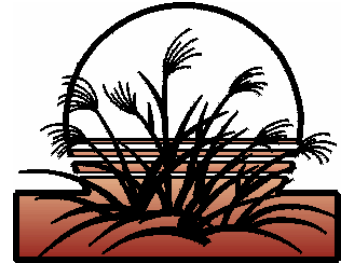




**NEWSLETTER
TWIN CITIES CHAPTER
AMERICAN METEOROLOGICAL
SOCIETY
November 2002 Vol. 24 No. 3**



The November meeting of the Twin Cities Chapter of the AMS will be at 7pm Thursday, November 21 at the Northwest Airlines Flight Services Bldg (Bldg F) on the airport grounds. Specific directions to the meeting can be found on page 3. AMS chapter members, interested acquaintances and potential members are invited to attend.



Featured host at NWA: Tom Fahey

"Tour of the de-icing facilities at NWA"

Tom Fahey, Manager of Meteorology at Northwest Airlines, will be the host of this most interesting tour of the NWA de-icing facilities. After a brief overview of the NWA Meteorology and Airline operations, we will board a bus around 7:30 from Bldg. F to the facility. The tour will take about 1 1/4 hours, including the bus rides. Afterwards, Tom will show us the Meteorology office in Bldg F. Jeff Smith from NWA will assist in the tour.

Since the meeting will last somewhat longer than usual, and will require some precision, please note the following schedule:

- 7:00-7:15** Chapter discussions
- 7:15-7:30** Tom Fahey - NWA Meteorology & Airline Winter Operations
- 7:30-8:45** Jeff Smith & Tom Fahey - Tour NWA Deicing Facility
 - 7:30-7:45** Loading on Bus & Q/A during Transit
 - 7:45-8:30** Tour
 - 8:30-8:45** Loading on Bus & Q/A during Transit
- 8:45-9:15** Return to Bldg F for snack & walk thru Meteorology office

Tom Fahey holds an MS degree in Meteorology from the University of Wisconsin. Since joining NWA in 1977, Tom has had four distinct areas of responsibility, all within the area of operations: Producing weather products (1977-1990); Developing forecast procedures (1988-1990); Negotiating & representing the Meteorology Union (1982-1989); Directing the weather offices (1990-Present). Since 1990, Tom has overseen the production and distribution of weather information at the two Northwest Airlines offices in Minneapolis, USA & Tokyo, Japan, with a current staff of 28. His mandate is to provide accurate, timely and pertinent weather information. Northwest Airline users include flight dispatchers, other system operations control members, pilots, station ground personnel and customer reservation agents. In the past few years, Tom has received awards in technology management and for his role in the development of the "Collaborative Convective Forecast Product".

Tom is currently a member of the AMS Bulletin Editorial Board and a Board Member for the NASA Weather Accident Industry Review.



Comments from our Chapter President Dean Braatz

Last month I included the local Twin Cities AMS Chapter's meeting schedule during the Fall-Spring season of meetings during 2002-2003. A change was necessary for the February 2003 meeting (see below). Our plan to attract speakers and topics that appeal and will generate interest for the membership has been most successful. 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. Do you have a person in mind that will meet the bill? If so let the officers know as soon as possible.

November 21, 2002 - Meeting at NWA, MSP, Tom Fahey

December 12, 2002 - Meeting at KARE 11, Don Moldenhauer

January 16, 2003 - Meeting at the "U", St. Paul, Mark Seeley

February 20, 2003 - Meeting at University of St. Thomas, 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 this fall.

A reminder that the 83rd 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.

If you have not become a member for 2002-2003 please do so immediately. Both the September and October meetings were well attended. Let's try to keep that trend alive and attend future meetings to keep our local chapter going strong. Do the chapter a favor and ask peers and friends to join also. I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting.

In the October, 2002 **BAMS** there is interesting information from the archives regarding the arrival of the Radiosonde Balloon Inflation Shelter at Blue Hill Observatory, Milton, MA, about 1937. Many firsts have occurred at this site: it's the oldest continuously operated weather observatory in the United States, in 1935 the first radiometeorograph transmission of pressure and temperature data was received from a height of 52,500 feet, and the observatory houses a library of climatological information, data and photographs documenting atmospheric phenomena for all over the world.

The officers for 2002-2003 are:

President - Dean Braatz

Vice President - Doug Dokken

Secretary-Treasurer - Joan Haley

Newsletter Editor - Kurt Scholz

Member of the Month: Joan Haley

We resume this monthly tribute to our members by featuring Joan Haley, our AMS chapter secretary/treasurer. Joan earned a Bachelor of Science and Master of Arts from Indiana State University, both in Earth Science/Physical Geography. She taught Meteorology & Climatology at Illinois State University for 3 years before moving to Chicago as a newlywed and being hired by the City of Chicago to help forecast Weather/Air Pollution. After that, she spent a few years at the Chicago Lung Association as an Environmental Advisor, involved in health effects studies of Air Pollution.

She then teamed up with her husband, a Mortgage Banker, as a Realtor (Broker Associate), for 8 years, but came back to teaching Earth Science at the local Community College for the next 10 years. Another career change found her using her technical knowledge for Rosemount, Inc. - Analytical Division for a few years before they transferred her to Minnesota. This company manufactures technical instruments for measuring temperature, pressure, level and flow in industrial processes/environmental pollution control.

She currently works in the international division of this global company. Says Joan, "I still find Earth Science/Meteorology very exciting. I appreciate the opportunity to pursue my interests through the AMS".

Editor's notes



Next month's meeting will be at KARE 11 for a tour of the station's operation, including some of the behind the scene activities and particularly learn about SkyScan11 (VIPIR). Some of you may want to bring a toy for their annual Christmas Drive.

If you haven't already done so, please submit your annual dues to Secretary-treasurer Joan Haley at the November meeting or you can also mail them to Joan at her address on the last page. Be sure to fill out the member registration form.

The AMS has announced the 2003/2004 AMS/Industry Minority Scholarships. Now entering its eleventh year, the scholarship is intended to help support college education for minority students traditionally underrepresented in the sciences, especially Hispanic/Latino, American Indian/Alaska Native, Black/African American, and Native Hawaiian students, who intend to pursue careers in the atmospheric or related oceanic and hydrologic sciences. The two-year scholarships, funded by industry and through donations made by the members of the AMS 21st Century Campaign, are for \$3000 per year (second year funding depends on successful completion of the first academic year). Minority students who will be entering their freshman year of college in the fall of 2003 are eligible to apply. Since the beginning of the program, ten years ago, sixty-two scholarships have been awarded. Information on all AMS fellowships and scholarships, including the Minority Scholarship is available on the Internet <http://www.ametsoc.org/AMS>.

Reminder: The November meeting of the Twin Cities Chapter of the AMS will be at 7pm Thursday, November 21 at the Northwest Airlines Flight Services Bldg (Bldg F) on the airport grounds. See the map below.



Directions to NWA Flight Services Bldg (Bldg F - 7200 34th Ave South: From I 494, take the 34th Avenue exit. Go north approximately 0.4 miles past the NWA facility which is visible from 494. Farther north you will see the NWA freight facility. The office building you are going to is attached to the north end of the NWA freight facility. You must go past the building and take a left at the 3rd set of stoplights north of I 494. Approximately 20 meters farther is another set of stoplights with 2 turn options, a sharp left and a gradual left. Take the gradual left. Drive west one block and take a left into the parking lot. The entrance to the NWA Flight Services Building (Bldg F) is on the west side, adjacent to the parking lot.



Historical Twin Cities Weather – by Thomas St. Martin

The winter of 1872-1873, described by the Rev. Dr. A. B. Paterson, St. Paul Smithsonian observer, as a winter of "... almost unprecedented severity ... certainly the coldest in sixteen years...", began early and lingered late. Although punctuated by several transient warm-ups, the cold began early in October 1872 with a St. Paul minimum of 23 F on 11 October. Warmer weather followed, persisting intermittently into early November. The cold soon returned, however, temperatures of 0 F and -1 F were recorded at the St. Paul Signal Corps and Ft. Snelling post hospital stations, respectively, on 17 November followed by a Ft. Snelling minimum of -19 F on 28 November. On the same date, temperatures at the St. Paul Signal Corps station remained below zero all day (one of the very few November days between 1859 and the present on which below zero maxima have been recorded at a Twin Cities station).

Temperatures warmed for a few days immediately following the November cold wave, bringing readings as high as 40 F at Paterson's station at 1400 hours on 7 December. However, another invasion of cold air on the following day marked the beginning of yet another round of extreme weather. No readings above 32 F were recorded at Paterson's station during the remainder of December and, during the week immediately preceding Christmas, the area found itself in the grip of record setting cold. St. Paul and Ft. Snelling readings below -20 F were common from 18 through 24 December with below zero maxima on 20, 21, 23 and 24 December. The worst, however, probably occurred on 23 December, a day on which Paterson's 0700 hour reading of -24 F was accompanied by a northwest winds of about 25 miles per hour. On the following day (24 December), minima of -30 F, -31 F and -34 F were recorded, respectively, by St. Paul pharmacist E. H. Biggs, the St. Paul Signal Corps station and the Ft. Snelling post hospital station. The extreme cold reportedly destroyed the contents of many cellars in the city and "frost penetrated in many places where its presence had before been unknown..."



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. Please send any comments, suggestions, changes of address, etc. to Kurt Scholz, k9scholz@stthomas.edu.

If you haven't done so previously, please fill out this membership 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 _____.

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

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

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