

Quarterly Newsletter
for the Wichita Chapter
of the American
Meteorological Society
and the National
Weather Association



Quarterly AMS/ NWA News



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Some of the companies represented in the Organization.

- AccuWeather (Weather-Data)
- Local Broadcast Media
- Local Public Schools
- McConnell Air Force Base
- National Weather Service
- Wichita State University

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Upcoming February Meeting

Next Meeting: February 11th , 2010 , 12:20pm. A Lunch Catered by Hog Wild Pit Barbeque will be offered for \$5.00 at 11:30am before the Meeting.

Location: Sedgwick County Emergency Management at 714 N. Main Street, Wichita, KS (Free Parking available on East Side of Building, NW Corner of Pine and Market streets)

Speaker: Mike Smith, Founder and CEO of WeatherData Services, Inc., an AccuWeather Company

Topic: Miracle at Greensburg

Abstract:

Miracle at Greensburg is the uplifting story describing how weather science saved more than 200 lives during the violent tornado of May 4, 2007, and set the stage for the recovery of the town.

A little about Mike Smith

Mike Smith is the Founder and CEO of WeatherData Services, Inc., an AccuWeather Company. A Fellow of the American Meteorological Society and a certified consulting meteorologist, Smith is the recipient of three of the AMS's highest awards. He is author of the forthcoming book, *Warnings: The True Story of How Science Tamed the Weather* to be published by Greenleaf Book Group on May 1.

Reminder: Annual Dues for Members are \$15 and will be accepted at any Meeting by cash or check.

<http://www.wichita-amsnwa.org/>



Spotlight on a Member

Note from the Editor: While the Newsletter is a new as a whole, this section is being added this quarter. This section is to highlight a different, randomly selected member each quarter. My vision for this section, is to see all of the different aspects of how Meteorology is apart of our Chapter and getting to know one another.

SHERRY L. WEIR-TUGGLE

I began in Amateur Radio in 1997 when I was first licensed as a Technician Class operator. I began working almost immediately with the National Weather Service SKYWARN program in Wichita under the tutelage of Ron Farthing KOFFR, who was at that time the SKYWARN Coordinator.



Sherry Weir-Tuggle, Skywarn
Coordinator for the NWS Wichita,
KS

After Ron's retirement, I was appointed to serve as the Coordinator, which position I have held since March 2007. I have spent many volunteer hours working in the Wichita NWS office as a net operator during storms and drills as well as speaking at STORM FURY ON THE PLAINS presentations and at amateur radio clubs in the area.

In July of 2008, I upgraded to General Class by examination. I have been a member of the BEARS Radio Club, Wichita in 2009 and the AMS since 2007. I am currently employed as a Deputy Sheriff with the Butler County Detention Center since July 2008. I have been a Field

Training Officer with that organization since June of 2009, responsible for the training of newly hired deputies in the facility.

In November of 2009, after working with him for over 5 years, I married Jim Tuggle, KCoNYK, who has been the SEK Net Controller for NWS/ICT for many years. We now reside in Elk Falls, KS, where we both continue to volunteer for the NWS as well as working with SEK Emergency Management, TSA SATERN, CERT, and other public service organizations. I am currently studying in preparation for the Extra Class examination. I am currently also serving as a Volunteer Examiner certified by the ARRL and W5YI as well as assisting with teaching the Technician Radio License class. I have been a full member of the ARRL since 2006.

I have always been fascinated by weather and the more I learn about how and why storms do the things they do the more I want to learn about it.



November 10th, 2009 Meeting Minutes



#Attendees: 54

#Members Attended: 33

The meeting began at noon with a buffet lunch. After lunch, President Rob Cox greeted the members and special guests from NOAA in Norman, OK.

1. Mike Smith was selected as the speaker for the February, 2010 meeting and a survey was taken to select his topic: Global warming or 'Miracle' at Greensburg.
2. The speaker for the meeting was Paul Schlatter of NOAA in Norman and his topic was Dual Polarization Radar (D-P). He provided an excellent overview of this new system that will present both opportunities and challenges. Wichita will be the first WSR-88D equipped with the "beta" D-P technology.
 - Under a "do no harm" philosophy, *all of the current products from the WSR-88D will continue to be generated.* In addition, there will be additional radar products from the raw D-P output. These range from differential reflectivity to 9 new quantitative precipitation estimations.
 - There will derived products in addition to the raw products. One of these includes a network-generated precipitation type display. Paul believes that a well-trained meteorologist will be able to improve upon the computer generated display.
 - Uses for D-P include detection of tornado debris (especially useful at night), giant hail detection and direct detection of thunderstorm updrafts. The estimation of precipitation amounts should be vastly improved. There are likely uses for the new data that have not yet been discovered.
3. After a question and answer session, the meeting was adjourned to the new offices of WeatherData Services, Inc., an AccuWeather Company. The offices represent the state of the art in private sector storm warning and technological capabilities.
4. Rob Cox spoke with the President of the High Plains Chapter and he said that their chapter voted to include us in their conference rotation in 2011. The actual date is unknown, but it will most likely be held in the late summer. 2009's conference was held in August.

Keep an eye
out for Future
AMS/NWA
Meetings.

Mark your Calendars

Keep an eye out for future AMS/NWA Meetings

July 2010

September 2010

AMS/NWA Officers

Let us know what you think. Do you have ideas for Speakers, Suggestions, etc. Please feel free to contact the Officers

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