



# NATIONAL WEATHER ASSOCIATION

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Michael P. Utley  
struckbyleftning.org  
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West Yarmouth, Massachusetts 02673

Dear Michael,

Thank you very much! That's a very welcome remark still being heard from attendees who greatly appreciated your presentations on lightning safety at the National Weather Association's Annual Meeting in Saint Louis, Missouri, 15-20 October 2005.

The National Weather Association (NWA) has been privileged to have quite a number of members interested in the study of lightning. In recent years, many of those individuals have been very proactive in trying to increase lightning safety awareness among as many people as they can through as many forms of media as they have the opportunity to use. This is such an important initiative that the NWA periodically schedules presentations on lightning safety at the Annual Meetings.

The 30th Annual Meeting program had two sessions on lightning and the one you led on Sunday morning was strikingly outstanding! Your professionalism and credibility showed clearly to all attendees as you briefed on your personal experiences, showed a great video entitled, *I Survived Lightning*, and joined Dr. Mary Ann Cooper in pointing out how to educate children in lightning safety awareness and how everyone can save lives. You finished up by having Dr. Cooper and Ron Holle join you onstage answering questions from the more than 150 attendees present. Most of the attendees were broadcast meteorologists from across the country and they were planning on spreading your detailed information to their viewers and to the many schoolchildren and civic groups they have the opportunity to reach.

You certainly helped destroy myths and gave listeners definitive information to take action on and disseminate further. Thank you again for participating and leading off a most successful 30th Annual Meeting of the NWA. Best wishes in all future endeavors.

Sincerely,

  
J. Kevin Lavin  
Executive Director

Supporting and Promoting Excellence in Operational Meteorology and Related Activities since 1975