ISSUE NO. 4

AMS LOCAL CHAPTER AFFAIRS

QUARTERLY DIGITAL PUBLICATION/SPRING_SUMMER 2014/VOLUME 3

Chapter Announcements

Great Lakes Atmospheric Science Symposium (GLASS)

When: May 3, 2014
Location: SUNY Oswego Campus, Shineman Center

The Oswego State Chapter is excited to announce our 5th annual student-run conference; Great Lakes Atmospheric Science Symposium (GLASS)! Each year, our conference is held to allow students and professionals to share their latest findings in the meteorological world.

This year, GLASS will take place on May 3, 2014, with a deadline for registration on April 19th. Talks will be given over the course of the day, followed by a banquet dinner on campus in the Campus Center. Closing our conference that evening will be a keynote that is soon to be announced. Registration and a call for abstracts is currently taking place at our website, so please head over there to sign-up, or for more information as details become available. Full details available at: http://www.oswego.edu/news_weather/weather/GLASS/home.php

3rd Annual Northern Plains Convective Storm Symposium

When: May 19 and 20, 2014
Location: University of North Dakota in Grand Forks, ND

The Lake Agassiz Chapter of the American Meteorological Society is pleased to announce the 3rd Annual Northern Plains Convective Storm Symposium on May 19th and May 20th, 2014 at the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks, ND. The primary focus is summertime convection occurring over the Northern Plains of the United States and the Canadian Prairies. Presentations focusing on winter convection, summertime convection outside this region, and topics other than convective weather are welcome.

Cost for students is $20 and $35 for non-students if you register before May 4th. Abstracts are due by April 27th.

To register or submit an abstract, please visit: http://goo.gl/xm07zc.

To stay up-to-date on any announcements, please visit: http://goo.gl/NbZlWC

News from AMS Headquarters

A New, Improved BAMS Digital Edition

BAMS Digital Edition has undergone a makeover. Beginning with the February issue, AMS rolled out BAMS Digital Edition utilizing responsive web design. Responsive design means that the website is designed to respond to its environment. Everything from copy to graphics to photos to videos is laid out so that it fluidly reacts to how much screen space it is given.

To put it another way, no matter what device you're using to read BAMS Digital Edition -- iPad, iPad mini, Kindle, 12-in laptop screen, 21-in desktop monitor -- the pages will acclimate themselves to fit the screen size and orientation (portrait or landscape) of your device. If you're viewing on an iPad, for example, and you're holding the iPad in portrait mode, the Digital Edition will appear in 2-column format. Turn your iPad to landscape mode, and the pages automatically transform into a 3-column format, and all the text and graphics reflow accordingly.

A key feature of this new format is that the text is much sharper. Pinching and zooming is not required to make the text readable. The text scales automatically to fit your window size, making for a better reading experience.

As in the old format, all links in the issue are live and all issues are searchable. Pages can be printed to a local printer. Content can be shared via email, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and/or Pinterest.

Want to read BAMS digital Edition on your iPad, iPhone, or iPod Touch? Make it easy by downloading the BAMS app from the iOS App Store.

For you Android users, we haven't forgotten about you. Plans for an Android app are in the making. Look for it later this year in the Google Play Store.

BAMS Digital Edition is a benefit of AMS membership. Not an AMS member? Join online -- https://www.ametsoc.org/MEMB/index.html. Let us know your thoughts about BAMS Digital Edition by sending your comments and suggestions to digitalbamshelp@ametsoc.org.

Chapter Elections

As the reporting of election results is a requirement, please update your online local chapter directory listing when your chapter elections have been held. If you need your local chapter account number for access, please contact Kelly Savoie (ksavoie@ametsoc.org). Updated election results should be entered no later than 1 June 2014. Please keep in mind that the chapter president/chairperson is required to be a member (Associate, Member, Student) of the Society. If the chapter president/chairperson is not a member or pending member of the Society, then the chapter will not be recognized as being active. You may apply for Membership online or print an application from the AMS Web site at http://www.ametsoc.org/MEMB/apps/index.html. Please update your last election date even if your officers were reappointed for 2014. This will ensure that your chapter remains active in our files and that you receive important emails from AMS Headquarters.

Chapter of the Year Award Applications

The deadline for the local chapter of the year awards is 1 May 2014. Applications must be received by this date. Award applications and information may be found on the AMS Web site at http://www.ametsoc.org/amschaps/index.html#awards. For guidance on what the committee is looking for when judging for the award, please see http://www.ametsoc.org/amschaps/awardguidance.html. There is also a sample Chapter of the Year Application available at http:// www.ametsoc.org/amschaps/LCAC%20COY_Sample.pdf.

America's PrepareAthon! (AP!)

Building a Weather-Ready Nation begins with prepared individuals and communities who know their risks and know how to take action in the face of weather emergencies and all types of hazards. Being prepared for disasters is a shared responsibility that requires whole communities working together to increase personal safety and reduce injuries, financial loss, property damage and loss of life.

America's PrepareAthon! (AP!) is a nationwide, community-based campaign for action to increase emergency preparedness and resilience. With a national focus each spring and fall, it provides a national spotlight on the importance for Americans to practice preparedness actions before an emergency strikes.

It will provide individuals, communities, and organizations with action-based guidance to practice the steps necessary to stay safe during a disaster or emergency. Through hazard-specific drills, group discussions, and exercises, the campaign encourages Americans to learn about mitigation measures; and understand community plans, including alerts and warnings, evacuation, and sheltering.

What are the National Days of Action?

There are two national days of action, one in the spring and one in the fall. This year, on **April 30** and again on **September 30**, individuals, communities and organizations are encouraged to participate in activities year round and register their preparedness events and activities so that all efforts can recognized.

The first official National Day of Action is April 30, 2014. This is an opportunity for individuals, organizations, and communities to practice and prepare for specific hazards through drills, group discussions and exercises. During this event, communities will be asked to choose from (4) specific focus areas: tornadoes, wildfires, floods, and hurricanes.

How Do I Get Involved?

- Starting on March 31st, 2014 register to participate in America's PrepareAthon! at www.ready.gov/prepare and provide details about the activities you're planning.
- Plan your own local community or organizational preparedness event.
- Participate in discussion forums online with like-minded community members.
- Learn the actions to take for disaster preparedness and practice them!

Where Can I Find More Information?

The America's PrepareAthon! website includes a suite of materials to help you promote participation in your activities. These include posters, web badges, digital invitations, and a logo that can all be customized with your community or organization's name.

How Can I Stay in Touch?

Email: PrepareAthon@fema.dhs.gov
Twitter: @PrepareAthon follow the conversation #PrepareAthon
Website: www.ready.gov/prepare

Chapter Happenings

Texas Tech University



The Texas Tech AMS Chapter held its 8th annual Severe Weather Awareness Day on 8 March 2014 in Lubbock, Texas. Partnering with the NWS Lubbock office, Science Spectrum, KCBD News Channel 11, American Red Cross, Levelland Emergency Communications Team (ECT), and South Plains Storm Spotters, the event emphasizes the science behind severe weather and steps that can be taken to mitigate dangers when severe weather occurs. The chapter puts on countless experiments for attendees of all ages, from cloud-in-a-bottle to demonstrations of lightning with a Van de Graff generator and even craft tables for younger children. KCBD provides a mock green-screen and allows kids to practice their forecasting skills during a severe weather event. The various emergency responders that partner with the chapter provide information for parents and adults of what severe weather is most common in West Texas and how to prepare before it occurs. Emergency vehicles from the Red Cross, Levelland ECT, and KCBD are also displayed outside for attendees to tour around and take pictures inside. The Texas Tech Severe Storm Research Team also brings one of their mobile radars and StickNet observing platforms. Prizes are raffled off including a severe weather safety kit, complete with flashlights, blankets, a first aid kit and more, and Midland weather radios. The event continues to grow each year, surpassing record attendance of 1,600 people from the previous year to over 2,000 attendees this year.

Rutgers University



February kicked off at AMS in Atlanta for twenty-four members of our chapter! The entire conference was a blast with so many great speakers, but on top of that, on February 3rd, we were lucky enough to be treated to dinner at Ted's Montana Grill with alumni and professors! Meeting and having dinner with Rutgers Meteorology Alumni was chance to learn from those who have the jobs and experience. A familiar face some might recognize from the dinner was a Rutgers Alumnus, Mark Elliot, who is an on air meteorologist for The Weather Channel.

After the awards banquet, where our own alumna, Merril Teller, won an award that night, we rounded up all the people affiliated with Rutgers for a photo, which led to even more networking opportunities! Upon our arrival back in the Garden State, planning began for an AMS Presentation Meeting. This event took place on the 26th of February and was held to give a thank you to the people who made this trip possible. It also was an opportunity for students to present information from their favorite talks, both at the student conference and the general conference.
Between the AMS Conference and the AMS presentation meeting, on February 24th we co-sponsored an event that was a film screening of the documentary "Shored Up". We were very fortunate to even have a panel discussion after the film that included:

- Tim Dillingham, Executive Director, American Littoral Society
- Jeffrey A. Gebert, Chief, Coastal Planning Section, Philadelphia District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Benjamin Horton, Professor, Institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences, Rutgers University
- Norbert Psuty, Professor Emeritus, Institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences, Rutgers University

Chapter Happenings

Lyndon State College



The Lyndon State College AMS&NWA Club held its 39th Annual Northeastern Storm Conference (NESC) March 7-9, 2014 at the Holiday Inn in Rutland, Vermont. The conference was attended by around 250 students, faculty, and professionals from over 20 schools, 5 National Weather Service offices, and a number of private sector companies. Many AMS chapters from around the Northeast were represented. Keynote speakers included NECN Chief Meteorologist Matt Noyes, LSC Meteorology alum and WIVB 4 Buffalo meteorologist Bryan Shaw, as well as Chris Joosen, Lead Snow Ranger and Director of the Mount Washington Avalanche Center. This year's conference had a record number of presentations, with nearly 70 researchers (both graduate and undergraduate students/faculty and operational meteorologists) presenting their work on Saturday and Sunday. The 40th Anniversary NESC will take place March 6-8, 2015 at the Holiday Inn in Saratoga Springs, NY. Further information will be posted during the coming months on our website at http://apollo.lsc.vsc.edu/ams.

Ohio University & California University of Pennsylvania



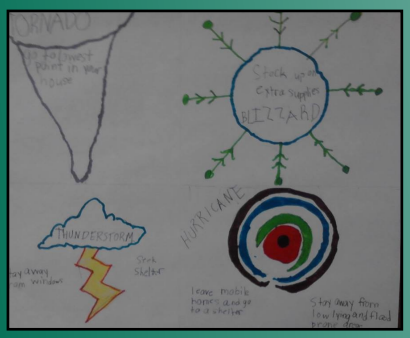
California University of Pennsylvania's (Cal U) Seventh Annual StormFest was held on February 21st and 22nd. StormFest is an educational outreach event put on by the Southwest Pennsylvania Chapter of the AMS geared toward teaching children and their families about meteorology and earth sciences through hands-on activities. The event took place at the Carnegie Science Center in Pittsburgh, PA. On Friday, there were 14 activities that were staffed by around 30 volunteers from the chapter. Many children came to visit on school field trips. This year, StormFest took part in the Carnegie Science Center's 21+ Night where adults were able to learn and enjoy the activities. Saturday, February 22nd was the main event featuring 34 activities with over 60 volunteers. The volunteers were students from the Southwest PA chapter, the Ohio University AMS chapter, the Cal U Geology club, the Cal U GIS club, the Cal U Parks and Rec. club, and Alpha Sigma Tau sorority. Saturday's event featured Meteorologist Nick Walker from The Weather Channel who performed two "Weather Dude" shows. Nick also signed autographs and engaged with the public. The Pittsburgh National Weather Service volunteered on Saturday with an activity geared toward weather safety. Dennis Bowman, a broadcast meteorologist from Pittsburgh's KDKA-TV, had a table set up with a home-made tornado machine. Attendees both days had the chance to complete a certain number of activities to earn a free StormFest t-shirt. There were over 5,100 attendees between Friday and Saturday. This was another successful year for the event.

Chapter Happenings

Los Angeles

The LA Chapter again supported the LA County Science & Engineering Fair at the Pasadena Convention Center, March 28, 2014. Two members of our chapter judged the best "weather-related" projects in the Junior and Senior divisions (Middle and High Schools). After lots of deliberation, they decided to award the top prize (1-year subscription to Weatherwise and invitation to our annual banquet for the students' families) to Colin Livingston and Alex Blanco, 7th graders from American Martyrs School in Manhatten Beach, CA. Their project was, "Extracting Water From the Air."

The chapter is working on holding a joint meeting with the San Diego chapter, and also arranging for a speaker to this year's banquet. New officers were selected recently: Scott Moore, President.



Western Kentucky University

The WKU AMS/NWA Local Student Chapter held a Severe Weather Safety Picture Contest from February 26-March 14. The contest was in honor of Severe Weather Awareness Week for the state of Kentucky which was March 2-8, 2014. Children in grades K-6th who lived in Kentucky could participate and the winner would receive a school visit from Jason Lindsey with Hooked on Science: http://www.hookedonscience.org/ and a Climate Cubes Kit. The chapter had over 46 submissions and a winner was chosen based on the number of votes. The winner of our contest was Karlyle Sullivan, a 3rd grader at Greathouse Shryock Elementary School in Louisville, KY.

Northwest Indiana University



On Saturday, March 22, 2014, the Northwest Indiana Student Chapter hosted the 12th Annual Great Lakes Meteorology Conference at Valparaiso University. This local conference is for undergraduate students from the surrounding states of Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin. The goal is for young meteorology students to gain experience with our smaller conference before attending the larger AMS conference. This year, our theme was "Weather Outside the Box," where we focused on non-traditional research or careers in meteorology. We had 78 people attend this event from 6 different universities. Our keynote, Sarah Jamison, the senior service hydrologist at the National Weather Service Forecast Office in Cleveland, presented on two hydrological disasters in the the Great Lakes and Ohio Valley region in 1913. Matt Friedlein, lead forecaster at the National Weather Service Forecast Office in Chicago/Romeoville, spoke on the NWS perspective of the November 17th, 2013 midwest tornado outbreak. Other speakers included: Jaclyn Ritzman, University of Wyoming; Anthony Lyza, University of Alabama-Huntsville; Mike Westendorf, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee/Innovative Weather; Dr. Craig Clark and his Lake-Effect Snow Research Group, Valparaiso University; and Dustin Conrad and Nicholas Zelasko, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. The Valparaiso University Storm Intercept Team lead an interactive severe weather exercise that had groups trying to identify November tornado outbreaks based on surface and upper-air observations. Overall, the event was very successful and brought new perspectives on meteorology to all who attended. Be sure to save the date for the 13th Annual Great Lakes Meteorology Conference on March 21, 2015!

Chapter Happenings

Plymouth State University

Plymouth State University's AMS Chapter has been active this year throughout New England, serving our students and our community. The following members represent the club:



Eric Brill – AMS Chapter President
James Romer – AMS Chapter Vice President
Alex Herbst – AMS Chapter Secretary
Kyle Martin – AMS Chapter Treasurer
Dr. Jason Cordeira – AMS Chapter Advisor

The year started with our annual fundraiser at New Hampshire Motor Speedway to raise funds for our trip to the Northeastern Storm Conference held by Lyndon State College. Shortly after, the club along with our meteorology faculty successfully hiked Mount Washington and got a tour of the facilities at the top. Also recently, the club designed stickers for sale as a part of the rebranding and redesign of the logo for PSU's Judd Gregg Meteorology Institute.

Finally, the club most recently attended the Northeastern Storm Conference in Rutland, Vermont. With three presentations facilitated by PSU faculty and students, along with nearly half a dozen posters carrying the Plymouth State logo, the conference was a great success for the organization and our school.

Interested in contacting us, or want to present to our chapter? Please contact Alex Herbst at arherbst@plymouth.edu.

North Carolina State University

The NC State Student Chapter of the American Meteorological Society has been extremely busy this year! We have had several monthly speakers including broadcasters Nate Johnson(WRAL) and Lee Ringer(Time Warner Cable News), Dr. Marty Baxter from Central Michigan, Dan Pydynowski(AccuWeather), and Darin Figurskey (Raleigh NWS). In addition to this, we will continue to be busy in April with a presentation from Elliot Tardif(NC DENR DAQ) and we will be putting on a Weather Badge event for the Boy Scouts!

The next newsletter will be published in early August. 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 July 15. To view prior newsletters, see http://www.ametsoc.org/amschaps/newsletters.html

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

JESSICA FIEUX, CHAIR
KRISTY CARTER, CHAIR-ELECT
KELLY SAVOIE, AMS LIAISON

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AMS LOCAL CHAPTER AFFAIRS

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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