



Shade Tree Meteorology, LLC

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Richard J. Westergard, CCM - Curriculum Vitae

A summary of over four decades in the field of weather

Highlights of my Private Sector Career

March 2004 to Present - President & Certified Consulting Meteorologist (CCM)

Shade Tree Meteorology, LLC, 2766 Rosendale Rd, Niskayuna, NY 12309-1306

Provided customized weather information services, including:

- o detailed interpretations of Doppler radar data for forensic reconstructions
- o complete reconstructions of past severe weather events
- o custom forecasting for special events at outdoor venues
- o custom forecasting for tethered balloon flights and Gulf of Mexico charter fishing
- o mentoring of teachers enrolled in American Meteorological Society (AMS) DataStreame courses

Recognition:

Awarded American Meteorological Society (AMS) CCM Certificate # 632 in March 2006

Admitted to Membership in the National Council of Industrial Meteorologists in June 2006

Member AMS Board on Outreach and Pre-College Education January 2007 to January 2010

Member Board of Directors, National Council of Industrial Meteorologists June 2007 to August 2013

Member, AMS Ad Hoc Committee on Uncertainty in Forecasts December 2007 to January 2009

Member AMS Board on Outreach and Pre-College Education January 2007 to January 2010

President National Council of Industrial Meteorologists August 2009 to August 2011

Appointed to a five year term on the AMS Board of Certified Consulting Meteorologists January 2011

Education and Training

Weather and Management training in USAF to achieve Chief Observer rating 1966-1972

Variety of courses from five colleges and universities on three continents 1966-1988

Numerous courses in meteorology and management at the NWS Training Center 1980-1988

B.A. Degree - Meteorology/Computer Science, Marshall University, Huntington, WV - 1988

Graduate studies:

University of Minnesota, Duluth - interdisciplinary studies 1990-1993

SUNY Brockport - meteorology for primary and secondary educators 1998

NWS Training Center - meteorology and management 1989-2002

COMET at University of Colorado - warning decision making 1999-2002

NOAA/NCIM Public Private Partnership Course - June 2006

AMS short course "Meteorology for Surface Transportation" - January 2008

AMS Short Course on Datasets (update training on available weather data sources) - January, 2010

Highlights of my 31 year National Weather Service Career

Climbed two career ladders - most recently the professional meteorologist ladder from GS-12 Meteorologist In Charge at the Duluth, MN local service office in 1988 to GS-14 Warning Coordination Meteorologist at the Albany Forecast Office in 1996. Prior to that I climbed the Meteorological Technician ladder from GS-5 Upper air observer trainee in 1973 to GS-11 Official In Charge of the local service office in Huntington, WV in 1983.

I appeared at hundreds of venues as the local, regional and statewide spokesperson for the NWS. I created and/or participated in numerous outreach programs, bringing state of the science information to educators and students in primary and secondary schools in a dozen states. I built award winning teams in Huntington, WV, Duluth, MN and Albany, NY and earned a reputation as an agent of orderly change on the cutting edge of field operations during two decades of turbulent technological advancements. I co-wrote weather emergency response plans for broadcasters and emergency managers in a half dozen states I expanded the NOAA Weather Radio network of the Albany office from 2 to 8 transmitters by assembling groups of private and public sponsors, one transmitter at a time. From 1997 to 2004 I was a mentor to science teachers enrolled in AMS teacher courses.

Meanwhile, I provided or supervised the provision of a myriad of basic weather services, including:

- o post storm service assessments
- o newspaper radio and television interviews
- o training sessions for volunteer severe storm spotters
- o weather watches and warnings
- o meteorological and hydrological statements
- o public, aviation and marine forecasts
- o surface weather observations
- o weather radar observations
- o balloon soundings of the atmosphere
- o teacher weather seminars

Highlights of my 7 year U.S. Air Force Career

Climbed the Weather Observer Technician career ladder from Apprentice Weather Observer in 1966 to Chief Observer in 1973.

- o Trained and worked as a Surface Weather Observer.
- o Trained and worked as a Weather Radar Observer
(and subsequently worked with every operational weather radar ever used by the U.S. government)
- o Plotted weather maps and charts.
- o Trained as a leader and supervisor.
- o Created all new operating procedures for a newly opened weather office.
- o Helped streamline office operations by incorporating new technology of the day

Extras

Awards:

Cash Award for Excellence, September 2003, for expansion of the Albany Weather Radio network, Local Cline Award, August 2002 for exceptional severe weather response, time off award for teamwork, cooperation and coordination before during and after the May 31, 2002 severe weather outbreak. Cash In A Flash Award for creating the agenda for the April 2002 Regional WCM Workshop, cash award for building and leadership of the WFO Albany Service Team, August 2001, Cash In Your Account Award, September 2000 for leading the nationwide team to create a National Service Programs Tracking Database, time off award for contributions toward the creation of the NOAA-University at Albany Cooperative Institute - January, 2000.

Publications:

Editor of the National Council of Meteorologists (NCIM) 2006 & 2007 annual newsletter, author of numerous forensic weather reports and affidavits for legal and insurance clients, Lead author on numerous internal "Service Assessment" reports created by the NWS to evaluate severe weather situations to improve warning services. Editor and frequent author for the Albany Forecast Office StormBuster newsletter from 1994 to 2004, co-author of COMET research papers on communicating weather information in 1998 and 2002.

COMET funded Research with SUNY Albany Communication Department:

(communicating weather information)

Partners Project - local focus groups - 1996-1999

Cooperative Project - nationwide focus groups - 2000-2003

(COMET = Cooperative Program for Operational Meteorology, Education and Training)