA

September 16-21, 2017: NWA 42nd Annual Meeting
In Los Angeles/Garden Grove, California

Other Meetings, Conferences & Special Events in 2017

January 22-26: AMS 97th Annual Meeting
In Seattle, Washington

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/.

Members receive the Apex award-winning Newsletter online and access to an online portal which includes the Journal of Operational Meteorology as part of their regular, student or corporate membership privileges.

Address, phone number, email and affiliation changes can now be made online: member.nwas.org.

NWA Webinar Wednesdays

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