

Chairman's Address
National Conference on Weights and Measures
Tulsa, Oklahoma
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It is a great honor and pleasure to be standing here as your new National Conference on Weights and Measures Chairman. Thank you for entrusting me to be in this position.

I want to thank those who have served on any committees, subcommittees, sectors, task groups or in any other capacity for your service to this conference. I want to thank the Board of Directors for all they do. Dedication, time and hard work are involved in each meeting.

I want to thank you for your participation and activities within your own regions. Thank you for participating in this conference.

I want to thank the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food, Commissioner LuAnn Adams, Scott Ericson, and Travis Waller for their progressive attitude for Weights and Measures and allowing and encouraging me to participate in this great organization. And thank you to my staff at home for all they do.

Thank you to my wife Cindy and my family for their support in my duties and responsibilities that come with this position.

Thank you to the previous chairmen and those who have offered their help and advice. Jimmie Cassidy, it has been a pleasure to serve with you this past year as the Chair-Elect.

Thanks to the NCWM staff for making this conference a great success. Thanks to the Associate Membership. Thank you to NIST for all of their technical expertise.

As I traveled this past year as Chair-Elect to the regions I found dedicated, motivated, and a hardworking people with a common goal. I met many who have a great passion for the weights and measures profession. Each regional conference was unique. Each one did a fantastic job. Each one had the same goal in mind. "That equity may prevail." I met many individuals that are new to the Weights and Measures profession. I hope you will allow yourself to get involved. Ask to get involved. Let us know how we can help you.

At each region I asked the following question. When you were in grade school how many of you dreamed about working in a weights and measures related profession? Very few hands

would go up. For a group of people who had very little aspirations to work in a Weights and Measures field you sure have become experts in the Weights and Measures profession.

Henry Ford once said "Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success." "If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself."

I believe we are moving forward together. We are working together to achieve success.

The NCWM has 2,320 members. I urge each of you to be involved. Volunteer and participate. Attend regional meetings. When possible, be on a committee, workgroup, subcommittee, task group. Etc. Stay involved with the national conference on weights and measures.

I appreciate and thank Carl Cotton, Lance Robertson, and Luciano Burtini of Measurement Canada for being here and offering their expertise. It was a great pleasure to meet Bala Panit of Nigeria and Ronny Cornelis and Robert Peterson of Curacao (KER-A SOW) We welcome you and hope you will continue to participate in our Conference.

A goal of mine is to continue to outreach to jurisdictions who may not be participating frequently in our organization. A task group has been formed to find ways to outreach to the State jurisdictions and those jurisdictions that are in leadership transition. It's important to have all jurisdictions be a part of our conference. The NCWM can gain so much from having them involved. Likewise, each jurisdiction can gain so much from being involved in the NCWM.

Just a couple of days ago I heard from David Palacios Enforcement and Compliance for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Just over 1½ years ago I had a great opportunity to travel to the Northern Mariana Islands to teach as an instructor the NIST Handbook 133 course to them and 6 other jurisdictions in the Micronesia area. David thanked me and our organization for helping with their Weights and Measures Program.

Have you ever thought about the impact this body has on measurements in the United States? Have you ever thought of the impact your participation in the conference has on:

- Yourself
- Your industry
- Your jurisdiction
- Your administration
- Your region
- The National Conference on Weights and Measures

The answers to these questions are huge!!! Your participation has a huge impact. It is so important that we do our jobs the right way. It is so important we follow a traceable, recognized system. **Our nation's citizens and businesses depend on us.**

A focus of Weights and Measures is to assure consumers get what they paid for and that businesses get paid fairly for the goods and services they sell. Foster fair competition. Have a fair marketplace for all parties.

The theme I have selected for this year is ***“Valued Traditions & New Innovations – Confidence in Every Transaction”***.

Inspectors of Weights and Measures have been doing the same job for many, many years. Verifying and testing.

Just as in times of old, measurements are important. In the beginning, earlier measurements were taken in different ways.

A handful, a scoop, a pinch, or a full stretch of the arms were used.

Standards were needed. And Standardization was achieved.

We use measurement standards to make sure scales, gas pumps, meters, packages and other devices are fair.

As time marches on, the way we purchase items, and the way we measure continues to advance. We improve measurement standards every year as we deliberate at this conference.

We live in an ever changing world.

- New technology
- New products
- New ways to weigh and measure commodities

We have heard the definition of the Kilogram may soon change.

Sometimes our process, our inspection procedures must change to meet new technologies, new products, and new ways of doing business. Exciting times, new challenges, new opportunities are before us.

Integrity of measurements continues to be important.

We have to work together to keep up with the times.

We have to know how handle all of these situations. Traceability of measurements is going to continue to be important.

Today, businesses and consumers trust measurements in the market place are both correct and accurate.

We must continue to be proactive. The future is bright with new technology, Weights and Measures will need to be part of this future.

We must remember valued traditions are important and keep up with technology, new innovations, and maintain confidence in the marketplace.

We need to be innovative. We live in an ever-changing world where technology is changing quickly. It is so important for our organization to be at the forefront. Working to come up with better solutions to the way we do things.

Get involved and help us all be successful.

As Steve Jobs once said, *Great things in business are never done by one person. They're done by a team of people.*

We have a great team of people in our membership at the NCWM. I invite you to be part of our team. Remember, our common goal. "That equity may prevail."

Thank you for being part of this great conference. I look forward to working with you as we progress into the future. I look forward to being your partner. Our nation's citizens and businesses depend on us.

I want to take this opportunity to announce and make the following appointments:

Specifications and Tolerances Committee

Loren Minnich, Kansas (1 year term)

Jason Glass, Kentucky (5 year term)

Laws and Regulations Committee

Doug Rathbun, Illinois (5 year term)

Associate Member - Prentiss Searles - American Petroleum Institute (5 year term)

Professional Development Committee

Scott Ferguson, Michigan (5 year term)

James Pettinato – FMC Technologies Measurement Solutions, Inc. (5 years)

Nominating Committee (1 year term)

Committee Chair – Jimmy Cassidy

Northeastern Representative – Kenneth Ramsburg, Maryland

Central Representative – Ron Hayes, Missouri

Southern Representative – Stephen Benjamin, North Carolina

Western Representative – Kristin Macey, California

Active Member – Mark Coyne, Town of Sharon Massachusetts

Active Member – Tim Lloyd, Montana

Parliamentarian

Louis Straub – Fairbanks Scale, Inc. (1 year term)

Credentials Committee

Stuart Strnad – Texas (3 year term)

Presiding Officers

Central – Doug Musick, Kansas

Northeastern - Jane Zulkiewicz, Town of Barnstable, Massachusetts

Southern – Tim Chesser, Arkansas

Western - Kevin Schnepf, California

Chaplain

Constantine Costoradis – Flint Hills Resources (1 year term)

Sergeant of Arms

Jacques Daniel – WI

Greg Loreck- WI

Thanks again to all the committees for their work. I am proud of their willingness to serve. I also want to thank the new appointees for serving the Conference. Again, it is a privilege and an honor to serve and work with you as your NCWM Chairman.

Thank you!

Brett Gurney, NCWM Chairman