

September 2009 DC-AMS Meeting Notes

The DC-AMS's September 2009 meeting was held on Wednesday, September 16, 2009 at the American Association for the Advancement of Sciences (AAAS) building in downtown Washington, DC.

The theme of the September meeting was a "Members Night" in which sandwiches were served from Potbelly Sandwiches for all new and existing members. The purpose of the meeting was to get to know fellow members, as well as provide feedback to the officers regarding which way the DC-AMS chapter should go during the 2009-10 year.

As an added bonus, we were fortunate to have widely acclaimed weather author, Jack Williams, on hand to discuss his latest release, "The AMS Weather Book: The Ultimate Guide to America's Weather."

After the one hour social / dinner hour, chapter Chair, Andrea Bleistein, welcomed the 30+ attendees to the meeting. She allowed all of the 2009-10 chapter officers to introduce themselves. After which she turned the floor over to Jack Williams.

The main theme of Jack's presentation was on how he used his latest book to "communicate weather." He spent a great deal of time showing exceptional weather graphics from his book and sharing stories about how his book evolved. Some of the topics Jack discussed were the sun, ocean, satellites, hurricanes, clouds, daily forecasts, and much more,

After Jack's presentation the first of several raffles took place. Jack was kind enough to donate a copy of his "The

AMS Weather Book" to the DC-AMS chapter to raffle off. Other items that were raffled off were an Apollo 13 book, autographed by Commander James A. Lovell, Jr., 2 tickets to a Washington Nationals game, a 40th anniversary Apollo 11 pin, and a gift certificate to Mamma Lucia's for dinner for two. In total, the DC-AMS was able to raise a whopping \$241 for the scholarship fund.

After the raffles, the floor was opened up to the members to share with the officers what they would like the chapter to do during the 2009-10 chapter year. Although all of the suggestions were excellent, here are a few that were mentioned:

- A sit-down dinner meeting
- Participation in a Habitat for Humanity project
- Visit to the DCA weather observation office or Naval Observatory
- Meeting at NSF Café Scientifiques, Cleveland Abby house , or Arts Club of Washington
- Meeting on national security implications of climate change
- Tour of DC weather events
- Field trip (skiing or snow tubing, etc)
- Hold a DC-WeatherFest
- Have a Marine Technology Society joint meeting
- Have a picnic at Great Falls
- Hold a SKYWARN™ Spotter Training (partnership with UMD)
- Work with Girl Scouts STEM program

The meeting ended around 9pm with members being able to purchase books from Jack Williams and he was more than happy to autograph them.

