

Editor's Message

While the Journal has not received many papers this year, it has been busy for me. The lack of submissions was apparent early on and I contacted several people to solicit articles but without much success. I would encourage everyone to submit a paper to the Journal. Submissions are welcome anytime and papers will be published online as quickly as possible. There are two sections of the Journal to choose from when submitting a paper; the Scientific Papers section and the Technical Notes and Correspondence section. Papers submitted to the Scientific Papers section are peer-reviewed and need to present new scientific results. Papers in the Technical Notes and Correspondence section are not peer-reviewed and are intended for preliminary results, descriptions of operational programs or descriptions of new techniques.

I would like to welcome Daryl O'Dowd and Dan Breed to the Editorial Board. One issue the Editorial Board is discussing is defining a process to follow concerning comments on papers. Handling comments on published papers has been time consuming and the Journal has no clearly defined procedure in place. The Editorial Board is also looking at numerous issues related to online publishing of the Journal. I would encourage all Weather Modification Association members to talk with the Editorial Board about any issues of concern.

All of the Journal's Scientific Papers will be online before the end of the year. The Journal began publication of Scientific Papers in 1979. Scanned copies of the Journal from 1969-1978 are being made available on the Weather Modification Association's web site. The Journal's site¹ enables the searching of the title, authors and abstracts of each online paper. We have also tried to include the study's region and historical coverage when appropriate for the paper. I encourage you to check the accuracy of the online material and let us know of any mistakes you find.

Each day there seems to be a new journal starting. With all the publishing options available and the pressure to publish quickly, flawed science can get published in peer-reviewed journals². Reviewers of papers typically take a hard look at the paper; however, invalid results can still get published³. I would like to thank all the Journal's reviewers for their hard work and encourage people to read articles with a skeptical view. If you have issues with a study, I would suggest doing your own research and publishing a paper on the results. This is how to develop a deeper individual understanding and to make true progress in our field.

Dr. David J. Delene
Journal of Weather Modification Editor, 2011-2014

References:

¹<http://www.weathermodification.org/publications/>

²Who's Afraid of Peer Review?, Science, Vol 342, 4 October 2013

³Retraction: Bidirectional developmental potential in reprogrammed cells with acquired pluripotency, Nature, 511, 112, DOI: 10.1038/nature13599, <http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v511/n7507/full/nature13599.html>