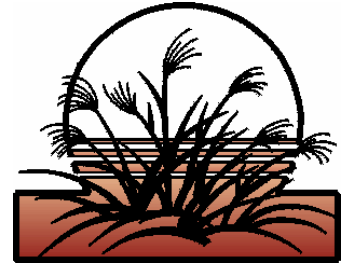




**NEWSLETTER  
TWIN CITIES CHAPTER  
AMERICAN METEOROLOGICAL  
SOCIETY  
December 2002 Vol. 24 No. 4**



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**The December meeting of the Twin Cities Chapter of the AMS will be at 7pm Thursday, December 12 at KARE 11. Specific directions to the meeting can be found on page 4. AMS chapter members, interested acquaintances and potential members are invited to attend.**

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**KARE11 Weather**

***Featured hosts at KARE11: Don Moldenhauer, Belinda Jensen***

***"SkyScan11 and SkyScan11 VIPIR Presentation and Tour of the KARE11 Weather Office"***

After a brief tour of the KARE11 studio and weather office by Belinda Jensen and Don Moldenhauer, Don will give a presentation of SkyScan11 and SkyScan11 VIPIR (Volumetric Imaging and Processing with Integrated Radar) using data from the Ladysmith Labor Day tornado. SkyScan11 and SkyScan11 VIPIR are state-of-the-art radar data processing systems first brought to Twin Cities' viewers by KARE11 News last summer. These systems take data from KARE11 Live Doppler11 radar and the National Weather Service's NEXRAD radars in Chanhassen, Sioux Falls, Mayville, ND and Duluth. SkyScan11 computers process the data and create easy-to-understand graphics for their viewers. Beyond showing where the rain is falling and how strong the winds are, SkyScan11 can show, at a glance, which storms are most likely to produce heavy rain, hail, high winds or tornadoes. In the winter, SkyScan calculates how much rain, sleet or snow has fallen; how hard it's snowing and which areas are getting rain or snow or a mix. SkyScan11 VIPIR is different from SkyScan11 in that it shows the radar returns in 3-D. SkyScan11 VIPIR is an added tool for meteorological analysis and displays rotation to viewers as intuitive rotating cylinders

Don Moldenhauer, a native of Fridley, MN, received a BS degree in Meteorology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1987. His meteorological career began shortly after graduation as a graphics artist and meteorologist for DTN Kavouras (Meteorlogix). His first on-air job was at KEYC-TV in Mankato from late 1987 until early 1988. He has held meteorologist positions at WEAU-TV in Eau Claire and WOWT-TV in Omaha. In 1996 he returned to the Twin Cities to work for EarthWatch Communications where he became Director of Meteorological Services. Since 1997 Don has been working at KARE11, doing morning weather and working as a meteorologist/weather producer. For the past 2 ½ years, he has held the position of Executive Producer-Weather, overseeing the weather product at KARE11.

Belinda Jensen is currently a weekend meteorologist, a co-host of "KARE11 News Saturday", and feature reporter for "Minnesota Bound." Belinda worked at the National Weather Service in Salt Lake City, Utah. She also worked as a weather producer and co-anchored a sunrise show for three years at the ABC affiliate in Salt Lake City. Belinda graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a BS in Meteorology.



## *Comments from our Chapter President Dean Braatz*

Those attending the NWA tour last month are indebted to Tom Fahey and Jeff Smith for a very interesting discussion and on-site viewing of the de-icing facility at MSP. One feels much safer flying out of MSP knowing the preparations taken by NWA when icing conditions are present. Improvements in equipment and application materials have lengthened effective lead-times prior to leaving the gate and take off. We also have something to remember as the van taking us back to building F ran out of gas. Thanks to cell phones, a call was placed to get another van to pick us up. Again, thanks to Tom and Jeff for the informative tour.

I hope to see many of you at the KARE11 meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup>. Don Moldenhauer has some interesting new weather features to demonstrate as well as we get to see the behind the scenes operation of a major market TV operation. It is also an opportunity for us to save a trip later to donate toys for the KARE11 toy drive. Drop by the local toy store and select a few toys for their annual toy drive and bring them along to the AMS meeting that evening. The weather department at KARE11 thanks you for your support of their station's annual toy drive.

Below are the monthly meeting dates for the local Twin Cities AMS Chapter's schedule during the Winter-Spring season of 2002-2003. We are still looking for a speaker at the picnic in May 2003. Facilities are limited at the park so someone who can speak with little auto/visual needs is needed. If you have a person in mind that will meet the bill, let the officers know so they can be contacted with ample lead-time.

- December 12, 2002 – Meeting at KARE11, Don Moldenhauer
- January 16, 2003 - Meeting at the "U", St. Paul, Mark Seely
- February 20, 2003 – Meeting at St. Thomas University, St. Paul, Bob Johnson
- March 20, 2003 - Meeting at the NWS, Chanhassen, Craig Edwards
- April 17, 2003 - Meeting at SCSU, St. Cloud, Greg Nastrom
- May 15, 2003 - Picnic in Chanhassen, Waiting on feedback for a speaker

Be sure to mark your calendars with these dates. The officers thank you for the input on speakers and ideas for meeting presentations. Thanks for all the good suggestions, which have turned into interesting topics.

A reminder that the 83<sup>rd</sup> AMS Annual Meeting will be held in Long Beach, CA from February 9-13, 2002. Pre-registration is due by December 16, 2002. Make your plans now.

The chapter has 42 paid members to date. If you have not paid your dues yet this season please do so immediately. The last three meetings were well attended with members and guests. Try to join us and keep our chapter active by attending future meetings. Do the chapter a favor and ask peers and friends to join you at our meetings. I now have a new email address: [dtbraatz1@msn.com](mailto:dtbraatz1@msn.com) that you can contact me. I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting with a bag of toys.



The officers for 2002-2003 are:

President – Dean Braatz

Sec-Treasurer – Joan Haley

Vice President – Doug Dokken

Newsletter – Kurt Scholz

## ***Member of the Month: Karl Spring***

Our featured member of the month is Karl Spring, Chief Meteorologist at UPN 29 News at 10. He is a member of the AMS and NWA, and has seals from both. He's a native of Hopkins, and currently lives in Minnetonka, with his wife Jeanne and their four children, who go to Glen Lake Elementary School. Karl and Jeanne have 2 boys and 2 girls, ages 6, 8, 10 and 12.

Karl is a graduate of Hopkins Eisenhower High School (class of '78), Augsburg College, Dunwoody Institute, and the Broadcast Meteorology program at Mississippi State University.

His hobbies include cheering all Minnesota sports, coaching youth baseball and hockey, playing in the over 30 men's hockey league in Minnetonka (where he leads his team in penalty minutes), giving his kids rides on his motorcycle, and seeing movies with his wife. Karl and his family attend Westwood Lutheran Church, in St. Louis Park.

Karl has always been active in teaching meteorology to kids in schools, and this year, will speak at more than 130 schools in, around and outside the Twin Cities area. He teaches weather, reads to kids, and lectures at career days at high schools. He also brings along a video camera, to put the kids on the TV weather, during "Karl's Kid Vid."

Since beginning his local TV news career in December of 1985, at KAAL-TV, in Austin, MN. Karl has worked at stations in Duluth, Sioux Falls (where Jeanne was the news anchor), Toledo, OH, Harrisburg, PA, Rock Island, IL, Washington, DC, Davenport, IA, Peoria and Rockford, IL, and finally, back home to Minneapolis in March of 2001.

After 15 years on the road, Karl and Jeanne are thrilled to be back home. Jeanne is from Walker, MN, where her parents ran Big Leech Resort, on Leech Lake, when she was a youngster. Karl looks forward to many years of weather forecasting back in his hometown.

### ***Editor's notes***



Please remember to bring along at least one gift (unwrapped) for the Toys-for-Tots program when you attend this most interesting meeting at KARE11. This program deserves our generous support.

Several chapter awards were recently announced by the AMS:

**Local Chapter of the Year** goes to the District of Columbia Chapter...“for being a role model in their community and initiation of outstanding partnerships between and among its members, the national AMS, local educators and community customers that reflect positively on our Society”.

**Student Local Chapter of the Year** goes to the Texas A&M University Student Local Chapter...“for enhancing their student member interaction with outstanding atmospheric science and community professionals, and positive impact on the local community by participating in Habitat for Humanity building projects, and beach and highway cleanup efforts that reflected positively on our Society”.

The following chapters were awarded **Chapter Honor Roll** status: Houston, Anchorage, West Central Florida, Kansas City, University of Utah, Lyndon State, Purdue University, and Iowa State University. By submitting consistent and timely minutes from their chapter meetings and activities, outstanding involvement in the annual AMS conference, and demonstrating tremendous commitment to both their chapter members and the community, these chapters set themselves apart and rose above the tough competition.

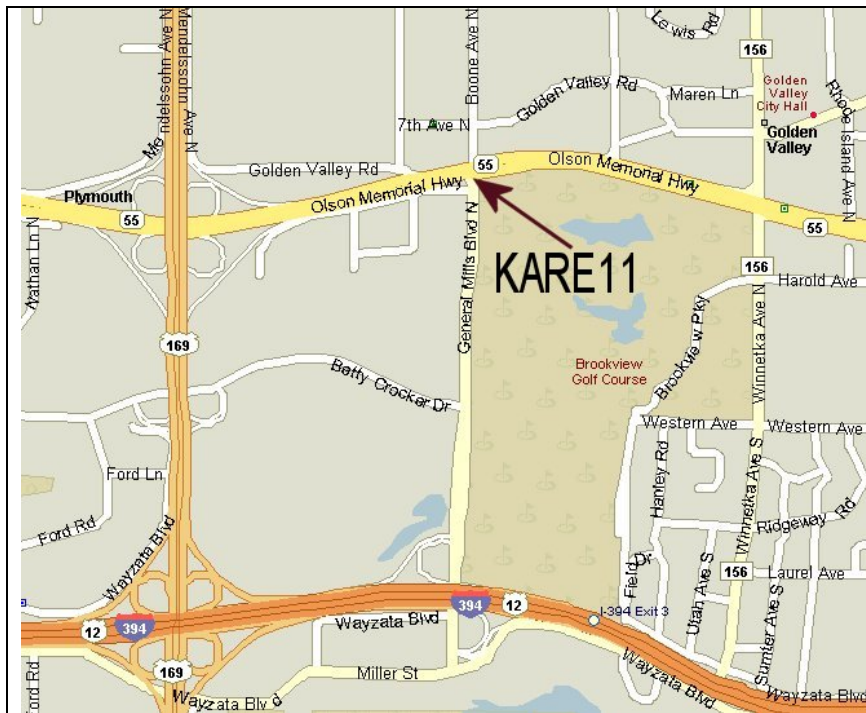
If you haven't already done so, please submit your annual dues to Secretary-treasurer Joan Haley at the December meeting or you can also mail them to Joan at her address on the last page.

### ***AMS on the WWW***

The address for the Twin Cities Chapter of the AMS is:  
[http://byte.stthomas.edu/www/math\\_http/weather/tcametsoc.html](http://byte.stthomas.edu/www/math_http/weather/tcametsoc.html). Please send any comments, suggestions, changes of address, misspellings, etc. to Kurt Scholz,  
[k9scholz@stthomas.edu](mailto:k9scholz@stthomas.edu).



**Reminder: The December meeting of the Twin Cities Chapter of the AMS will be at 7pm Thursday, December 12 at KARE 11.**



**Directions to KARE11:**

KARE11 is located at the intersection of Hwy. 55 and General Mills Blvd. It is at the first intersection east of Hwy. 169. Those coming here on I-394 can take the General Mills exit and head north to the station - about ¾ mile. Parking is in the large lot in the rear of the building. From there, walk up to the main entrance at the front of the building near the small driveway. Chapter members are free to call Don Moldenhauer at (763) 797-7320 for more detailed instructions.



**Historical Twin Cities Weather – by Thomas St. Martin**

Snowfall values recorded by Twin Cities’ observers are problematic estimates no doubt distorted by the effects of drifting and blowing. Minneapolis observer William Cheney recorded eight inches of snow on 7-8 January, 1873. Rev. Dr. A. B. Paterson, in contrast, recorded only two inches of snow on the same two days. St. Paul Signal Corps observers recorded 0.42 inches of melted precipitation from 7 through 9 January, a value which, given the temperatures which prevailed during the storm, suggests a snowfall of four to six inches.

The January 1873 blizzard was both preceded and followed by cold weather. St. Paul Signal Corps observers recorded subzero minima on the two days immediately prior to the storm and, although temperatures warmed into the 20’s F during the second week of January, no readings above 32 F occurred until 6 February. The last two weeks of January were especially cold with minima of -25 F, -26 F and -29 F recorded at the Signal Corps station on 17, 18 and 28 January, respectively. Paterson recorded 0700 hour temperatures of -27 F, -29 F and -28 F on the same dates: Cheney recorded -30 F, -33 F and -34 F on the same dates/times. Similarly, Ft. Snelling observers recorded minima of -30 F on 17 January, -31 F on 18 January and -33 F on 28 January. The average temperature for the entire month was about 6 F at Paterson’s station, about 5 F at the St. Paul Signal Corps station and about 4 F at the Ft. Snelling post hospital station.

Fortunately for Minnesota’s winter weary residents, the first part of February 1873 brought temperatures into the 40’s F. Any hopes of an early spring were ended, however, when yet another invasion of cold air brought readings in the 20’s F below zero during the last week of February and again during the first week of March. Near record March minima were recorded on the morning of 4 March: -22 F at Paterson’s station; -24 F at Ft. Snelling; -22 F at the St. Paul Signal Corps station and -23 F at Cheney’s Minneapolis station.

**Please fill out this form and mail it in with your annual Chapter dues. This information is used for Chapter purposes only, and only your name will be listed on the Chapter web site.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

If you prefer to be notified via e-mail when the newsletter is posted on our website, rather than having us mail you a paper copy of the newsletter, check here \_\_\_\_\_.

Suggestion for an AMS meeting topic \_\_\_\_\_

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Dues are \$12 per year for regular membership, \$6 per year for student membership.

Make checks payable to Twin Cities AMS, and mail to:

**Joan Haley  
6820 Redwing Lane  
Chanhassen, MN 55317**

Twin Cities Chapter AMS  
c/o Kurt Scholz  
3233 Snelling Ave. North  
Arden Hills MN 55112-3644

