

# AMS Local Chapter Newsletter

## Chapter Happenings

### Greater St. Louis Chapter

The Greater St. Louis Chapter of the AMS is pleased to award its first annual Ron Przybylinski Memorial Scholarship to Molly Gerhardt. Gerhardt, from St. Louis, is a meteorology major at Saint Louis University with a mathematics minor. Gerhardt is currently a NOAA Pathways student at the National Weather Service Forecast Office in St. Louis.

The chapter awards the scholarship to a student studying meteorology or related geoscience fields either from the greater St. Louis area or studying at a regional university such as



Saint Louis University or the University of Missouri. The scholarship committee reviewed each applicant's scholastic achievement, written essay, and commitment to service.

Przybylinski was the longtime Science Operations Officer with the National Weather Service office in St. Louis. His groundbreaking research led to substantial improvements in the understanding and warning of QLCS tornadoes in the meteorological community.



More than 40 members and guests of the Greater St. Louis AMS Chapter met on October 18th at Shamrock's Pub in St. Charles County in a joint meeting with the student chapter of Saint Louis University and the Meteorology Club from the University of Missouri-Columbia. Officers of Washington University's Weather Club were also in attendance.



Following the fellowship and dinner, Marshall Pfahler from NWS (National Weather Service) St. Louis shared a look back at the historic flash flooding from the July 26th flash flood emergency event. The excellent presentation detailed the numerous training thunderstorms that stretched from parts of Mid-Missouri through the St. Louis metro area into southwest Illinois. Daily and 24-hour rainfall records were handily broken. Some areas had more than a foot of rain. The torrential rain produced the first of several flash flood events over the following two weeks. A new record was established in St. Louis for the wettest 14-day period.

## Iowa State University Chapter



Our local student chapter enjoys planning fun events away from campus. This past October, students celebrated the fall season by spending the day at a local apple orchard where they enjoyed all the festive activities and bonded as a club.



Our student chapter loves to connect with the graduate students in our annual football game and bonfire with the Graduate Meteorological Club. This fall favorite gives students a chance to get to know and compete with some of their graduate peers.



Our student chapter puts an emphasis on building a community and staying connected with fun activities. This month, many of our students got to know each other better and bonded over an exciting board game night.



Our student chapter enjoys getting together and watching severe weather events unfold. In our department, students often gather in the map room where they can display the radar, satellite, and any other resources they can find. This is a great way to bring our students together and to share their passion for weather with their peers.

## Millersville University Chapter

Our local chapter of AMS is so excited to be meeting again this fall! We have been working on integrating our chapter into university and local lives through several endeavors to begin this school year. This semester, we hosted an ice cream social, a round-robin style meeting for our subgroups, and a trip to attend a Lancaster Barnstormers baseball game. These activities have proven to be very helpful in getting our new members more active within



the chapter and excited for their years to come as members of AMS. Along with these events, Millersville University AMS was very excited to be included in the Homecoming Parade this October. This was a great way to share our organization with the Millersville community.

MU- AMS members attending the Lancaster Barnstormers baseball game

A group of students have been hard at work creating video vignettes for this upcoming 103rd Annual AMS Conference. The videos are aimed to present what our chapter brings to the community, university, and national AMS. The videos are coming along well, and plan to incorporate information on our several different subgroups within our AMS chapter that focus on special interests within meteorology including space weather, forecasting, broadcasting, and balloon launches.

As we progress through autumn, the chapter is excitedly planning our attendance to the National Conference. We are hard at work fundraising and planning for this event. Several students plan to present research and other projects that they have been working on. We are also excited for those students who have been accepted as Student Assistants for the conference! The Student Conference and Annual Conference are both wonderful opportunities to learn more about the field of meteorology and make connections with those in our field who are spread all across the country.



A group photo of our 2022- 2023 Millersville University AMS chapter

## NVU - Lyndon Chapter

The NVU- Lyndon Student Chapter is continuing to stay active even as cooler weather comes upon us. We held our annual car wash fundraiser recently that was very successful and a great service to our community. Many members of the

town of Lyndon came out to support us and have their car cleaned. We also had representatives from the National Weather Service - Burlington come to our campus to give SKYWARN training to our members. This was a great opportunity that many members of our club took advantage of and found very informative. Lastly, we had Haley Boule, lead meteorologist at ABC 22/FOX 44, and an alumna of Lyndon, give an excellent talk about her experiences and journey in broadcast. We have many upcoming events including our Fall Barbecue, Sector Search weekend, and Internship Night.

We also held our annual First Inch Contest this month (October). Every year we set up a stand in our campus Student Activities Center allowing any person on campus to come and compete in a friendly contest. Participants guess on what day the first inch of snow will fall on campus. To enter, participants pay a small amount and should they be correct, they win half the overall earnings from the contest. Each year as a club we choose an organization or cause that we donate the other half to. This year after seeing the devastation and destruction left by Hurricane Ian in Florida and the Caribbean, we decided to donate our proceeds to hurricane relief for all those impacted. We have had great success doing this in past years with many students and faculty participating for a great cause.

Despite the frigid weather, the NVU-Lyndon Student Chapter is busy. We held our annual Fall Barbecue to welcome the first-year students to our school, department, and club. We had a great time getting to know our new members while enjoying delicious food. This is a great tradition we will continue for years to come. Additionally, we travelled to Oswego, New York to the State University of New York at Oswego campus to attend the Great Lakes Atmospheric Science Symposium (GLASS). This was a great experience for many of our student members to network and learn about new research being conducted in the field. We are currently hosting auditions for our annual talent show. We are excited to bring this old tradition back after a hiatus due to the pandemic. Finally, invitations were sent out for the 48th Annual Northeastern Storm Conference (NESC). We will be putting out a call for papers in the coming weeks and registration will open on December 1st.

## Northwest Indiana Chapter



To kick off the year, we reintroduced a yearly tradition of our Department, and had a Welcome Picnic for students and faculty. This was planned by our Sophomore Social Chair, Katarina Dudkowski, who is also planning future social events such as a Halloween Party, Department Thanksgiving, and decorating our Weather Center with Christmas decor! We also hosted our annual Internship Symposium, where 11 upperclassmen talked about their summer internship opportunities! Recently, our chapter has finalized details of our annual Weather Calendars, where students submit weather photos for each calendar month. These calendars are being organized and prepared by our Vice President, Noah Lang.

## Penn State University Chapter

We have been staying busy at the Pennsylvania State University branch of the AMS (PSUBAMS) and have a lot of great events planned for our members. This year, our board has been putting in a lot of effort in getting underclassmen more involved in our organization. We participated in our college's involvement fair where we were able to talk to incoming freshmen and transfer students about PSUBAMS and our mission.

The first meeting of this year had one of the largest turnouts in recent years so we are excited about where we will be taking PSUBAMS this year. Our organization recently held an Internship Night where our upperclassmen shared their past internship and research experiences, for 1st and 2nd year students to become aware of all the opportunities available to gain experience within the meteorological field. Additionally, upperclassmen gave advice on how to look for summer opportunities and apply for them.

Currently, we are preparing for the AMS Annual Meeting in January 2023, which our members are very excited about. We held an informational session followed by interviews and we're happy to be able to fully fund over 20 members to attend the conference in Denver.

In late September, PSUBAMS had an ice cream social with staff from AccuWeather at a nearby farm. This activity allowed members the opportunity to network with AccuWeather meteorologists and learn more about what they do. Additionally, we are planning other social events for our members including an apple and pumpkin picking activity in mid October, and a pumpkin decorating event for Halloween meant to help relieve stress during the busy semester. For the rest of the fall semester, we are planning on holding a graduate school night, a NOAA Hollings Scholarship informational session, and hosting a speaker from the National Hurricane Center. We are looking forward to the AMS annual meeting and a successful rest of the semester.



1st PSUBAMS meeting of the year



Ice cream social with AccuWeather staff.

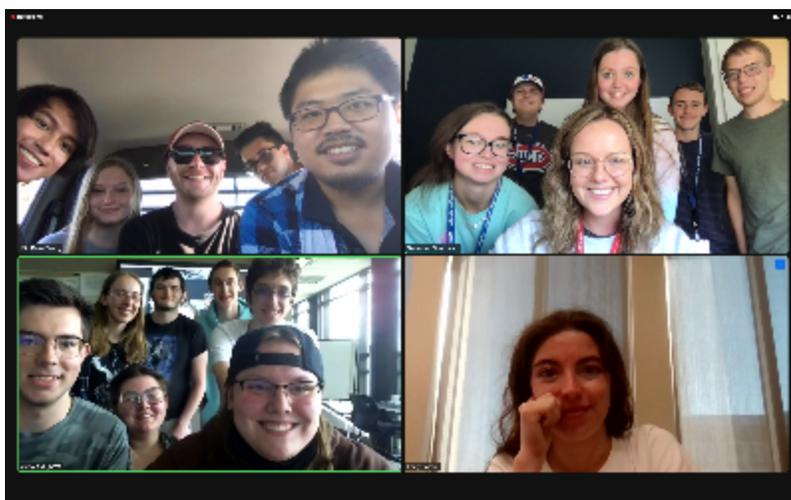


Upperclassmen share summer experiences at the Internship Night

## University of Oklahoma Chapter

The University of  
Oklahoma's Student  
Chapter of the American  
Meteorological Society and  
National Weather  
Association (OU SCAN)

welcomed both new and familiar faces to campus this year in numerous ways. From tabling events during Camp Crimson week and meeting incoming Freshman and Transfer Students to the College of Atmospheric and Geographic Sciences Welcome Back Bash, we have made friends in and out of meteorology!



This year's officer board elected in April began meeting in July to plan the course of the Fall Semester in which we pondered plans for general meeting speakers, community service opportunities, and ways to bring our chapter closer together with social events. Thus far, we hosted OU School of Meteorology Alumni & Miss Oklahoma 2022 Megan Gold who works at News on 6 in Tulsa, Oklahoma as a broadcast meteorologist and she shared what inspired her to pursue meteorology as well as how she navigated her college and broadcast career. Along with her Miss Oklahoma social impact platform, Meals on Wheels, Megan emphasized the importance of serving the communities that do so much for us! Also in September, we teamed up with Valpo AMS/NWA to participate in a Virtual Field Campaign with OU's Advanced Radar Research Center! Students had the opportunity to remotely operate RaXPol (Rapid Scan X-Band Polarimetric Radar) in an effort to collect data on sea-breeze convection in Florida. After operating RaXPol, our members rendezvoused to the famous Campus Corner in Norman for our Pinkberry Picnic

social event and resorted to friendly matches of soccer, volleyball, and spike ball! OU SCAN also entered into Gamma Phi Beta's longest running philanthropy event, the Chili Cook Off, with proceeds benefiting the United Way of Norman. While we did not come back with the Grand Prize, we made a valiant effort (and enjoyed lots of chili!).



To ring in October, our very own Weather Friends made their first appearance this year at OU's 16th Annual Westheimer Aviation Festival, teaching children about various kinds of severe weather and how they can remain safe when it occurs! OU SCAN then participated in Oklahoma's NSF EPSCoR Women in Science Conference alongside SoM Outreach where over 1,500 local area students attended and had the chance to visualize our atmosphere with hands-on activities. For the remainder of the semester, we plan to have tropical meteorology researcher Dr. Naoko Sakaeda as well as Ph.D. student Cameron Nixon from Central Michigan University to speak at our October and November general meetings, respectively. Furthermore, we will be participating in OU's Little Event, a Fall Food Drive benefiting the OU Food Pantry, Toys for Tots, and a supply drive for the Boys & Girls Club of Norman. With more events including a spooky movie night, snack & studies, game night, and the National Weather Festival, we cannot wait to continue moving forward and becoming more interconnected with both those in our chapter and our community!

## University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez Chapter

The University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez Student Chapter welcomed new officers and has started

organizing activities for this semester. We had our first general assembly to recruit new members and inform them about our chapter.



As you all may know, Puerto Rico was hit by Hurricane Fiona, which caused devastating floods and widespread power outages. We are happy to communicate that our members are safe and determined to help others affected by the hurricane. Currently, we are collecting food and essential items to assist communities around the island.

Finally, we are actively motivating our members to participate in the 2023 AMS Student Conference and Annual Meeting. We look forward to more fun activities and connecting with other chapters in Denver!

## Announcements

### Act Now on these Weather, Ocean and Climate Science Professional Development Opportunities for Teachers!

Please help us spread this news in your community. With over 30 years experience offering teachers graduate courses in weather, ocean and climate science, the AMS Education Program is now enrolling K-12 teachers in the Spring Semester of DataStreme, which includes tuition-free graduate credit courses in all three topics and an emphasis on real time data. This spring, the first 35 teachers per course will have all course fees waived! Teachers can fill out the [DataStreme Interest Form](#) now to get matched with a mentor for the spring semester. **Don't wait, DataStreme Courses are going on hiatus during the 2023-2024 academic year and will return in Fall 2024.**

Additionally, the application process for 2023 AMS summer courses for teachers, **Project Atmosphere** and **Project Ocean**, opens in mid-November too! Travel, lodging and fees are all covered for these incredible courses held online with a resident week at either the National Weather Service Training Center in Kansas City, Missouri or at St. Mary's College of Maryland on the edge of the Chesapeake Bay respectively. Teachers should apply early for a chance to attend one of these flagship experiences.

Visit <https://www.ametsoc.org/ams/index.cfm/education-careers/education-program/k-12-teachers/> for more information on all these opportunities!

## 2023 AMS Scholarship for Students from Underserved Communities

Dear AMS Local Chapters,

The American Meteorological Society is pleased to announce the 2023 AMS Scholarship for Students from Underserved Communities Program. Now entering its thirtieth year, the scholarship is intended to help support college education for students traditionally underrepresented in the sciences, especially Hispanic/Latinx, American Indian/Alaska Native, Black/African American/African, and Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander Students, who intend to pursue careers in the weather, water, and climate sciences. The two-year scholarships, funded through donations made by members to the AMS Annual Fund, are for \$3000 during the freshman year and \$3000 during the sophomore year (sophomore year funding depends on successful completion of the freshman academic year). Students entering freshman year of college in the fall of 2023 are eligible to apply.

Thanks to your assistance, we have had a successful twenty-nine years. We have awarded the scholarships to over one hundred sixty-six outstanding students since the inception of the program. I hope that you will support us again in distributing information about this valuable program. The information and application can be accessed from the AMS web site [here](#).

AMS Television and Radio Sealholders, CBM's, and teachers associated with the AMS K-12 programs have also been asked to help with the circulation of this program. We look forward to receiving continued support in announcing the availability of this scholarship. All AMS [Fellowship and Scholarship Programs](#) can be accessed from the AMS web site. Questions? Contact Donna Fernandez at [dfernandez@ametsoc.org](mailto:dfernandez@ametsoc.org).

Thank you for your time and support!

### Message from Local Chapter Affairs Committee Chair Adam Weiner

Local chapter officers are invited to attend the annual Local Chapter Officers' Breakfast and Town Hall at the AMS Annual Meeting in Denver, CO. This is a wonderful opportunity for local chapter officers to network and establish connections as well as ask questions of each other and the Local Chapter Affairs Committee. Feel free to submit questions anonymously ahead of the town hall by filling out this short Google form: <https://forms.gle/SRrATHh2rxrBhBRT9>. We will also recognize this year's local chapter poster winners and the most recent chapter of the year and honor roll awardees at this event. We hope to see you there!

### Upcoming Meetings

- [103rd Annual Meeting](#) - 8-12 January 2023 in Denver, CO
- [22nd Annual Student Conference](#) - 7-8 January 2023 in Denver, CO
- [11th Conference for Early Career Professionals](#) - 8-9 January 2023 in Denver, CO
- [32nd Conference on Weather Analysis and Forecasting \(WAF\)/28th Conference on Numerical Weather Prediction \(NWP\)/20th Conference on Mesoscale Processes](#) - 17-21 July 2023 in Madison, WI
- [40th Conference on Radar Meteorology](#) - 27 August-01 September 2023 in Minneapolis, MN
- [35th Conference on Agricultural and Forest Meteorology/14th Fire and Forest Meteorology Symposium/Sixth Conference on Biogeosciences](#) - 01-04 May 2023 in Minneapolis, MN

## Other News in Meetings

- The [AMS STAC \(Science and Technological Activities Commission\) for Severe Local Storms \(SLS\)](#) is looking for two student members who are actively pursuing research in severe local storms to join our committee beginning January, 2023. The student member's term will be from January 1 2023 - Dec 31 2024. The member must be a graduate student at the commencement of and for at least 1 year following their student member appointment. If you are interested in this position, please send your curriculum vitae and a personal statement to the SLS STAC Chair, Jana Houser (houser.262@osu.edu), no later than 1 December 2022. The personal statement should be no longer than 1 single-spaced page, and should provide a brief personal bio, convey why you are interested in the position and how you plan to serve as an active member of the committee. If you have any questions about the application process or responsibilities of a SLS STAC student member, please do not hesitate to contact Jana Houser.
- View [recordings](#) from past meetings for free!
- Students make sure to [reserve](#) your hotel room for the Annual Meeting!

## An Encore

Becoming an active AMS member is one of the best ways to grow and succeed in your career, but don't take just our word for it! Members from all sectors of the Weather, Water, and Climate sciences and services will tell you the same. And our [tiered dues structure](#), based on annual income, brings AMS membership within reach of everyone in the community. [Learn more and join AMS now for 2023.](#)

I was recently awarded an AMS travel grant to attend the Severe and Local Storms Conference (SLS) in Santa Fe, New Mexico. During the week, I was able to attend a variety of scientific presentations that grew my knowledge about the field. I attended talks that reshaped some of my ideas about severe weather and how thunderstorms work, met potential future collaborators and grew as a scientist.



**MELINDA BERMAN**

AMS Travel Grant Recipient

## American Meteorological Society

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