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.

*Please specify when sending information if it is for the Chapter Channel Section of BAMS or the Quarterly Local Chapter Affairs Newsletter (or both).

Chapter Happenings



New York City/Long Island

In July, meteorologists, weather enthusiasts and New York State Master Earth Science teachers attended the Chapter meeting at the NYC NWS Forecast Office at Brookhaven National Laboratory. The meeting was held in the hour prior to the start of the NWS's annual Open House, which drew nearly 1,000 attendees and culminated in a special upper-air balloon launch. Dr. Jason Tuell, NWS Eastern Region Director provided an informative overview of the NWS Weather Ready Nation (WRN) initiative and how science is a critical and integral part. The science initiatives within WRN go beyond the traditional infusion of new meteorological and hydrological techniques into their forecast processes. They now include social science to increase the effectiveness of their forecasts. The advantages and challenges of the initiative were discussed as well as thoughts for the future as the NWS strives to inform and educate the public on all aspects of weather in our lives. The take away message from this presentation was that we all have to work together (public, local governments and industry) to make our nation truly ready to address the weather-related issues and events of the future. Our meeting was highlighted by an awards ceremony for NWS Cooperative Observer Richard Hendrickson. Mr. Hendrickson has been an NWS Cooperative Observer for 84 continuous years! A special award, appropriately named the Richard Hendrickson Award, was issued to Mr. Hendrickson for active service of 80 years or more as a Cooperative Observer.

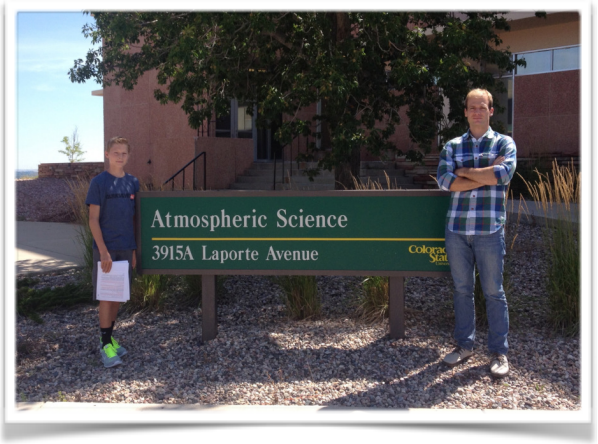
Ark-La-Tex



The Ark-La-Tex chapter visited the KLSA NEWS 12 station in Shreveport, LA where they watched the evening broadcast. Following the broadcast, the group of 20 AMS members, along with members from the 26 Operational Weather Squadron at Barksdale Air Force Base, had a question and answer session with the lead meteorologist Jeff Castle. The discussion covered topics that ranged from meteorological products used to help develop the stations weather broadcast, to significant severe weather events and coverage from the standpoint of the three different organizations.

FORTCAST

Remember the name, Cameron Foth. At the age of 13, this young man creates hand-drawn renditions of MODIS images for "thank you" notes, navigates on family vacations using polarized radar data on his smart phone, and studies global rainfall climatology employing his understanding of the IDL programming language. His family recently contacted members of the Northern Colorado local AMS chapter, FORTCAST, for mentoring in atmospheric science and we obliged. As part of one of our new initiatives, Cameron took part in a series of science exercises designed to facilitate intellectual growth in the next generation of atmospheric scientists in our neighborhood. Our chapter's voice is heard through local media outlets and university connections as we reach out to inform the broader community. Our mission is to make atmospheric science accessible to anyone willing to put forth the effort; to all who are interested, we are here to help you in making the first incremental steps toward newfound understanding.



Lyndon State College



The Lyndon State College student chapter of the American Meteorological Society and National Weather Association held its annual Car Wash on Sunday September 28, 2014. The chapter typically holds this event during the early autumn time, but this was the first time in a couple of years that the weather was able to cooperate enough to wash cars. Members of the local chapter gathered at the Lyndonville, VT Redemption Center where they participated in washing vehicles of local residents, students, or even just folks who were passing through on their way to view some dazzling fall foliage. Some student members even assisted the club in designing 'car wash' signs that were held up by the road in order to spread the word. Approximately 15 club members took time out of their schedule to volunteer for this event. Although car washes were provided free as a service to those that stopped, there were some generous donations that were made to the club. All in all, it was a great day marked by beautiful weather, a large turnout, and plenty of clean cars!



University of Missouri-Columbia

On Saturday September 13, 2015 the Mizzou AMS chapter traveled to the Saint Louis NWS to represent the chapter and the meteorology department. The NWS said 21000 people registered for tours throughout the day. It was a great event to talk with the public about the great research happening at Mizzou and the events our chapter participates in annually. We also met with many prospective students. A big thank you goes out to NWS SLX for hosting such a great event.

Pennsylvania State University

The Penn State Meteorology department was privileged enough to host the Doppler on Wheels (DOW) for two weeks from late September into October. Through club and class visits, many of the meteorology students had the opportunity to see the DOW and go inside it. There was even a group of students, those in the radar and mesoscale meteorology courses at Penn State, that had the chance to run the DOW and collect data on days with thunderstorms and cold front passages. The highlight of the DOW's stay was being able to have it on display in downtown State College on Saturday, October 4th during the State College Fall Festival. Throughout the course of the day, many of our local AMS chapter members volunteered to help with the event. Some students helped explain the tornado pod and the instruments on it that help collect necessary data during storm chasing. There were other students, along with one of our professors and the DOW driver/engineer, who were describing the inside of the DOW to the public. Over the course of the 4 hour event, several hundred people stopped by to see the DOW as it was quite the eye-catcher. We were very glad to have the opportunity to display this to the public.



Rutgers University

We had our first club meeting on September 4, which was a huge success! After making introductions, we discussed fundraising plans such as calendars (which members and alumni can submit their own weather photos for club voting), sweatshirts, T-shirts, along with our Yankee Candle fundraising, which brings in a huge success each year. We also began discussing a fall trip to Accuweather, and of course, the AMS Conference in Phoenix!



Cook Campus Community Day held place on September 17, which gives students on the Cook and Douglass campuses an opportunity to see all of the different organizations throughout SEBS, SAS, and Mason Gross School of the Arts. We talked with a few transfer meteorology students who were unaware of the club and got them to join, in addition meeting several other students interested in Meteorology, and one very well-known student interested in Tornado in a Bottle!

Southwest Pennsylvania

Students in the AMS Southwest Pennsylvania Chapter work hard on our colloquium series to bring in presenters from across the States to inform the CalU community of all the different options and experiences that are available after graduation. Dr. Grady Dixon from Fort Hays State University, located in Hays, Kansas, came to California University of Pennsylvania on October 2nd, 2014 to give a talk on tornado climatology, storm chasing, and graduate opportunities. In his presentation, he answered some of the most frequently asked questions he receives like "Why do you chase?" and "Isn't it dangerous?" He also talked about what his job is at Fort Hays and some of the experiences he has had storm chasing over the years. Approximately 40 people attended this presentation. Our chapter finds it very fulfilling to have different professionals from all over the country give talks on their individual experiences and careers. Those who attend our colloquium series speakers become more informed of the many opportunities and paths available in an earth science or related field. Other presenters coming to CalU this semester include Dr. Shalini Mohleji, John Jennings, Anupa Asokan, and Kevin Wagner. All talks are open to the public. For those not able to attend in person, the presentation can be streamed via internet.

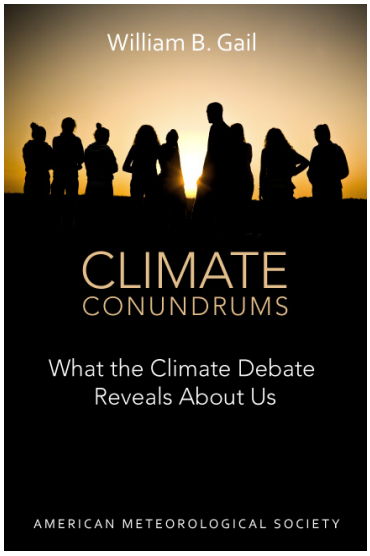


West Central Florida

The West Central Florida AMS Chapter's September meeting consisted of dinner followed by a tour of the WFLA-TV News Channel 8 studios in Tampa. During the dinner, chapter president Dr. Jennifer Collins announced that the chapter is becoming a Weather Ready Nation Ambassador, joining a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) initiative aimed at improving the nation's readiness, responsiveness, and overall resilience against extreme weather, water, and climate events. The tour was led by Steve Jerve, the chief meteorologist at WFLA, along with two other meteorologists from the WFLA team, Julie Phillips and Bryan Bennett. Members got a chance to see the set with the green screen as well as the weather center and control room while the WFLA team discussed the technology used in the studio, as well as their daily responsibilities and routines. The tour concluded on the 4th floor deck with a beautiful view overlooking downtown Tampa.



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



New Release from AMS Books

Climate Conundrums: What the Climate Debate Reveals About Us

by William B. Gail
© 2014, 235 pages, paperback
ISBN: 978-1-935704-74-4
List price: $30
AMS Member price: $20
http://bookstore.ametsoc.org/

Climate Conundrums is a journey through how we as humans think, individually and collectively, derived from the experience of the climate change debate. It is broadly organized around humanity's relationship with nature, the challenges facing society, and the path ahead for civilization. While author William B. Gail believes anthropogenic climate change is happening, here he focuses on exploring what the debate itself says about us.

Gail begins each chapter with a big-picture question—Can we make nature better? Could science and religion reconcile?—and from there follows an introspective path through several perspectives on the question. He applies wisdom and wit to longstanding problems, such as whether humans are growing increasingly distant from nature, and to contemporary issues, such as can technology eventually solve all of society's needs.

While no final answers are given, the insights that come from reflecting on these questions can help society find a way forward and help each of us to better understand who we are as humans.

WILLIAM B. GAIL is co-founder and Chief Technology Officer of Global Weather Corporation, Fellow and 2014 President of the American Meteorological Society, and a lifetime National Associate of the National Research Council.

Join AMS Today!

Being an AMS Student Member connects you to a vital community of professionals and students working in the fields of weather, water, and climate. It provides you with valuable access to discounted student meetings, rewarding job and internship opportunities, journals and publications, and other important resources as you move into an exciting career within the atmospheric, oceanic, and related hydrologic sciences. Annual dues for students currently enrolled in a university or college at least half-time is just $20!

Tell your fellow chapter members about the benefits of AMS membership! Learn more at http://www.ametsoc.org/memb/fall2014student.pdf

AMS Scholarship and Fellowship Programs

The American Meteorological Society (AMS) offers various scholarship and fellowship opportunities to potential students pursuing undergraduate and graduate degrees in the atmospheric and related oceanic and hydrologic sciences. AMS is pleased to announce that we are accepting applications for the 2015 scholarship and fellowship programs.

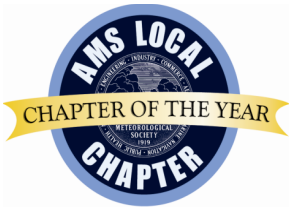
Information and applications can be found on the AMS web site and can be accessed through the student resource pages. (http://www.ametsoc.org/amsstudentinfo/index.html).

Contact Donna Fernandez at dfernandez@ametsoc.org or 617-226-3907 with any questions.

News from AMS Headquarters

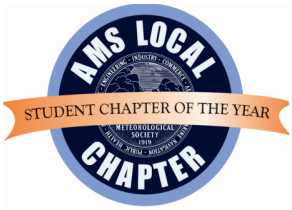
2013-2014 Chapter of the Year Awards Announced

We are happy to announce the Chapter of the Year Award winners for 2013-2014! Every year the Local Chapter Affairs Committee is tasked with choosing the winners for this award (both student and regular chapters) and as always the applicants were outstanding.



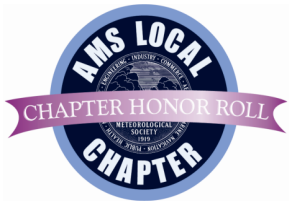
Blue Ridge

"For their strong outreach focus in raising severe weather awareness in the community and excellence in career building and research promotion through a diverse speaker series and multiple networking opportunities for chapter members."



Southwest Pennsylvania

"For their continued, long-standing educational outreach, focus on member education with their first-ever research symposium, strong interaction with other local chapters, and a colloquial series to enhance the career and meteorological knowledge of their members."



University of Alabama – Huntsville
University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez
West Central Florida
Iowa State University
Lyndon State College
North Florida
Northwest Indiana

Thank you to all the chapters who submitted applications for the award! The nomination deadline for the 2014-2015 awards is 1 May 2015.

New Ideas Forum at the AMS Annual Meeting

We are introducing the New Ideas Forum as a way for attendees to provide a brief, informal overview of their current and future interests in a collegial setting. Informal discussions are encouraged across all aspects of our discipline, including basic science, applied science, education, new technology, policy interests, or future directions you feel our field may be headed. For more information see http://annual.ametsoc.org/2015/index.cfm/programs-and-events/town-hall-meetings/town-hall-meeting-new-ideas-forum-networking-and-idea-exchange-for-student-and-early-career-members/

News from AMS Headquarters

If you will be displaying a poster at the Annual Meeting, please email a jpg file of the final poster to Kelly Savoie (ksavoie@ametsoc.org) by **December 15** as photos of the chapter poster winners will be displayed on screen at the Chapter Officers Breakfast on Tuesday.

Job Target Intern Board

Companies: The Job Target Intern Board is a modern platform that makes the complex process of recruiting more efficient, which empowers companies to advertise internships that will attract the most qualified talent. Companies are able to list opportunities on the Intern Board at no charge.

Students: The Intern Board is available now waiting for you to take advantage of this great opportunity and connect with potential companies looking to find qualified students. Create your profile and begin using the Intern Board services today.

Access the Intern Board at http://internboard.ametsoc.org/home/

Chapter Directory

The online Chapter Directory (http://www.ametsoc.org/amschaps/newdirec/) lists all AMS local chapters along with the contact information for each officer. Chapters' are responsible for keeping their own listings up-to-date. Since news and information from AMS Headquarters is sent to the email addresses referenced in the online chapter directory, it is crucial that your information remain current. If you need to update your listing, please contact Kelly Savoie (ksavoie@ametsoc.org) for your chapter account number. You may update and access your listing through the AMS Web site at http://www.ametsoc.org/amschaps/chapdirupdate/index.cfm. Please keep your chapter account number and instructions on how to update your listing on file and be sure to pass it along to incoming officers each year.

Did You Know...

This is not your Father's or Mother's AMS! Publishing in AMS journals today means no fees for color and the quickest average peer-review (65 days to first decision) and production times (100 days) ever (and both of those numbers continue to fall). All of that and the most prestigious journals in the field. Isn't it time you published with AMS?

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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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