

FROM THE PRESIDENT

The National Weather Association is now one year old as to conception, 11 months old as to incorporation, and 8 months old as to accepting members. During this period the NWA has progressed to a point guaranteeing it a place in the meteorological community. It has a sufficient number of members to maintain a reasonably sound financial basis. It has a sufficient number of dedicated members who are working to achieve the missions set for the Association.

The filling out of the organizational structure is proceeding rapidly and should be completed by the first of the year. With a little more time to complete their internal organizing, the committees will begin functioning properly. The editorial policy has been set and the publications tentatively established for 1977. More people will be needed to assist the editor, Frances Parmenter, and contributors to the publications must be encouraged and perhaps be given assignments. Finally, a pattern has been set for continuity both in the missions of the NWA and in its way of managing its business.

No organization of this kind can be successful without the interest and, more importantly, the active assistance and help of its membership. The NWA has created a great deal of interest and has been fortunate in attracting members who have pitched in and helped where and when needed. This kind of dedication by the membership will, of course, be necessary not only next year but in future years if the organization is to continue to grow and be influential.

The NWA will fall short of its goal for total membership this year. This was mainly due to lack of Air Weather Service participation caused, in part, by the delay in receiving IRS non-profit tax exemption. It is expected that AWS employees will learn of the non-profit status of the NWA and will join in increasing numbers. Our projection is for 2500 members by the end of 1977, a figure which appears completely realistic. To achieve this goal will require a continuing effort by everyone in NWA to do his part in soliciting members. New members will be attracted by solid accomplishments by the NWA in fulfilling its purposes including advancing whenever and wherever possible the needs and requirements of practical meteorology to do a better job.

There is already evidence that the NWA has had some affect upon meteorological organizations, both governmental and private. Most are sympathetic to the NWA, recognizing that the operational portion of meteorology has a need for an association with the objectives of the NWA. Hopefully, we can cooperate and assist these organizations for they too have a desire and goal for operational weather programs to be the most effective possible.

The NWA has every chance to become an association which can achieve its aims and purposes and one of which we can be proud to be a member. Let's all help it live up to its promise in every way we can.

