

President's Message

Greetings Members!

As the first female President of the Weather Modification Association (WMA), it has been my absolute honor to serve the association in this very important capacity. I joined the WMA in 2005, my second year as a cloud seeding meteorologist and it did not take long to realize that weather modification was something that I would be involved in for the rest of my life. The need for water will always be constant and there will always be fluctuations in climate that lead people to need more water. This need is something that, as a community, we give back to the public. We are constantly striving to develop new methodologies and techniques to maximize the benefits obtained from precipitation enhancement, snow pack augmentation and hail suppression. I truly believe that in order to accomplish this, the scientific and operational community must work together.

My term was a busy one, as there were a number of issues that came across my desk. A new era in the Journal of Weather Modification began when the membership voted, almost unanimously, to terminate the print version of the Journal and go completely online. This will help in the distribution of the journal as well as taking some of the cost away from the WMA. I want to thank David Delene and Andy Detwiler for undertaking this enormous task.

One of my primary roles during my presidency was to increase membership, particularly those of students. Past-President Darin Langerud paved the way for this, as suggesting student memberships become free of charge. This allowed the association to become an attractive organization for students to be a part of. As a result, through numerous events, the association has seen an increase in student members. I encourage members to become involved in continuing to increase student membership, thus increasing exposure of our field to the next generation of meteorologists and researchers.

Another goal of mine was to increase the membership of the international community. This issue is still a work in progress, but with the help of some of our more prominent international members, I hope the tide will turn. Weather Modification **IS** an international activity and is ongoing across the globe in terms of operations projects and research. My hope, is that the international weather modification community is as equally as curious about the WMA as we are about them!

Lastly, I would like to give special thanks to some of those behind the scenes workers who make the WMA every so viable. Erin Fischer and Kelli Schroeder have done enormous amounts of work to redesign and update the WMA website. In this age, with information so readily available via the internet, the WMA website is a very important piece of our industry staying in the forefront of the atmospheric science field.

With that, I say, thank you to all of those whom I have had the pleasure of working alongside in my past year as president and hope to continue my involvement in the WMA for years to come.

Stephanie Beall
WMA President, 2017-18