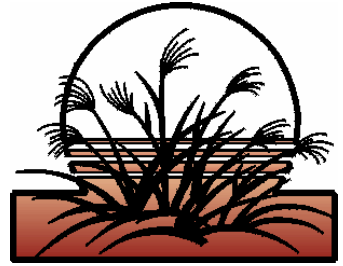




**NEWSLETTER  
TWIN CITIES CHAPTER  
AMERICAN METEOROLOGICAL  
SOCIETY  
April, 2003 Vol. 24 No. 8**



**Note the date of the meeting has changed!!!**

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**The April meeting of the Twin Cities Chapter of the AMS will be at 7 PM Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup> (not the 17<sup>th</sup>), at St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud in the Math and Sciences Center. Specific directions to the meeting can be found on page 3. AMS chapter members, interested acquaintances and potential members are invited to attend.**

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***Tour of the Meteorology Department of St. Cloud State University and Student Research Presentations.***  
**Host: Greg Nastrom**

The four-year meteorology degree program at SCSU is the only such program in the state. It began about 14 years ago and is part of the Earth Sciences Program. Presently there are four regular faculty teaching meteorology and there are about 100 students in the program of whom 35 are Juniors and Seniors. Greg Nastrom, chairman of the department, will give us a tour of their updated weather lab which is used for weather forecasting. The department has its own WSR-74C 5-cm radar and uses some high-tech classrooms for teaching. According to Greg, about 25% of their graduates find jobs in the National Weather Service, 30% in private weather companies such as Meteorlogix and 30% go on to graduate schools. Two or three of their students will give a presentation of some of their research.



***Comments from our Chapter President Dean Braatz***

Just a short note to thank Greg Nastrom for the delay of the SCSU meteorology papers by senior students one week to April 24<sup>th</sup> due to Holy Week. Below are the monthly meeting dates for the local Twin Cities AMS Chapter's schedule during the Winter-Spring season of 2002-2003. Be sure you mark your calendar with these dates:

**April 24, 2003** - Meeting at SCSU, St Cloud, Greg Nastrom  
**May 15, 2003** - Picnic in Chanhassen, Bruce Watson

**Benefits of AMS Membership**

The [American Meteorological Society](#), founded in 1919, is the preeminent scientific and professional organization for scientists and practitioners in the atmospheric sciences and related oceanic and hydrologic sciences. With a membership of more than 11,000 professionals, students, and weather enthusiasts, the AMS publishes nine atmospheric and related oceanic and hydrologic journals, sponsors more than 12 conferences annually, and offers numerous programs and services.

The AMS offers several [membership categories](#) to meet the needs of all individuals. Specific benefits for members include significant discounts on AMS periodicals and other publications, access to online resources available to members only, and savings on meeting and workshop registrations.

Read on to learn more about the great benefits we offer to [Full Members](#), [Associate Members and K-12 Teachers](#), and [Student Members and Associate Members-Pre-college Students](#).

The above article was taken off the AMS Web site. If you or a friend are not a national AMS members you are encouraged to look into joining the national AMS as well as the local chapter in the Twin Cities.

Let me know if anyone is interested in car-pooling to St Cloud on April 24<sup>th</sup> to attend the SCSU Meteorology Department hosting of our chapter that evening. It is always fun to attend these presentations and encourage the student on their senior papers. Please email me at: dtbraatz1@msn.com or call me: 952-925-9186 so we can set up who is driving and who is riding and where do we meet. I am thinking 494 and Highway 6 in Plymouth at the Home Depot parking lot just north of the gas station at 5:45 pm..

The May Picnic on May 15<sup>th</sup> at Lake Susan Park in Chanhassen is planned to include the All-American Feast provided by Famous Dave's. The cost will be \$15 per person. The food will be delivered at 6 pm so plan to attend and enjoy our last meeting prior to the Summer 2003 break Check on the information sheet in this newsletter on how to register and mail in your check for the meal. Let's hope for good weather that day, if not then the NWS office is close-by for a back up location. Do make plans now to attend!

The final slate of officers for the 2003-2004 Season is not yet complete. You will be informed at the April meeting if this process is complete. We will vote at the May meeting on the new officers for next year.

The officers for 2002-2003 are:            President – Dean Braatz            Sec-Treasurer – Joan Haley  
   Vice Pres – Doug Dokken            Newsletter – Kurt Scholz

### *Editor's notes*



Join us at our picnic meeting on May 15<sup>th</sup> at Lake Susan in Chanhassen. Use the form on page 4 if you want to join us at 6:00 pm for some of Famous Dave's barbecue. For \$15 a person you can enjoy a barbecued chicken breast, ribs, cheesy potatoes, a tossed salad and a soft drink or fruit juice. At about 7 pm, Bruce Watson, consulting meteorologist and a past chapter AMS president, will provide an entertaining talk about our body response to temperature, humidity, sunshine and wind. Join us in the great outdoors as we end our 2002-2003 season. Please bring your spouse or a friend to this fun event.

The 71<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of the Minnesota Academy of Science will be held at the University of Minnesota, St. Paul campus, April 25-26. The Winchell Undergraduate Research Symposium, a part of this meeting, allows many students from various areas of the sciences and mathematics to give oral presentations and poster sessions to compete for various prizes. There will be four student meteorology presentations, most of them from St. Cloud State University. As former (and present) judges, Doug Dokken and I have seen superb presentations from SCSU and other schools. You can check out the Academy's website at <http://www.mnacadsci.org/Events/AnnualMtg/amSchedule.asp> for the latest schedule.



### *AMS on the WWW*

The address for the Twin Cities Chapter of the AMS is:  
[http://byte.stthomas.edu/www/math\\_http/weather/tcametsoc.html](http://byte.stthomas.edu/www/math_http/weather/tcametsoc.html). Please send any comments, suggestions, changes of address, misspellings, etc. to Kurt Scholz, [k9scholz@stthomas.edu](mailto:k9scholz@stthomas.edu).



particularly detrimental to agricultural interests because of the expected delay in farm work. Headlines in the 20 April edition of the St. Paul Dispatch told winter weary St. Paul residents that "Old Boreas

Favors Us: Just One More Blizzard to Add to His Generous Gifts of Winter: Snow Covers Entire Northwest To A Depth Varying From Six Inches To Two Feet." On 21 April, the second day of the historic blizzard, another set of headlines proclaimed "Swirling Snow: Serious Floods Are Feared: Railroad Traffic On Some Lines Suspended". The blizzard which struck much of Minnesota, Iowa and sections of northern Missouri was part of an intense storm system which formed "below Kansas" which brought severe weather, including tornadoes. A total of 2.33 inches of moisture was recorded at the St. Paul weather station from 19 through 21 April, 1.63 inches of which fell (along with 14 inches of snow) on 20 April. The storm came at the end of a very cold winter and early spring season. St. Paul temperatures averaged well below normal during January (4 F), February (10 F) and March (23 F). February was also wet, producing 20 inches of snow. April 1893, due in large part to the 20-21 April blizzard was also abnormally wet (with 5.30 inches of moisture). In contrast, the summer of 1893 was much drier and somewhat warmer than normal.

**Please return this form to Joan Haley ASAP (and before May 7) to sign up for the barbecue picnic dinner at Lake Susan in Chanhassen at our Twin Cities AMS chapter May 15 meeting.**

**Enclosed is a check for \_\_\_\_\_ dinner(s) @ \$15/dinner = \_\_\_\_\_**

**Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_**

**Make check out to Twin Cities AMS. Send form and check to: Joan Haley**

**6820 Redwing Lane**

**Chanhassen, MN 55317**

Twin Cities Chapter AMS  
c/o Kurt Scholz  
3233 Snelling Ave. North  
Arden Hills MN 55112-3644

