

NWA Remote Sensing Committee Meeting Summary

Wednesday November 30, 130 – 230 pm Eastern

Telecon

Meeting Participants: Dennis Buecheler, Stacy Bunin, Ken Carey, Rob Cifelli, Gary Ellrod, Ralph Ferraro, Tom Lee, Les Lemon, Jay Martinelli, Craig Nelson, Peter Roohr, Michael Stanga

1. Welcome and opening remarks (Ferraro)

This is our fifth meeting of 2010; several of us met in person in Tucson at the NWA Annual Meeting in October. There are four members on the committee that are rotating off (Pam Heinselman; Jay Martinelli; Craig Nelson; Jeff Underwood) and four new members starting three year terms (Rob Cifelli; Sheldon Kusselson; Les Lemon and Peter Roohr). Ralph thanked those ending terms (they were mailed NWA certificates of appreciation) and the new members briefly described themselves and the area of remote sensing focus.

The meeting focused on reviewing the goals for 2011 and other activities; they are summarized below under their respective goals.

2. Review of 2010/2011 Goals, Status, and Actions

We reviewed the committee goals and made a few modifications for 2011. These are captured below.

- **Goal 1**: *Raise awareness of the value of remote sensing capabilities, to include use of radar, profiler, lightning, satellite and GPS Meteorology (GPS-Met) data network sensors.*
 - **Joint NWA Annual Meeting/GOES-R User's Conference**: Ken reported that the partnership on this meeting is pretty well set (the face to face meetings in Tucson really helped!) and that regular planning discussions will get underway in early 2011. Jim Gurka and Wayne MacKenzie remain our focal point on this while Ken Carey represents both the NWA (PD Committee) and GUC.
 - **Possible contribution to Broadcasters Workshop in 2011**: Do we want to organize something new? Ralph mentioned that the 2010 Dual Pol. Radar workshop (presented by Paul Schlatter, WDTB) received kudo's and might be ripe for a "redo" in Birmingham (due to different focus group of participants). We will revisit this in earnest at the first telcon in 2011.
 - **Broadcasters Certification/Support to Broadcasting Committee**: We have offered our services to Nick Walker, new chair of the broadcasting committee, to help them with their "web portal" that is being developed to support broadcasters preparing to take their NWA Seal (re)certification. Broadcasters are apparently very weak in the remote sensing area.

Action: Gurka, MacKenzie and Carey (PD) to keep RS committee informed and to begin participation in planning discussions in 2011.

Action: Les and Brian to be our leads to interact with the Broadcasting Committee; Ralph will make initial contact with Nick Walker.

- **Goal 2:** Publish regular articles on remote sensing training and education topics in the NWA newsletter, on the NWA web site and in NWA journals, as appropriate. Have at least one joint article with another committee.
 - Three articles are complete and awaiting publication; a fourth, lead by the PD committee has been recently submitted.
 - We talked quite a bit about some new topics and have several new ideas in the queue. Looks like there will be a lot of writing going on as we welcome in 2011!

Bunting, Ferraro, Carey, Gerth	Feb-10	METSAT Award Promotion	Joint with PD Committee
Gurka	Apr-10	Summary of the GOES-R Workshop	
Schott, Bunin, Yoe, etc.	Jun-10	NPP and Data Services	
Jones and Ambrose		Remotes Sensing/Decision Support	Ready for publication
Stanga		internet based GIS remote sensing through integration with the GRLevel3 Program and real time forecasting	Ready for publication
Martinelli		PLOWS	Ready for publication
Kusselson		Satellite Perspective - 2010 Tennessee Floods	Joint with PD Committee
Buechler	Jan	Real-time lightning - results of 2009 workshop and/or December GOES-R GLM workshop	Joint with Winnie Lambert/Pubs Committee
Gurka and Ferraro?	Jan?	Satellite Status?	Just a table with status and launch schedules?
Cifelli	Feb	Hydrometeorological Test Bed	w/Tim Schneider
Motta and Ferraro	Feb	NCDC and Remote Sensing (including SDS program)	Ralph to follow up with Bates/Privette
Motta/Ellrod	Mar	Remote Sensing uses in Aviation	Joint with Aviation Committee/Matt Lorentson
Bunin	June	New operational products at NESDIS	Held up due to NESDIS "freeze"
Roohr	Aug	NWS' Fire Weather Program	
Lemon	TBD	HWT Program - An overview	
Lemon	TBD	Multiple radar integration and applications	
Lemon	TBD	CASA radars	
Ellrod/Holle	TBD	ULF Lightning Network	Could be a NWA Digest or EJOM submissions
Ardanuy	TBD	NEXTGEN	Joint with AMS Sat Met; possibly Aviation?
Ferraro	TBD	Update on MW Sensors at NOAA (including GPM)	

	Published
	Submitted
	Planned

Action: Next draft articles to be developed by Buechler, Ferraro/Gurka in the January time frame; Cifelli, Motta/Ferraro in February (working with NCDC).

- **Goal 3:** Promote and solicit applications for the NWA Meteorological Satellite Applications Award Grant (for undergraduate students). Be more proactive in our promotion of this award and get at least three applicants in 2010.
 - Ralph mentioned the continued disappointment with the number of submissions to this award. We just have to be more proactive, with direct contact to NWA members who are faculty at NWA university members. Jay had an excellent idea of "advertising" on the NWA facebook page, which has over 700 members and likely those from the undergraduate programs.

Action: Ralph to take the lead on this will seek others help as needed.

- **Goal 4:** *Participate and support scientific and technical exchanges at conferences/workshops focused on remote sensing.*
 - Michael described his role in organizing the 2011 Minnesota Storm Chasers Conference (Feb 26); he has worked with NWA leadership to have NWA be one of the sponsors – great job Michael!

Action: Michael to work with NWA HQ to obtain materials needed for NWA “sponsorship” at the workshop. Ralph will work up METSAT flyers.

- **Goal 5:** *Support the NWA awards process by developing and submitting at least one NWA annual award nomination package*
 - One of our awards was successful last year!
 - We need to be looking ahead for 2011 and work with Fred Glass, new NWA Awards Committee lead, to inquire about the status of existing nominations (they remain in the queue for three years).

Action: Everyone should start thinking about this and we will revisit this with our first telcon in 2011.

- **Goal 6:** *Continue to keep committee web page up to date with relevant information for NWA membership*
 - Gary continue to keep our page as a “model” for NWA
 - Ken discussed how the PD Committee is developing a “one stop” shopping concept for training resources for NWA. They want to explore what is already in place and thus, have requested a “liaison” from each committee. Gary Elrod is the logical person for this!

Action: Gary to serve as our focal point with the PD committee on this activity.

- **Goal 7:** *Develop possible partnership and leverage relationships with like-minded committees and boards such as the AMS Satellite Meteorology committee and international partners like EUMETSAT and Asia.*
 - **Potential for joint activities with Asian remote sensing community:** Les mentioned that there are mature remote sensing activities between NOAA and CMA; he visits there annually. Ralph noted that something similar exists with NESDIS visits to China. So perhaps we can get someone from CMA to present at the next NWA? Ken also mentioned that the AMS Satellite Conference (New Orleans, Jan 2012) is planning on doing something jointly with the Asian remotes sensing sector, so there is potential for NWA to “join in on the fun”.

Action: Ralph and Les to follow up with CMA contacts for their possible participation at the 2011 Birmingham meeting; Ralph to talk with Ken more about the 2012 opportunity.

- **Goal 8:** *Develop advocacy letters, if needed, to ensure that the operational forecasting community has the needed remote sensing tools to monitor and predict life threatening weather events.*
 - Ralph mentioned our recent work this past summer regarding the FCC's potential use of frequencies that are used for satellite downlinks.

NEXT MEETING: February time frame.