

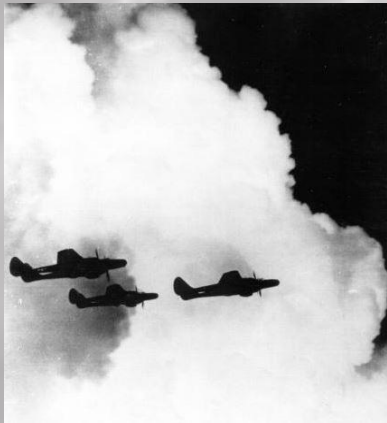
# Billy W. Sills Center for Archives/FWISD

*presents*

*Dan Smith*

**“The Thunderstorm Project”**

**March 24, 2018**



Aviation advanced during WW-2, but it was clear after the war that weather remained a serious problem to flight safety. To address that, in 1945 Congress directed the U.S. Weather Bureau to learn more about thunderstorms. Fortunately, tools and manpower were at hand at war's end to undertake what was called "The Thunderstorm Project." The project involved using radar, aircraft and the most dense network of observations - all for the first time - to collect data inside storms. Observations were made in Florida (1946) and Ohio (1947). After summertime field observations, data were taken to the Univ. of Chicago where project scientists and technicians, working without computers, of course, compiled and published a final report in 1949. That volume, "The Thunderstorm," formed the basis of our understanding of thunderstorms and related weather. The book, usually referred to simply as "Byers & Braham, 1949" remains the most often cited reference in meteorological literature.

Dan Smith, meteorologist, historian, and author, returns to the Billy W. Sills Lecture series to share information about how project came about, who was involved, and why the results of the project are so important.

**Join us March 24 for a morning of learning, fun, and fellowship.**

Join us for coffee and “nibbles”  
beginning at 9:30 a.m.

**Saturday, March 24, 2018**

10:00 to 12:00

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