

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



Quarterly AMS/ NWA News



Volume 1, Issue 1

November 2009

Some of the com-
panies represented
in the Organiza-
tion.

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

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Letter from the President

Fellow Members,

Hello, I would like to welcome you to our AMS/NWA chapter. We are in the process of rebuilding our AMS/NWA chapter, and I am very encouraged by those who participated in our September meeting. We have some fresh ideas and I believe our chapter is on the verge of a new beginning. At the September meeting, we discussed having several speakers in the upcoming year. This first one is Paul Schlatter from the Warning Decision Training Branch, and he will be sharing information about the Dual-Pol Radar which is scheduled to arrive at Wichita in July 2010. Paul and his team will be at the Petroleum Club on November 10th at 1 pm. This will be a buffet lunch with the cost being \$7 dollars. We will also be collecting \$15 dues at this meeting.

We appreciate Jerilyn Billings for composing our first Wichita AMS/NWA Newsletter. This newsletter will be sent out 4 times a year, and will most likely be correlated to our meeting times. This is a great addition to our chapter, and we would certainly appreciate any feedback you may have. Jerilyn will also be serving as the chapter's webmaster. She will be making some adjustments to the webpage in the near future to help us organize it a little better. Some suggestions were to have links to other fields of Meteorology including the AFB, Media, Private Sector, etc and how you can learn more about these fields.

Some of you may also be wondering when our next conference will be. I recently submitted a proposal to the High Plains Chapter to have them consider our Chapter as part of their conference rotation. If they agree with our proposal, this would put us in line for a conference in August 2011. As of this letter, the High Plains Chapter has not had a meeting concerning this, but we will keep you informed of this when and if this comes to fruition.

I am excited about the upcoming year, and we are looking forward to your attendance at the next meeting in November.

Rob Cox

Wichita AMS/NWA President

Be sure to check out our webpage at www.wichita-amsnwa.org



The WSR-88D Radar in Wichita, KS.

The Wichita
(KICT) radar
will be the
first beta test
site for Dual-
Pol.

Upcoming November Meeting

Next Meeting: November 10th, 2009 , 1pm. A Buffet Lunch will be offered for \$7.00 at noon before the Meeting.

Location: Petroleum Club, inside the Bank of America Building in downtown Wichita

Sponsor: AccuWeather

Speaker: Paul Schlatter, Meteorologist with WDTB (Warning Decision Training Branch in Norman, OK)

Topic: The new Dual-Pol Radar and New Radar Products

Abstract:

The NEXRAD tri-agencies (DOC, DOD, DOT) have determined that adding Dual Polarization (dual-pol) capability to the Weather Surveillance Radar – 1988 Doppler (WSR-88D) would provide mission benefits including improved hail detection for severe thunderstorm warnings, improved rainfall estimation for flood and flash flood warnings, rain/snow discrimination for winter weather warnings and advisories, data retrieval from areas of partial beam blockage to improve services in mountainous terrain, and removal of non-weather artifacts such as birds and ground clutter to improve overall data quality for algorithms and numerical model input. Systems engineering for the dual-pol upgrade to the WSR-88D is well underway, the first test WSR-88D has been upgraded and is producing data, and the KICT is the first beta test site is scheduled for July 2010.

This presentation provides an overview of the new radar products available with dual-pol, including how they might be applied operationally. It examines what can be expected during the upgrade to dual-pol, and when this will occur. Training opportunities from the National Weather Service (NWS) Warning Decision Training Branch (WDTB) are discussed for a wide range of audiences, including NWS meteorologists, broadcast meteorologists, emergency managers, first responders, and the general public.

A little about Paul Schlatter

Paul Schlatter has been studying and analyzing dual-pol data for over 8 years, and has been with the National Weather Service (NWS) Warning Decision Training Branch (WDTB) in Norman Oklahoma for the past 6 years. He is the project manager for the National Weather Service's Dual-pol Operations Course, and also co-lead of the Radar Operations Center's Dual-pol data quality evaluation team. The evaluation team's primary goal is to ensure the radar data from KOUN, the WSR-88D dual-pol testbed radar, is ready to move forward into system test in mid November.

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



September 15th, 2009 Meeting Minutes

#Members attended: 11

#Family Members: 5

#Visitor TOP: 1

1. We discussed about asking Paul Schlatter from the WDTB to conduct a presentation on Dual Pole Radar in the first or second week of November 2009. Rob C said that he will e-mail Paul this week to find out his status. Once we have established a date for the presentation then we will setup a meeting location. If we are unsuccessful then we will make some plans for backup speaker.
2. The High Plains Chapter had addressed in a meeting earlier this year about our chapter status regarding us joining their conference rotation. We voted on this and proposed that our chapter join their rotation and possibly host the conference at Wichita in 2011. Rob will be drafting a letter in the next couple of weeks and send this proposal to the High Plains Chapter President.
3. We voted on having 4 meetings per year. These meetings would most likely occur in September, November, February and late July or early August.
4. Aaron Blaser mentioned that our website needs to stay updated and would like to see some additional information on this website. This information may include information about storm chasing expeditions, how the AFB uses meteorology, etc... We would like to have someone take charge and be the webmaster of this site. For now, we will utilize Ken Cook and look into better ways to develop this website.
5. In the next meeting we will address the dues for the chapter. Currently, our dues are 10 dollars, but that should be increased since there has been no change since 1994.



Keep an eye
out for Future
AMS/NWA
Meetings.

Mark your Calendars

Keep an eye out for future AMS/NWA Meetings

February 2010

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

President: Rob Cox, Rob.Cox@noaa.gov

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