

# AMS LOCAL CHAPTER AFFAIRS

QUARTERLY DIGITAL PUBLICATION/FALL\_WINTER 2013/VOLUME 3

## FEATURED CHAPTER UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA STUDENT CHAPTER

The University of Georgia Student Chapter of the American Meteorological Society (AMS) is a student-run organization founded in 2000. UGA AMS works to promote weather and atmospheric sciences among students and members of the local Athens, Georgia community through a variety of events that help to foster discussion and enthusiasm for meteorology.

The UGA Student Chapter has hit the ground running this academic year. In an effort to bolster our chapter's visibility on our campus, we have worked to create an aggressive advertising campaign, increase presence at campus organization fairs, and create an interactive platform through social media.

Our chapter has also been working to sponsor more educational events for our members and the community. Our speaker series of accomplished weather professionals from across the country has been a strong point for us over the past two years. Last year alone, we invited Bill Murtagh from the Space Weather Prediction Center in Boulder, CO to discuss with our members the growing importance and impacts of space weather on today's society. Good Morning America Meteorologist, Ginger Zee, captivated the audience with her many adventures as a broadcast meteorologist. She gave great advice and life lessons to those aspiring to work in the broadcasting industry. We invited The Weather Channel's Hurricane Specialist, Bryan Norcross, to speak to our chapter about his experiences with Hurricane Andrew in 1992 and The Weather Channel's controversial decision to name winter storms. Currently, we have already hosted NWS Peachtree City MIC Keith Stellman and Mike Smith, Executive of Accuweather Enterprises Inc. Our guest speakers introduce different spectrums of atmospheric



**Members of the University of Georgia Student Chapter**

sciences to our members. Each speaker provides intriguing stories and valuable words of wisdom, and the connections made will prove to be priceless for everyone.

While a lot has happened in the past few months, we plan to run with this momentum into 2014. In addition to inviting additional speakers, we will continue our public outreach efforts by contacting local schools to teach children and young adults about weather safety in conjunction with Georgia's Severe Weather Awareness Week. We also plan on building the relationship among members with additional social events and with other local chapters and meteorology enthusiasts across the country. A handful of members traveled to Nashville, TN for the AMS Severe Local Storms Conference in November 2012 and to the National AMS Conference in Austin, TX, where we won 2nd place in the Student Chapter Poster Contest. We plan on participating heavily in the 94th American Meteorological Society Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia. We plan on hosting weather briefings and participating in Weatherfest. Interaction is great for networking in the future and more importantly, to meet other wonderful individuals who share our passion for weather and meteorology.

# FEATURED CHAPTER

## UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS, URBANA-CHAMPAIGN STUDENT CHAPTER

The Student Chapter of the American Meteorological Society at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign (SCAMS@UIUC) was founded in Fall of 2007 by Wendi Kaufeld, Amanda Dooley, and Faye Barthold. One of our many objectives as an organization is to serve as a conduit between students interested in Atmospheric Sciences at the University of Illinois and the American Meteorological Society (AMS). Our chapter brings graduate and undergraduate students together to engage in philanthropic activities and learn more about our chosen field of Atmospheric Sciences.

We currently have 35 active members who are participating within the organization in a wide range of activities. In our October meeting, we hosted a panel of graduate students accompanied by Dr. Jeffrey Frame to talk about the process of applying for graduate school and the benefits. Several members were able to ask their most pressing questions about preparing for graduate school that gave them a better idea about the application process and their priorities when applying. Our November meeting will focus on

select members that participated in internships over the past summer and give synopses of their research that they will present at the 2014 Annual AMS Student Conference. Some of the internship activities that will be highlighted through these members include researching with the EMC at NCEP through NCAS, forecasting and researching through NWS and forecasting through EMA. They will also provide advice to other members on how to look and apply for internship positions.

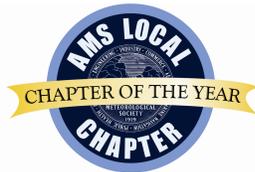
Outside of these research projects, SCAMS@UIUC is also planning to do fundraising activities that include supporting an organization involved in disaster relief and leaf raking for residents in the community. The chapter will also be presenting a weather safety course to the local Boy Scouts troops to help them earn a weather merit badge. Additionally, SCAMS@UIUC will be holding a science night at a local school in order to teach students about Atmospheric Sciences.



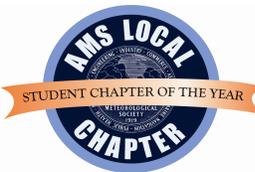
**The Student Chapter of the  
American Meteorological Society  
at the University of Illinois in  
Urbana-Champaign**

# 2012-2013 Chapters of the Year Announced

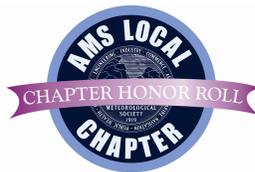
We are happy to announce the Chapter of the Year Award winners for 2012-2013. Every year the Local Chapter Affairs Committee is tasked with choosing the winners for this award (both student and regular chapters) and once again this year's applicants were outstanding. With so many impressive applicants, the job of selecting winners for this award is a difficult one.



**North Florida** "For tremendous effort in public outreach technique development, excellent attention to professional development, a diverse speaker series covering all aspects of atmospheric science, and innovation in meeting types and methods."



**Iowa State University** "For continued excellence in the local community, a very well rounded and creative approach to public outreach, and their commitment and success mentoring and retaining young students in the atmospheric sciences."



Millersville University, Southwest Pennsylvania, University of Georgia, University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez, West Central Florida

**Thank you to all the chapters who submitted applications for the award! The nomination deadline for the 2013-2014 awards is 1 May 2014.**

## Chapter News

All chapters are encouraged to share their activities, newsletters and other interesting events with other AMS members through the "Chapter News" section of the AMS Web site as well as the "Chapter Channel" Section of the AMS Bulletin (BAMS). The majority of chapter news submissions submitted to Headquarters are featured on the AMS Web site (<http://www.ametsoc.org/amschaps/news.html>). Please email your news to [chapnews@ametsoc.org](mailto:chapnews@ametsoc.org). We ask that you submit your news in paragraph format.

The Chapter Channel Section, which is part of Nowcast in BAMS, focuses on particular topics or events that readers will find both fascinating and useful to some degree. Although all chapter submissions are not published in BAMS, a complete summary will be posted to the AMS Web site each month. Please note that chapter news is posted as received and is not edited.

# CHAPTER HAPPENINGS

## AMS/NWA Memphis Chapter takes Tour of ZME ARTCC/CWSU

On the evening of September 18th, both the Memphis (ZME) Air Route Traffic Control Center (ARTCC) and the Center Weather Support Unit (CWSU) played host for the first AMS/NWA Memphis chapter meeting of the 2013-2014 year. After the brief business meeting was adjourned, chapter members and a few guests received detailed presentations explaining the functions of each department and how their interaction translates weather forecasts and decisions to the safety of thousands of flights that pass through the Mid-South daily.

The first speaker was Herb Tyson, an FAA ARTCC training instructor. Herb discussed the geographical boundaries of the Memphis ARTCC and how it lies amongst the other 21 centers across the country. He also explained the different altitude levels and separation rules the controllers are responsible for. The night's second speaker was Stephen Kearney, an Aviation Meteorologist with the Memphis CWSU. Stephen presented the importance of weather decision making to pilots, controllers and ground operators; which can become quite costly when the weather makes an abrupt change that is not foreseen. The CWSU not only coordinates with the Aviation Weather Center in Kansas City, but also with the National Weather Service Forecast Office in Memphis and the Meteorology Department at FedEx, whose global SuperHub is located at Memphis International Airport.

After the presentations, attendees were split up and given tours of each department, including being paired with controllers during live conversations with air traffic. The evening ended with pizza and soda provided by both facilities.

## Rutgers University Meteorology Club

The 2013/2014 school year is off to a productive start here at the Rutgers University AMS Chapter. The executive board began working all the way back on August 25th, and was promptly followed by another E-board meeting on September 2nd. These E-board meetings early on led to a successful participation in the Rutgers Fall Involvement Fair also on the second of the month. These two early E-board meetings facilitated the planning of fundraisers, community outreaches, trips for our chapter, and go about revisions to improve the clubs constitution.

The first general meeting of the year took place on September 11th, and our first topic was to offer community outreaches/volunteer opportunities to our club/chapter members. They consist of presentations about weather to students at Dutch Neck Elementary School (grades K-3rd) which will be on April 4th, and also presenting to a Girl Scout Troop in Ewing, NJ on September 12th. A volunteering event that is coming up will be giving a group of homeschool students a tour of the weather station at Rutgers Gardens, and also a tour of the university's weather recording studio, that is where the Meteorology Club and Weather Watchers Program (broadcast meteorology) will be cooperatively giving a tour. The next topic discussed at the meeting was about some of our fundraisers which are comprised of a Yankee Candle sale as well as a photo calendar sale that will be constructed with photographs from our own club/chapter members! Later on in the evening a portion of the meeting was spent on reminders about the 2013 AMS Conference deadlines as well as trip details. The final portion of the September general meeting was left for the discussion of the fall trip to Washington D.C., which will be coming up in October.



# News from AMS Headquarters

## Annual Meeting Deadlines

**15 November 2013** -Registration deadline for chapter representatives attending the chapter officers' breakfast meeting AND registration deadline to reserve poster space. Please mail, fax, or email the following form <http://www.ametsoc.org/amschaps/bkfst2013attach.doc>.

**15 November 2013** - Deadline to submit a chapter abstract for publication in the Annual Meeting Program. Please send abstracts to Kelly Savoie by email ([ksavoie@ametsoc.org](mailto:ksavoie@ametsoc.org)).

## AMS Local Chapter Booth

AMS Local Chapters will once again have their own booth at the 94th Annual Meeting. If you would like to participate by creating some handouts/brochures, or if you would be interested in volunteering a portion of your time to man the booth, please contact Kelly Savoie.

We are looking for volunteers during the following high traffic times:

Monday, 2:30-4:00 p.m.  
Tuesday, 9:45-11:00 a.m.  
Wednesday, 2:30-4:00 p.m.  
Thursday, 9:45-11:00 a.m.

It will be a fantastic way to promote your chapter!

## 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](mailto: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.

## Student Mentorship Program

Are you a student interested in private sector meteorology? Want to grow your professional network and business acumen? Apply to the AMS Board for Private Sector Meteorology's Student Mentorship Program! For more information about the BPSM mentorship program, including student testimonials, mentor profiles, and an application, please visit <http://www.ametsoc.org/boardpages/bpsm/mentorshipprogram.html>, or contact [BPSM@ametsoc.org](mailto:BPSM@ametsoc.org). **Deadline is**

**November 15!**

## Scholarships & Fellowships

The American Meteorological Society (AMS) administers a variety of scholarship and fellowship programs to students pursuing careers in the atmospheric, and related oceanic and hydrologic sciences. These programs operate with the support of its members, corporations and government agencies nationwide to help further the education of outstanding undergraduate and graduate students. AMS encourages applications from women, minorities, and disabled students who are traditionally underrepresented in the atmospheric and related oceanic and hydrologic sciences. We are pleased to announce that AMS is currently accepting applications for the 2014 fellowship and scholarship programs. Further program details and applications can be found at the AMS website located on the student resource pages.

The next newsletter will be published in February. If your chapter would like to announce upcoming events in the next issue of the Newsletter, please email Kelly Savoie ([ksavoie@ametsoc.org](mailto:ksavoie@ametsoc.org)) no later than January 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

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

AMS HEADQUARTERS  
45 BEACON ST. BOSTON, MA 02108

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[HTTP://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/AMSLCAC](http://www.facebook.com/AMSLCAC)

## 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](mailto:AMSCHAPS@AMETSOC.ORG)