

AMS LOCAL CHAPTER AFFAIRS

QUARTERLY DIGITAL PUBLICATION/SUMMER_FALL 2013/VOLUME 3

FEATURED CHAPTER

SOUTHWEST PENNSYLVANIA AMS STUDENT CHAPTER

The Southwest Pennsylvania Chapter of the AMS has grown tremendously in its history at California University of Pennsylvania. The student chapter has gained the respect from the university by becoming the third largest student organization on campus. With the representation of over 50 members under the guidance of three professors, our student chapter is made up of dedicated students who share a strong bond with one another.

A unique characteristic of our club is our Colloquial Series. Our chapter has been host to several professionals in the atmospheric sciences. Each year the chapter hosts an average of five professional speakers, including Dr. Brian Fagan (author of "The Great Warming") and Dr. Roger Wakimoto (president of NCAR). The Colloquial Series gives chapter students the chance to network with professionals in a comfortable setting.

The chapter's educational outreach program is our strongest characteristic. Over the last few years the chapter has reached out to over 15 local school districts, educating about 1300 students. The chapter's committee has done work for educational organizations such as the, TRiO Upward Bound Program and the Summer Education Enrichment for Kids. During the summer of 2012, the Educational Outreach's committee chairman had the opportunity to help the educational outreach commitments of the West Central Florida Chapter AMS. Our chapter's largest educational commitment is the annual StormFest. Each year our chapter members volunteer to host a weather festival at Pittsburgh's Carnegie Science Center. The 2012 StormFest had a record of 4000 attendees.

Each year the chapter funds students to attend both NWA/AMS conferences. During the fall of 2011, the chapter co-hosted Pittsburgh's first Integrated Warning Team workshop. Chapter members were able to participate in real world discussions with local professionals. Co-hosting Pittsburgh's first IWT workshop was another great way for our chapter to represent the American Meteorological Society.



The Southwest Pennsylvania Student Chapter at its annual StormFest outreach program.

FEATURED CHAPTER

THE OMAHA-OFFUTT AMS CHAPTER

The Omaha-Offutt AMS Chapter founded in 1955 is committed to furthering the standard of meteorological excellence in the Central Plains region. The chapter's continued success results from over 60 active members banded together from diverse backgrounds. The membership incorporates and is not limited to meteorologists from the National Weather Service in Valley, Nebraska, faculty and students from local Universities such as Creighton and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, military and contractor meteorologists that make up the Headquarters Air Force Weather Agency, commercial and business weather providers, and television broadcast meteorologists from the major networks.

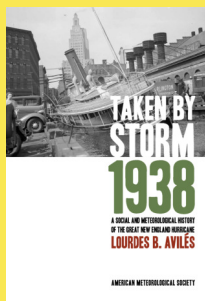
The year always kicks off with a picnic hosted by the Omaha-Valley National Weather Service Forecast Office where chapter members get to tour the office, ask the forecaster on duty any questions they might have, and watch the balloon release! For the rest of the year, the chapter strives to bring in world-class speakers from a variety of backgrounds for our monthly meetings. Over the last year, we have had speakers discuss the ongoing drought, the Missouri river flood, global warming, and many other relevant and interesting topics pertaining to weather and climate. In addition to our monthly meetings, the chapter maintains an active presence in the greater Omaha / Lincoln community through its many volunteer activities. In the past year, members have served as judges at multiple middle and high school science fairs, represented "Meteorologist" at local career day events, served as Chair of the Meteorology Section of the Nebraska State Science Olympiad, worked with high school students as part of the Weather Explorers Post, and partnered with the local media to help program weather radios. Additionally, the chapter partnered with a local university to host a "Careers in Atmospheric Sciences" that consisted of a panel of local professionals representing many of the opportunities available to students after graduation.



Chapter Members with AMS Past-President Jon Malay



AMS/NWA Chapter picnic and balloon launch at the NWS Office in Valley, Nebraska



NEW FROM AMS BOOKS

The newest release from AMS Books is *Taken by Storm, 1938: A Social and Meteorological History of the Great New England Hurricane* by Lourdes B. Avilés. This volume presents the science behind the 1938 Hurricane, along with new data, the historical background, and social impacts of the storm. At the time meteorology, forecasting, and storm preparedness practices were already in transition, and after September 1938 they would be changed forever. List price: \$40; AMS Member price: \$30.

News from AMS Headquarters

Annual Meeting Edition

AMERICAN METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY
94TH ANNUAL MEETING

2-6 FEBRUARY 2014 • ATLANTA, GEORGIA



The AMS Annual Meeting, an unparalleled and one-of-a-kind professional development event, is your opportunity to connect, engage, and interact with fellow chapter members and colleagues. Check out the AMS Web site at <http://annual.ametsoc.org/2014/> to learn more about this professionally rewarding and personally satisfying event!

Chapter Breakfast

We would like to invite you to the chapter officers' breakfast meeting that will be held at the upcoming 94th Annual Meeting of the American Meteorological Society in Atlanta, GA on Tuesday, 4 February 2014, from 7 to 9 am. This is being arranged by the Committee on Local Chapters Affairs in conjunction with the Society. The chapter awards will be presented to both the winning regular chapter and student chapter for 2012-2013. We will also be awarding first, second, and third place ribbons to the best local chapter posters! Posters will be judged on content and design. We ask that every chapter try to be represented. If officers will not be attending the Annual Meeting, please try and designate a member to act as the representative for the chapter.

Poster Display

The poster display will be held at the Convention Center. Display panels will be available as well as pushpins. Each chapter will be allotted a 4' x 8' poster space to display a poster related to their local chapter history and recent activities. You may view posters from the 93rd Annual Meeting at <http://www.ametsoc.org/amschaps/index.html>. The Local Chapter Affairs Committee created a

guideline for the poster award competition. You may view it online at <http://www.ametsoc.org/amschaps/posterguidance.html>. It is requested that chapters submit an abstract (limited to 250 words or less) of what they will be displaying in order to promote attendance. Even if your chapter is unable to display a poster, abstracts on chapter history and activities are also welcome. Posters may be setup beginning on Monday, 3 February at 8:30am and need to be taken down by Thursday, 6 February at 1:30pm. Please note that the poster hall will be closed to the public after that time so please make sure you collect your poster by 1:30pm. If you would like to have your poster judged by the committee, please have it up by 11am on Monday, 3 February.

The registration deadline for chapter representatives attending the breakfast meeting AND the registration deadline to reserve poster space and to submit an abstract is 15 November 2013.

Please mail, fax, or email the following form <http://www.ametsoc.org/amschaps/bkfst2013attach.doc>. Please send abstracts to Kelly Savoie by email (ksavoie@ametsoc.org).

Student Conference & Career Fair

The theme of this year's Student Conference is "Opportunities in the New Job Climate and Beyond". The conference will be held Saturday and Sunday, February 1-2. This year's conference will focus on interdisciplinary topics and wide-ranging opportunities in the atmospheric and related sciences. Students are encouraged to submit

papers on a wide range of topics, such as overviews of ongoing student research projects and/or student applications of emerging technologies. A career fair and networking evening is scheduled to provide a forum for students to personally interact with professionals who represent potential employers and graduate institutions. Learn more at <http://annual.ametsoc.org/2014/index.cfm/programs-and-events/conferences-and-symposia/13th-annual-ams-student-conference-opportunities-in-the-new-job-climate-and-beyond/>

Other Programs of Interest

Student Assistant Program, Travel Grants, and Awards Openings for the Student Assistant Program as well as information on Student Travel Grants and other awards available to AMS student members for the Annual Meeting, will be posted to the AMS Web site in the fall - <http://annual.ametsoc.org/2014/index.cfm/information-for-students/>.

The next newsletter will be published in November. If your chapter would like to announce upcoming events in the next issue of the Newsletter, please email Kelly Savoie (ksavoie@ametsoc.org) no later than October 15. To view prior newsletters, see <http://www.ametsoc.org/amschaps/newsletters.html>

CHAPTER HAPPENINGS

Western Kentucky University Student Chapter

The Western Kentucky University chapter has really started blossoming over the past few months. We are leading the first ever student led weather camp. We are hosting 10 kids ranging in age from 10-14. We have every age in that bracket present. Campers are participating in various projects and workshops over the course of the week. We've taught them about collision coalescence by using a cup with water as the atmosphere below the clouds, shaving cream as the clouds, and food coloring as the water droplets/rain. We have made the traditional tornado with 2 liters, which is still a favorite for the kids! We are demonstrating storm surge from hurricanes by filling a plate with water, setting three matches on fire, and putting a bowl on top of it. It sucks the water in, and when you release the pressure from the bowl, storm surge occurs. We're also teaching them about various careers in the field, taking them to a news station, and letting them make their own project poster. We have been incredibly honored with this opportunity, and I would strongly encourage other universities to look into doing it, too. It's been a great way to showcase our chapter to our community. For more information on our weather camp, see <http://wkuwxcamp.weebly.com/>.

Memphis Chapter

The Memphis Chapter is pleased to announce that William Churchill, of Arlington, Tennessee, is the recipient of the 2013-2014 AMS/NWA-Memphis Chapter scholarship. This is the third scholarship the chapter has awarded to promote continuing education in the atmospheric sciences and to provide encouragement to students in their pursuit of a degree. William is a senior studying Operational Meteorology at Mississippi State University. He has shown his passion in meteorology by volunteering at the National Weather Service office in Memphis during high school and college and is currently a social media intern/nowcaster for MemphisWeather.net. William's interest in meteorology was initially sparked by a flash flood event at his prior home in southern California, but experiencing his first southeastern U.S. severe thunderstorms after moving to the Memphis area solidified his passion for weather, which has translated into educational and career pursuits in the field.



The chapter has had two college professors present at the last two meetings. In May, Dr. Laura Myers, Mississippi State University, talked about her work in social science and the weather enterprise. In March, Dr. Dorian Burnette, University of Memphis, discussed his research in climatology and his work in the meteorology field.

Los Angeles Chapter

Don't Look Now, But California's Coast is Cooling!

The last meeting of the year was our annual banquet, July 27th, 2013 at Beckham Grill, Pasadena. We had a good turnout of members and guests, including visitors from San Diego and New York. Our keynote speaker was Pedro Sequera, PhD candidate from CC-CUNY School of Engineering. Mr. Sequera talked on, "California Coastal Climate Change: Coastal cooling while interior burns. His dissertation deals with coastal heating patterns, particularly in California. He and his co-authors have found that although most areas of North America are warming, coastal areas are actually cooling in recent decades. The premise is that the continent heats faster than the ocean, thus creating a stronger pressure gradient. This in turn enhances the local sea breeze causing a cooling trend in locations within 60 km of the coast and below 200 m. This cooling trend was first noted in the San Francisco Bay area, then in the Los Angeles metro region, and later in areas like San Diego and San Louis Obispo in central California. The implications of this in a time of general warming, is that coastal areas, being cooler, will not use as much energy in cooling buildings, thereby creating a public savings. At the same time, winters continue to warm, also saving energy as homes need less heating. Pedro Sequera's talk stimulated a lively discussion. Stormchaser, Bill Reid, summarized his 2013 spring adventures with his company, Tempest Tours. Although he missed the Moore, OK. F-5 tornado, his group encountered 8 tornadoes. Also among the guests of the LA Chapter, LA County Science Fair winners, Joey Black and Alice Zhai shared their winning projects with the banquet guests. Joey, an 8th grader, showed, "The Effects of Different Materials on a Fog Catcher," while Alice, a 10th grader, shared, "Constructing a Multi-variant Regression Model for Hurricane Loss and Its Application to Hurricane Sandy." Pedro Sequera ended the evening with a rousing rendition from Rigoletto (he's also an opera singer).

CHAPTER HAPPENINGS

Emerald Coast Chapter

The Emerald Coast chapter of the AMS held its latest meeting on Eglin Air Force Base on June 4th. The speaker was Major Matt "Scout" Johnston, who is the Chief of Standardization and Evaluation for the 33rd Operations Group at Eglin. He is a pilot for the new F-35 aircraft, which are currently being added to the 33rd Fighter Wing at Eglin AFB as the Wing takes on the role of training pilots and maintenance personnel on the aircraft. The Wing will train US Air Force, Navy, and Marine Corps personnel, as well as pilots and maintenance personnel from many "partner" nations such as The United Kingdom, The Netherlands, and Canada, who are also purchasing this latest generation

of fighter aircraft. Major Johnston discussed the current weather sensitivities of the aircraft as the operational testing of the aircraft continues. At Eglin Air Force Base, the first primary training base for this aircraft, the weather unit will need to provide forecasts and advisories for lightning within 25 miles of the airfield, which is a very frequent occurrence at Eglin AFB during the summer months! After the briefing, Major Johnson led a tour of portions of the 58th Fighter Squadron's ops area, including an up close look at an actual US Air Force F-35 aircraft.

Oswego State Student Chapter

On Saturday April 20, 2013, the Oswego State Student Chapter hosted its 4th annual Great Lakes Atmospheric Science Symposium (GLASS). With over 40 attendees and 26 presentations, GLASS was an informative day for both students and professionals. Presenters were given the opportunity to share their research and findings in the meteorological community, while attendees were allowed to interact with one another, creating invaluable connections amongst students and professionals in the community.

GLASS is a student-run conference held annually on the SUNY Oswego campus around late April. For updates about future conferences, please go to http://www.oswego.edu/news_weather/weather/GLASS/home.php.

San Diego Chapter

The AMS local chapter in San Diego is back! After a few years of gradual decline and then no formal meetings there is new life in the local San Diego chapter thanks to Brandt Maxwell, Alex Tardy and Tina Stall (all of NWS San Diego office). In January, a kick-off meeting and presentation was held at San Diego Gas and Electric where meteorologists showed off their new weather center and 144 automated weather station network and a follow up presentation event in May at the Hydrologic Research Center. The area of San Diego actually has an abundance of active meteorologists. researchers and weather enthusiasts from local citizens living in the various microclimates, the US Navy and Marines, its own large media market, several private sector consulting firms and the several Universities including the Scripps Institute of Oceanography. In addition, the local weather enterprise has many retired followers that now call San Diego, the 8th largest city in the nation, their home as they enjoy an often temperate coastal climate, but nearby very diverse weather in the mountains and deserts of southwest California. Our next local chapter meeting is scheduled for August 6th at the NWS forecast office in San Diego.



LOCAL CHAPTER MISSION

The AMS Local Chapter Affairs Committee serves as a link between local student and professional chapters and the national AMS. The committee exists in order to provide guidance and support in the mission of all local AMS chapters.

COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP

JIM KURDZO, CHAIR
JESSICA FIEUX, CHAIR-ELECT
KELLY SAVOIE, AMS LIAISON

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ISSUE NO. 1 - VOLUME 03

This newsletter is constructed by members of the American Meteorological Society's Local Chapter Affairs Committee in conjunction with AMS Headquarters. The LCAC meets at every AMS Annual Meeting to help foster the growth of the local chapters. E-mail the committee at:

AMSCHAPS@AMETSOC.ORG