BACK TO THE FUTURE

A History of and Planning for Friends and Partners of Aviation Weather

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Why Did FPAW Get Started?

Four main events...

1) In 1993, the FAA convened the Aviation Weather User’s Forum.
   1) The output of that meeting was a long list of requirements for the FAA

2) Budget cuts in the mid-1990s led to demise of the NWS Aviation Weather Branch.

   1) Recommended that the FAA, not the NWS, take federal leadership role for aviation weather.

4) Ron McPherson, then Director of NCEP, had a vision that resulted in the creation of the Aviation Weather Center.

led to...
Why Did FPAW Get Started (cont’d)?

...the first Friends of Aviation Weather meeting, held in September 1997 at the NBAA annual convention in Dallas.

Responsible parties:
David Rodenhuis (then director of the AWC)
Paul Smith (NBAA)
Carl Knable (retired UAL Manager of Meteorology)
Bruce Carmichael (NCAR)

The purpose was to bring together government, academia and industry to build a strategy for aviation weather. The meeting lasted 3 days, and they were “interesting”, but there were no casualties!

Bottom line: FPAW formed due to User perception that neither NWS nor FAA took ownership of aviation weather.
Evolution of FPAW: 1997 to 2012
The story of 15 previous annual FPAW meetings

FPAW Annual Meetings from 1997-2007

1997-2002: The Age of the Barbarians
“Progress Reports” followed by Provider and User Panels
Issues Identified by Users and Action Items assigned to FAA and NWS
Resulted in airline reps hammering government reps

2003-2007: The Age of Reconciliation
User Needs followed by Provider Progress
Operators/Industry realized that they needed the Gov’t
Less confrontational, but Gov’t still on the hook
Evolution of FPAW: 1997 to 2012 (cont’d)

FPAW Annual Meetings from 2008-2012

2008-2010: The Age of Champions
Identification of Issues and Champions
Gov’t and Industry share responsibility to resolve issues

2011-?: The Age of Peaceful Coexistence and Mutual Survival
Involvement of CDM and topics related to moving from NowGen to NextGen
Valuing the impacts of weather forecasts
Gov’t and Operators/Industry sitting on the same panels!!
How Is Progress Made Each Year?

- During this meeting
  - Take note of topics and discussion
  - Ask questions
- In the few weeks after this meeting
  - Send comments to Bruce Carmichael and/or presenters
- January
  - Bruce will send e-mail about April FPAW Planning Meeting
  - Will solicit ideas for Summer and Annual Fall FPAW mtgs
- April Planning Meeting
  - Agree on Segment topics and leaders of panels
  - Flesh out presentations and volunteers to present
  - Outcome should be solid framework for both FPAW mtgs
Lots of progress made during FPAW’s 15 years! What else has occurred from 1997 on???

- **1997**: Scientists cloned dolly the sheep; Hale-Bopp comet is the closest it will be to Earth until 4397.

- **1998**: John Glenn, thirty-six years after becoming the first American astronaut to orbit the earth, becomes the oldest astronaut in space at 77 years old on the Space Shuttle Discovery.

- **1999**: The Dow Jones Industrial Average closes above 10,000 for the first time; The world awaits the consequences of the Y2K bug, with more drastic millennial theorists warning of Armageddon.
- **2000**: The dot-com bubble bursts; The 2000 census moved the geographic center of U.S. population to Phelps County, Missouri.

- **2001**: Apple launches the iPod; Wikipedia is launched.

- **2002**: Euro coins and banknotes entered circulation.

- **2003**: MySpace is launched.
• 2004: Facebook is launched.

• 2005: YouTube is launched; USB flash drives replace floppy disks; Hurricane Katrina floods New Orleans.

• 2006: The one billionth song is downloaded from the internet music store, Apple iTunes; Twitter is launched.

• 2007: Apple debuts the iPhone; Amazon releases the Kindle.

• 2008: Oil prices hit a record high of $147/barrel.
• **2009**: Africa's population reaches one billion.

• **2010**: The costliest natural event to commercial air travel in the wake of the eruption of volcano Eyjafjallajökull (E15); The worst marine environmental disaster in U.S. history; Apple debuts the iPad.

• **2011**: Japan is devastated by a 9.0 magnitude earthquake and tsunami.

• **2012**: Mass hysteria grips the world as the Mayan calendar reaches the end of its current cycle.
WHAT’S NEXT?!