

## President's Message

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Greetings and welcome to the 2019 Journal of Weather Modification. I want to thank the WMA Editorial Board for leading the transition of the journal from a printed publication to a completely online journal. I especially would like to thank David Delene for his eight years of service as the Editor of the Journal and to Erin Fischer for leading the publications efforts. I also wanted to thank Stephanie Beall, the Past-President, for her continued leadership and input during my time as President.

It was another busy year for the Weather Modification Association. A successful WMA Annual Meeting organized by Frank McDonough, President-elect, and Laurie Capece, Executive Secretary capped my year as President. The annual meeting was held in Chandler, Arizona on the 24-26 April 2019. There were a total of 26 presentations in the Technical Session. Presentations covered a variety of topics including international programs; microphysical observations and modeling; aerosols and seeding effects and operational updates; winter operations and history; operational decision making tools; electrically charged droplets; and weather modifications economics, impacts and new technology. In my view, the highlight of the technical session was the presentation by Mike Dixon entitled, "TITAN and LROSE – Keeping the Software Alive, Available and Supported". I want to thank Mike for his inspirational overview of the radar software that he has developed and supported for the past few decades. TITAN and LROSE have been tools that significantly advanced our ability to monitor and evaluate cloud seeding operations in the global weather modification community.

Weather modification continues to face challenges with limited funding for research and the need for optimizing cloud seeding operations with the ever-increasing societal demand for water resources. However, there has been some positive highlights in the past few years with development of new technology (e.g., polarimetric radar) and research demonstrating the viability of cloud seeding in wintertime, orographic precipitation. I believe the scientific and operational weather modification community along with stakeholders must continue to work together to advance the knowledge in the field.

Lastly, I want to say thank you to all the members of the Weather Modification Association. I have had the pleasure of working with some of our colleagues for the past 30 years. I am looking forward to my continued involvement in the WMA for years to come.

Paul Kucera  
WMA President, 2019-20