

BACK TO THE FUTURE

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

Warren Qualley

Harris Corporation

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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.**
- 3) 1995 release of FAA-funded National Research Council study: "Aviation Weather – A Call for Federal Leadership"
 - 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?!