



Education for Pupils and People: The “Weather Museum” in Lindenberg

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The small village Lindenberg in the Mark Brandenburg, about 65 km South-East of Berlin has a more than 100 years tradition in meteorological measurements and research. In 1905, Richard Aßmann (inventor of the Aßmann psychrometer and co-discoverer of the stratosphere) has founded in Lindenberg an observatory for operational measurements in the free atmosphere. Aerological soundings have been the focus of the observatory's activities over more than one century, starting with tethered balloons and kites, using radiosondes and rockets and employing state-of-the-art ground based remote sensing systems, such as wind profiler radar, microwave radiometer profilers and lidars, today. The observatory is presently part of the research and development business section of the German Meteorological Service, DWD.

In order to preserve part of the history and tradition and to transfer meteorological knowledge to the public, an association has been founded in Lindenberg in 2006 to establish a museum for meteorology as a place for information and education on atmospheric sciences in the past and present.

In the modern society, a museum has been generally accepted as a place for educational activities, this also holds for the natural sciences. Thereby, the focus is often set on the young generation (so-called out-of-school activities). However, weather and climate in general and hazardous weather and climate change in particular are an issue of interest for all generations. The “Weather Museum” in Lindenberg has therefore been designed as a place for education for the young and for the elder people - explaining how weather and climate form, showing historical instruments, and telling stories about scientists. It uses two monuments linked to the history of the Lindenberg observatory – a wooden balloon barn and a winch house to rotate. Most recently, a visitor's centre has been built with financial support from the European Union and from the Land Brandenburg.

The Lindenberg Weather Museum closely co-operates with the Richard-Aßmann-Observatory of DWD, the observatory provided several historical instruments for the museum's collection and the museum's visitors can observe a radiosonde launch at the observatory within a guided museum tour. The museum also organizes educational and public events such as project days for school children or film presentations followed by an open discussion with invited experts.

The presentation will give an impression on the museum's exhibition and activities. It will invite the conference participants to consider a visit to Lindenberg when being in the region.