



# Houston Chapter of the American Meteorological Society

November 2009

## Notes from the President –

Greetings!

The other Chapter Officers and I are looking forward to seeing everyone at our November monthly chapter meeting. Again we have something special for our membership, the meeting is being co-sponsored by the British Consulate-General Houston. Thanks to R. Mitchell (Mitch) Jeffrey, Jr., the Vice Consul of the British Consulate-General Houston for this wonderful idea. Mr. Jeffrey will be joined by Consul General Paul Lynch, Deputy Consul General Andy Pryce and Consul May Akrawi, Ph.D. (science officer). The evening's events are including a reception where the Consulate is providing up to two drinks each for each attendee. Dinner will be paid by the individual of course as usual.

Special thanks also go out to Gene Norman, Chief Meteorologist KHOU-TV. Mitch and Gene met at a meeting a few months back, and Mitch asked Gene about assisting him in finding a group that would be interested in a presentation by Dr. North. Gene acted quickly and helped secure the presentation for our chapter meeting.

The usual four officer positions all need to be filled: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Each of you has what it takes to make this chapter

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## “Global Warming – Lone Star Impacts” – presented by Dr. Gerald R. North

Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup>

Reception/Dinner – 6:00pm

Meeting – 7:00pm

Canyon Cafe

5000 Westheimer, Suite 250

Houston, TX 77056

The presentation will focus on and answer many questions: Climate change is coming to Texas but how much and in what ways will Texas be affected by global warming? Will central Texas become a desert? Will rainfall actually increase? Will there be more wildfires? Will there be more hurricanes? What kind of climate change does Texas need to be ready for?

Gerald North has a PhD in Theoretical Physics from the University of Wisconsin, 1966. He went from assistant to full professor in physics at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, taking a year at the National Center for Atmospheric Research in 1974-75, where he won the NCAR Outstanding Publication Award.

He joined the NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center in 1978 as a research scientist. While there he won the NASA Medal for Scientific Achievement. Along with Tom Wilheit he was a proposer of the Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission (TRMM) and was its first study scientist (this satellite was launched in 1997 and is still orbiting).

He joined the faculty of Texas A&M University in 1986 with the rank of distinguished professor. He was head of the Department of Atmospheric Sciences from 1995-2003. In 2006 he was Chairman of the National Academy of Sciences Committee on *Reconstruction of Surface Temperatures over the last 2000 Years* that led to a report and testimony in Congress.

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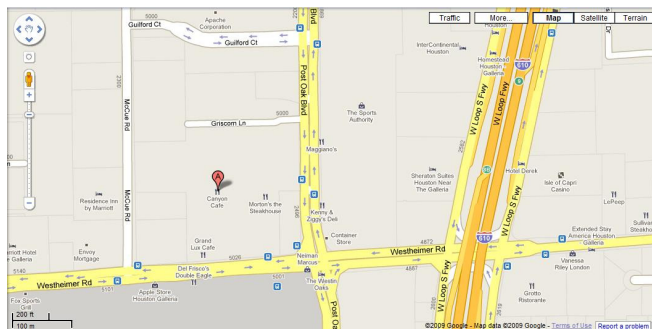
### Speaker Information continued...

He has won the TAMU Association of Former Students' Award for Outstanding Research. He has written more than 150 scientific papers and co-authored or co-edited six book including *Atmospheric Thermodynamics*, Cambridge University Press, 2009; and *Impact of Global Warming on Texas*, 2nd Edition, UT Press, in press.

He is a Fellow of the American Association for Advancement of Science, The American Geophysical Union, and The American Meteorological Society. North was recipient of the Jule G. Charney Award of the American Meteorological Society in 2007 for "Climate modeling, atmospheric statistics and satellite program development". He is married, has five children and lives in Bryan, Texas.

### Maps & Directions

Canyon Cafe  
5000 Westheimer, Suite 250, Houston, TX 77056  
713-629-5565



**CHAPTER WEBSITE**  
[www.amshouston.net](http://www.amshouston.net)

**NATIONAL WEBSITE**  
[www.ametsoc.org](http://www.ametsoc.org)

### Notes from the President continued...

for the membership and the membership better for the chapter.

Those who missed last month's meeting missed a great one with two great presenters, Bill King, and Tom Blackburn who discussed the possibility of the "Ike Dike". Part of the presentation will be available on DVD shortly. Bill and Tom commented that they left with a great appreciation for our membership, who they felt were very professional, and felt the Q&A session was special for them.

Just a few reminders. First, annual dues are always being collected. The dues are still just \$10.00. Second, help our chapter grow by bringing a friend along with you. Finally, take time to visit our chapter website, [www.amshouston.net](http://www.amshouston.net). If you have any ideas for making our chapter better, come to the meeting and tell us.

Enjoy the weather, while we still can,  
Lew Fincher



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**MULTIFUNCTION PHASED ARRAY RADAR SYMPOSIUM II**

**LOCATION: NORMAN, OK – DATES: 17-19 NOVEMBER 2009**

**90<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY**

**LOCATION: ATLANTA, GA – DATES: 17-21 JANUARY 2010**

## MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The Houston Chapter boasts of one of the most diverse memberships in the country. Due to our location we have meteorologists and scientists working for many different types of industry, government, private and media. These people are involved in forecasting and monitoring weather world-wide, right from Houston.

In addition, we welcome everyone and anyone who is interested in weather and weather-related topics.

Our dues are only \$10 per year. Funds are used to pay for dinner and thank you gifts for our speakers, and provide awards for the winners of the Houston AMS Special Awards at the Science and Engineering Fair of Houston held each spring.

If you'd like to become a member, please fill out the form below with your most recent information, include \$10 cash or check and turn it into any officer. If you prefer, you can mail the form and money to our Treasurer. Please see the address below. Checks should be made out to: *Houston Chapter of the American Meteorological Society*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Work or Home? (please circle one)

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Work \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:

*Brian Planz*

*c/o Wilkens Weather Technologies, Inc.*

*2925 Briar Park Drive, 7th Floor*

*Houston, TX 77042*

Send my newsletter by: \_\_\_ mail/ \_\_\_ email.

This is for: \_\_\_ Dues/ \_\_\_ Address change.

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*Feel free to contact any of the officers for comments, questions, suggestions or even additions to the newsletter. We would appreciate hearing from you.*

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## Contact Information

*President – Lew Fincher*

Ph: 281-996-1098

Email: [lew@hurricaneconsulting.com](mailto:lew@hurricaneconsulting.com)

*Vice President – Drew Wasson*

Ph: 281-518-6067

Email: [drewwasson@gmail.com](mailto:drewwasson@gmail.com)

*Aaron Studwell*

713-361-4973

[aaron.studwell@weatherinsight.com](mailto:aaron.studwell@weatherinsight.com)

*Treasurer – Brian Planz*

Ph: 713-430-7400

Email: [brian.planz@wilkensweather.com](mailto:brian.planz@wilkensweather.com)

*Secretary – Dorri Breher*

Ph: 281-652-1000

Email: [dbreher@impactweather.com](mailto:dbreher@impactweather.com)

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