

## Editor's Message

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Volume 51 has been slow coming together. While having the Journal published online immediately is a benefit to the author and the science community, it comes with its challenges. Without a hard publication deadline, the push to get things done has been time consuming and difficult to complete. Items like the Editor's Message, President's Message and In Memoriam needing frequent reminders.

Like many of you, my task list seems to be getting long each year. During the fall Weather Modification Association conference call, I announced a plan to retire my duties as Editor. We are, therefore, looking for someone to take over and complete the transition to Editor in 2020. I remain committed to helping the new Editor become familiar with the online system, which may take time to get use to, and the tasks associated with the position. I encourage you to consider a position within the Association.

Currently papers are released online and open to the general public, as soon as the layout assistant completes them. This immediate access hopefully increases the future number of papers published in the Journal and will reverse the decline in the number of articles. However, only three submissions were received for publication in Volume 51. Please consider submitting a paper to the Journal in 2020.

Several Journals are operated by for-profit companies that have very high (>30 %) revenue margins (Van Noorden 2013). While WMA conference attendees will see your material during a presentation and may look it up on the WMA website, publishing provides long-term access. Topics in the weather modification industry often become new again and documenting this information is of great benefit to new generations. Hence, it is critical to publish work related to our specialized industry.

The Open Journal System software, hosted by [openjournalsystems.com](http://openjournalsystems.com), continues to handle paper submissions and reviews. Browsing to [JournalofWeatherModification.org](http://JournalofWeatherModification.org) will bring you to the site and allow you to view the latest volume, search the article archive, and submit a new article. All articles, including articles for the Message section (i.e. President's Message and In Memoriam articles), should be submitted using the online system. If you have problems using the site, please contact the Journal team ([jwm@atmos.und.edu](mailto:jwm@atmos.und.edu)). The Technical Notes and Correspondence section of the Journal is for papers that do not contain content that can be peer-reviewed, such as reports summarizing operational programs, opinion papers on best-practices, and information about weather modification hardware and software. The Science section is for content that can be peer-reviewed.

Dr. David J. Delene  
WMA Editor, 2011-19

### REFERENCES:

Van Noorden, R., 2013: Open access: The true cost of science publishing. *Nature*, **495**, 426-426.