AMS LOCAL CHAPTER AFFAIRS

Important Changes to Chapter News Submissions

To better promote the local chapters and what they're up to, as of September 1st, AMS is changing how chapters share news with Headquarters. The new system will not only make it easier for chapters to share information, but better showcase their activities and events.

For IMPORTANT information on the changes and examples of what should and should not be submitted, please see http://www.ametsoc.org/amschaps/chaptercommunications.html.

The next newsletter will be published in early November. If your chapter would like to announce upcoming events or submit a write-up on a specific activity that was successful, 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



FORTCAST Community Outreach

Over the past few months the FORT Collins Atmospheric ScientisTs (FORTCAST) AMS chapter has continued to grow and refine its objectives. We recently managed a booth at the Fort Collins Museum of Discovery's Earth Day event that included many fun activities related to weather observation. We also launched multiple weather balloons from the museum's roof to demonstrate to the public how radiosondes work. In February many of us volunteered at the Little Shop of Physics Open House, a hands-on science outreach program run by the CSU Physics Department. In addition to community outreach, FORTCAST, in collaboration with the CSU chapter of the American Association for Aerosol Research (AAAR), hosted the third annual Young Scientist Symposium on Atmospheric Research (YSSAR). This one-day symposium is an opportunity for graduate students and post docs at CSU and nearby universities to present research relating to the atmosphere. A new cabinet was recently elected and we've been busy brainstorming new ideas for activities and community outreach including public lectures, additional hands-on weather activities, and hosting a weather awareness day. We've also updated our website (fortcast.atmos.colostate.edu) and created Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/groups/FORTCAST/ and Twitter accounts (https://twitter.com/FORTCAST) to enhance our social media presence.

Los Angeles



Leila Carvahlo, professor of geography at the University of California, Santa Barbara spoke to the chapter at the end of June about "Climate Change in the American Monsoon System." Dr. Carvahlo discussed the seasonal patterns over both South and North America showing how the tropical moisture in summer lead to monsoon circulations. However the patterns differ between the Amazon rainforest monsoon and the monsoon in North America. But they do share the same seasonality and trends predicted by climate models. Dr. Carvahlo used several climate models to test how global temperature increases would influence future precipitation in the Americas. Most models agreed that current wet areas would increase moisture through evaporation, leading to greater precipitation by the end of the 21st Century. These wetter regions included both tropical and high mid-latitudes in both hemispheres. However subtropical regions, now relatively drier, would become even drier in the decades to come. The talk led to a lively discussion on sea surface temperatures, possibly more frequent El Ninos and the projections of the models for the SW USA region.

New York City/Long Island

In June, the local New York City/Long Island chapter of the AMS hosted a meeting showcasing NOAA's Doppler on Wheels (DOW) mobile weather radar unit. The DOW 6 radar unit was at Stony Brook University as part of the DREAMS (Doppler Radar for Education And Mesoscale Studies) project. This was a three-week National Science Foundation-funded endeavor to convective storms, sea breezes and other weather phenomena around the New York City (NYC) and Long Island area. The project was led by Dr. Brian Colle, a Professor in the School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences (SoMAS) at Stony Brook. The group measured and investigated small-scale phenomena, such as how thunderstorms evolve as they cross an urban coastal region and how sea breezes develop on the shores of Long Island. They also studied the initiation of convective activity on these sea breeze boundaries. The meeting included a presentation by Joshua Wurman and Karen Kosiba of the Center for Severe Weather Research and of the former Discovery Channel show "Storm Chasers." During the presentation, Drs. Wurman and Kosiba explained how the Doppler on Wheels truck works and some of their experiences in the Great Plains studying tornado motion and evolution and on the coast studying small-scale wind structures within hurricanes.



Southwest Pennsylvania

Several members of the Southwest Pennsylvania Chapter are participating in summer internships throughout the United States. One of these students includes current Chapter President, Josh Gebauer, who is participating in the National Weather Center Research Experience for Undergraduates in Norman, Oklahoma where he is working in the Radar Operations Center, Applications Branch. During his time there, he is working with radar calibration on the NEXRAD fleet, specifically, verifying systematic ZDR bias estimates using Bragg scatter. Additionally, Chapter member Ryan Adams was accepted as a SOARS (Significant Opportunities in Atmospheric Research and Science) protégé, where he is working as a UCAR (University Corporation for Atmospheric Research) employee at the NCAR Mesa Laboratory in Boulder, Colorado. During his 10 weeks there, he is working on a project titled "Understanding the 2013 Boulder Flood: Assessing Similar Situations and Climates in CESM". Chapter Historian, Jason Dohoda, is working at the Carnegie Science Center in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania as part of their Demonstration Theaters Department. He has been working to help produce and execute the many different scientific demonstrations available at the museum's "Works Theater" and "Bayer Science Stage". Finally, Chapter Social Media Coordinator, Ryan Lingo, is working at the David Skaggs Research Center in Boulder, Colorado. He is working on the EarthCube catalog and is helping construct a better cyber infrastructure for the paleogeosciences.

Asheville

The Asheville AMS Chapter was revived in April after being inactive since 2009! In June, the chapter brought in Tim Ballisty, Social Meteorologist at The Weather Channel (TWC), who gave an invited talk on the "Nexus of Weather and Social Media" that described his journey from a traditional meteorologist to social meteorologist to help TWC capture and report severe weather events in a more timely fashion. During his time at weather.com, he was known as an innovator and utilized the latest web technology to quickly disseminate information onto weather.com. He also initiated TWC's first use of Twitter and Facebook in 2009 as social media was just emerging.



The Asheville AMS is alive and well, and we look forward to the future of an active chapter!

Salt Lake City

Members of the Salt Lake Chapter recently participated in the launch of a weather balloon and the recovery of a reusable radiosonde in the Wasatch foothills. "Using surface and upper level wind projections, AMS members were able to forecast the trajectory of the radiosonde facilitating its successful recovery", commented Ben Fasoli, a member of the recovery team and now President of the Chapter. "By involving students in future activities, we hope to engage members outside of the classroom as well as further their interest in the field of Atmospheric Sciences."

Students that helped provide the forecasts of the radiosonde are also involved in forecasting in the Ute Weather Center (UWC). This team produces forecasts twice per day for the University of Utah Campus and surrounding areas in the Salt Lake City valley. The UWC is operated by members of the Salt Lake Chapter and educates students that are interested in a career in forecasting. "The UWC helps give students a chance to learn how to make weather forecasts", commented Adam Abernathy, director of the UWC. "As students become involved in the AMS, we help give them a wide variety of experiences, helping them to explore their interests in the atmospheric science field."

Join the Movement: Participate in America's PrepareAthon!

America's PrepareAthon! offers specific preparedness actions and resources to prepare for weather-related disasters

According to recent FEMA research, nearly ***70 percent of Americans have not participated in a preparedness drill or exercise*****,** aside from a fire drill, at their workplace, school or home in the past two years. America's PrepareAthon! was designed to change this statistic!

America's PrepareAthon! is a grassroots campaign for action to increase community preparedness and resilience through hazard-specific drills, group discussions and exercises. The goal of this campaign is to increase the number of individuals who:

- Understand which disasters could happen in their community
- Know what to do to be safe and mitigate damage
- Take action to increase their preparedness
- Participate in community resilience planning

The AMS encourages you to participate in America's PrepareAthon! as part of National Preparedness Month this September. It's a great opportunity to promote simple actions people across the country can take to prepare for disasters leading up to and on National PrepareAthon! Day held on September 30.

America's PrepareAthon! offers free resources to help guide preparedness efforts in your local community. Visit www.ready.gov/prepare to access these materials and other information about hazards most relevant to your community.

Remember, preparing for disasters is easy, but it takes the whole community working together to effectively prepare for, respond to, and recover from natural disasters and other emergencies. With your help, let's build a more disaster resilient nation, one community at a time!

Stay in Touch
For information about National Preparedness Month, visit www.ready.gov/September; and America's PrepareAthon! at www.ready.gov/prepare.

Participate in the National Preparedness Month conversation by using #NatlPrep. Follow America's PrepareAthon! on Twitter @PrepareAthon and participate in the conversation using #PrepareAthon.

National AMS Membership Video Contest

What does being a member of the national AMS mean to you? If you had two minutes to explain the best parts of being a national AMS member, what would you say? Now we're giving you the chance to show why you believe national AMS membership is worthwhile and beneficial to you!

Chapter members are invited to create their own video highlighting why they think national AMS membership is worthwhile. The best student chapter video and regular chapter video will be showcased on the AMS website. They will be used to help new members and those interested in joining the AMS understand the benefits that come along with national membership. Submissions will be due by February 1, 2015.

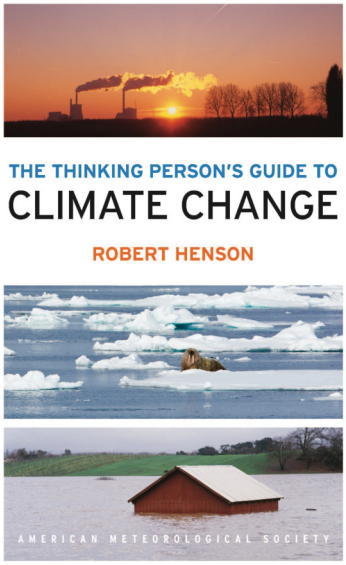
Rules and guidelines:

1. The objective is to showcase the benefits of AMS membership, specifically national society membership rather than involvement in a local chapter alone.
2. The winning videos (one from the Student Chapter Category, one from the Regular Chapter Category) will be featured on the national AMS website.
3. One or more person(s) can put the video together.
4. Videos may be no longer than 2 minutes.
5. More than one submission from each chapter is acceptable as long as the submissions are from different chapter members.
6. Upload your submission to YouTube or Vimeo and then forward the link to Kelly Savoie (ksavoie@ametsoc.org). Please reference your chapter name in the email.
7. Submissions are due by February 1, 2015.

Although only one video will be chosen as the winner from each category, other submissions or portions of submissions may be used in AMS promotional materials. The AMS encourages creativity in the submissions, but asks that videos remain appropriate for all audiences. Any submissions containing inappropriate material will not be shared or considered.

Got questions? Email Kelly Savoie (ksavoie@ametsoc.org).

Good luck!



New Release from AMS Books: The Thinking Person's Guide to Climate Change

by Robert Henson
© 2014, 516 pages, paperback
ISBN: 978-1-878220-73-7
List price: $30
AMS Member price: $20

AMS Books is happy to announce the release of *The Thinking Person's Guide to Climate Change* by Robert Henson. Everybody can be a thinking person when it comes to climate change, and this book is the perfect roadmap. Ideal for teachers, students, researchers, and nonscientists alike, *it cuts* through the confusion and controversy and provides a comprehensive and accessible overview of climate science.

The Thinking Person's Guide to Climate Change combines years of data with recent research, including conclusions from the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. An updated and expanded version of Robert Henson's *The Rough Guide to Climate Change*, the newest release from AMS Books explores the symptoms, the science, and the debates related to Earth's changing climate, as well as actions we can all take to create a more promising future.

Additionally, this comprehensive reference includes full-color illustrations that explain everything from how the greenhouse effect traps heat to which activities in everyday life emit the most carbon, and special-feature boxes that zoom in on locations across the globe already experiencing the effects of a shifting climate.

ROBERT HENSON is a science writer at the National Center for Atmospheric Research and a contributing editor to *Weatherwise* magazine. His other books include *Weather on the Air: A History of Broadcast Meteorology*, also published by the American Meteorological Society.

AMS Broadcast Board Seeks Student Volunteer

The AMS Broadcast Board is seeking the assistance of a meteorology student to volunteer to help connect universities and students with the AMS and the broadcast industry. The student should be at least entering their sophomore year in college, in good standing with their university, and be a member of the AMS.

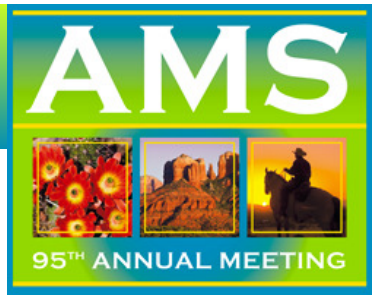
The two main responsibilities of this position will include:

A. Working with the board to advertise and encourage students to attend and participate in the annual broadcast conference.
B. Educating and informing other broadcast meteorology students of the eligibility requirements of the CBM.

The board will conduct periodic conference calls to discuss conference planning and other topics related to the CBM. The student member is encouraged to join in on the calls whenever possible. This position is a one year term that begins in the fall semester and concludes at the end of the annual broadcast conference, or as otherwise decided upon by the board. Students that want to be considered for the position should prepare a paragraph expressing their interest and submit it along with a current transcript to a board member (http://www.ametsoc.org/stacpges/CommitteeDisplay/CommitteeDisplay.aspx?CC=SEAL) or Kelly Savoie (ksavoie@ametsoc.org) by May 1st.

The successful candidate will be selected during the annual broadcast conference and be notified shortly thereafter.

News from AMS Headquarters
Annual Meeting Edition



Local Chapter Officers' Breakfast

We would like to invite all local chapter officers to the chapter officers' breakfast meeting that will be held at the upcoming 95th Annual Meeting of the American Meteorological Society in Phoenix, AZ on Tuesday, 6 January 2015, from 7 to 9:00 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 2013-2014. 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. For the first time, this year we will be including a Town Hall meeting during the last 45 minutes of the breakfast. Winning chapters will have the opportunity to discuss what activities worked well for them over the past year, and meeting attendees interested in joining a local chapter will be invited to chat with chapter officers attending the breakfast. 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 94th Annual Meeting at http://www.ametsoc.org/amschaps/index.html (under Local Chapter Awards). 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. Posters may be setup beginning on Monday, 5 January at 8:00am and need to be taken down by Thursday, 8 January at 12:00pm. The poster hall will be closed to the public after that time so please make sure you collect your poster by 12:00pm. If you would like to have your poster judged by the committee for the poster awards, please have it up by 11am on Monday, 5 January. **New this year:** If you will be displaying a poster, please email a jpeg file of the final poster to Kelly Savoie (ksavoie@ametsoc.org) by December 15th as photos of the chapter poster winners will be displayed on screen at the Chapter Officers Breakfast on Tuesday.

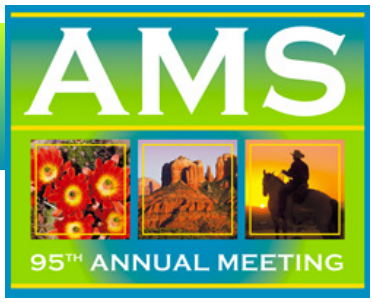
Chapter Abstracts

It is requested that chapters submit an abstract (limited to 150 words or less – see below example) for publication in the Annual Meeting Program in order to promote attendance at the poster display. *Abstract Example*:

Cornell University
The Cornell Chapter of the American Meteorological Society, affectionately referred to as CCAMS by students, was first instated in 1979. CCAMS aims to enrich the undergraduate experience by providing ample opportunities for professional development through internship seminars, and presentations by guest speakers working in the meteorology field. In addition, we participate in WX Challenge, a departmental forecast competition, and have expanded our forecasting reach through our Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages. CCAMS also aims to give back to our local community through afterschool enrichment events at area middle schools, and we invite local students to our home on the 11th floor of Bradfield Hall to learn more about Atmospheric Science. To learn more about the chapter visit the following webpages: Website: www.ccams.eas.cornell.edu; Facebook: www.facebook.com/CornellWeather; Twitter: www.twitter.com/CornellWeather; Instagram ID: Cornell_Weather

The registration deadline for chapter representatives attending the breakfast meeting AND the registration deadline to reserve poster space and to submit an abstract is **3 November 2014**. Please email the following form http://www.ametsoc.org/amschaps/bkfst2014attach.doc to Kelly Savoie (ksavoie@ametsoc.org) along with your abstract in MSWord format.

News from AMS Headquarters
Annual Meeting Edition



Student Assistant Program, Travel Grants, and Awards

AMS strongly encourages student participation at the annual meetings. Therefore, the society has established programs that help provide partial travel support to undergraduate and graduate students. Student travel opportunities can be located on the 95th AMS Annual Meeting page (http://annual.ametsoc.org/2015/index.cfm/information-for/students/)

The following programs are available for the 95th AMS Annual Meeting in Phoenix, Arizona:

- Student Assistant Program (opened to sophomore, junior and senior undergraduate students)
- Student Travel Grant Program (opened to senior undergraduate and graduate students – ***not presenting at the professional sessions***)

Application deadline for the Student Assistant Program is October 3, 2014. Deadlines for travel grants and awards vary. See (http://annual.ametsoc.org/2015/index.cfm/information-for/students/student-award-opportunities/) for specific deadlines. Contact Donna Fernandez at dfernandez@ametsoc.org or 617-226-3907 with any questions.

Important Local Chapter Conference Call

Join the Local Chapter Affairs Committee (LCAC) from 12pm-1pm ET on Friday, September 19th for a conference call to discuss the 2014-2015 chapter year! During the call, we will discuss resources available from the national AMS, information sharing via the Wiki, changes coming to chapter websites hosted by the AMS, submitting chapter news to AMS, changing local chapter officer information on the national AMS website and upcoming deadlines for the 2015 Annual AMS Meeting. Suggestions for additional topics? Send them to us at amschaps@ametsoc.org. Please have at least one representative from your chapter attend this call.

Dial-in information is as follows: 1-619-326-2772; access code 2860091.

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

AMS Headquarters
45 Beacon St. Boston, MA 02108

Follow Us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/AMSLCAC

AMS Local Chapter Affairs

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