Mother Nature has shown her fickle side when it comes to ASWB annual meetings. In the last four years ASWB has dealt with significant weather or seismologic events. First there was the 5.6 earthquake in Oklahoma in 2011; then Super Storm Sandy caused all sorts of trouble in 2012 for attendees trying to get to Illinois. This year it was an arctic blast, called the Omega block, that caused delays for attendees traveling through Denver, Salt Lake City, and other northern airline hubs—or fog, for those traveling through San Francisco. Having been through three such events, ASWB is hoping for clear skies in 2015 and beyond.

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Social Work: The next generation

JENNIFER GRAY of South Dakota, a first-time attendee at the 2014 Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly, brought her daughter, JOCELYN, with her. JOCELYN, a 17-year-old high school student, is interested in pursuing social work as a career.

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New granddaughter for Idaho chair ELEANOR PEPI DOWNEY, chair of the Idaho Board of Social Work Examiners, had a previous engagement of a high priority: She was in Colorado with her daughter and new granddaughter. Congratulations, ELEANOR!

**

Longest journey

GUADENCIA PALOMO-BURNS of Guam traveled the farthest to come to the Annual Meeting in Idaho, although due to the time differences she arrived in Idaho on the same day she left Guam!

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Ah, the early days

BRAHNA WILCZYNSKI of New Mexico, a former ASWB president and delegate for the New Mexico Board of Social Work Examiners, shared a story about the early days of ASWB’s history: “When we started out (with no money), Frances Goddard, Gwynne Goldberg, and I bunked out together – two twin beds, a roll-away, and one bathroom. (I got the roll-away). When we checked into the hotel, they thought we were a law firm: Goddard, Goldberg, and Wilczynski. It sounded impressive. But thank goodness we now have a real law firm and a real lawyer, Dale Atkinson.”

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A family affair...ROBERT PAYNE of Idaho brought his daughter, NATALIE, to ASWB’s 35th anniversary celebration dinner.

**

Swapping sand for snow

WINIFRED ANTHONY-TODMAN and CAROL

**
BATTUELLO of Virgin Islands were happy to be at the Annual Meeting despite the weather and delays in getting to Idaho.

**

Canadian contingent

ASWB Canadian members gathered for a photo op: from left: ANNIE RICKETT (NB), BARB TEMMERMAN (MB), LISA CROCKWELL (NL), EDWINA MCGRODDY (ON), MONA ROMAINE ELLIOTT (NL), and BEATRICE TRAUB-WERNER (ON).

**

Prize winner!

Congratulations to SUSAN MEYERLE of Nebraska! She won the prize for being first to register for the meeting.

**

Charming and helpful

SPENCER BLALOCK (MS) and STEVEN PHARRIS (TN) may not realize they were photobombed by MARY JO MONAHAN.

**

Ms. Tambourine

That’s KIM FRAKES (NV), right, with tambourine in hand. The band nicknamed her “Miss Tambourine” for her skill and enthusiasm.

**

MARY MACOMBER (FL), center, greeted MAUREEN EGAN (RI) during the 35th anniversary celebration. MARY was traveling with her husband, DONALD.

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MARGARET HAZLETTE, executive director of the Kentucky Board of Social Work, retired at the end of November. With ASWB, MARGARET served on the Program and Education Committee in 2011 and 2012 and was a panelist during the 2014 Spring Education Meeting.

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ASWB welcomes new jurisdictional staff and board members

SHEILA MCKINNON-OKE, Nova Scotia

FLORENCE C. SABLON, Northern Mariana Islands

MARLENE CARBULLIDO, Guam

KIM-BOI SHADDUCK, Washington

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BOB SHEPHERD, executive director of Nova Scotia Association of Social Workers, has announced plans to retire when his successor takes over in January 2015. BOB writes: “I have had a considerable social work career, starting in Davenport, Iowa, in 1963 and taking me to several places in the U.S., to West Africa, and to a number of places in Canada. I’m looking forward to retirement with some anxiety, but mostly with excitement.”

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MARIAMA GONDO, program manager for the Washington Mental Health Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Social Workers Advisory Committee, announced her plans to relocate at the end of the year to be closer to family.

**
Congratulations to MICHAEL DALEY, who recently began a one-year term as chair of the Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners. He was appointed to the board in 2012 to serve a three-year term.

**

Exam Committee member KAREN TAMMINGA of Oregon took STEPHANIE WASHINGTON of Texas, another member of the committee, geocaching after the October Exam Committee meeting in Herndon, Virginia. Seems they both had a little time before their planes were scheduled for departure. They hiked about a mile to a rural park where two geocaches were hidden and found both, although KAREN writes: “it required a little ‘off-roading.’ STEPHANIE was a trooper but said I took her out ‘into the wild, wild wilderness,’ where apparently social workers from Houston don’t go!”

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Success! Karen Tamminga (OR) and Stephanie Washington (TX) show off one of the geocaches they found at a park in Northern Virginia.