

# Certified Consulting Meteorologists Newsletter



Volume 3, Issue 1

FALL 2012

*This newsletter is intended to enhance communications between CCMs, the BCCM, and the AMS. It is published quarterly to provide information about the on-going activities of the CCM program. All CCMs are reminded that there is a location on the AMS website for a forum to facilitate communication and exchanges between CCMs. The CCM forum can be accessed via the CCM webpage at: <http://ametsoc.org/amscert/ccm/index.html>*

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## The Chair's Column



Dear CCM Colleagues:

The CCM Board is gearing up for the Annual Meeting in Austin, Texas. Details of the CCM Forum and Town Hall Meeting are being arranged by Dr. Gerry Mulvey, CCM. This will be the sixth annual CCM Forum with some excellent topics being addressed. The forum will take place on Wednesday January 9, 2013, so please plan on attending and supporting the CCM program. Also, please invite any others who are interested in our program.

For those of you who missed the two articles in BAMS by Jerry Hill, CCM, and Gerald Mulvey, CCM, please make sure to read them. In my opinion these should be required reading by all CCMs. The June issue of BAMS article (entitled *Business Ethics for Professional Meteorologists Expectations and Satisfied Customers*) is available directly at this link: <http://journals.ametsoc.org/doi/pdf/10.1175/BAMS-D-11-00063.1> The July issue of BAMS article (entitled *The Ethics of Defining a Professional Who Is A Meteorologist?*) is currently available to those who have a digital BAMS subscription. However, the AMS is working on making it available to everyone. In the meantime, please email Heather Foster ([heather@weatherextreme.com](mailto:heather@weatherextreme.com)) if you would like to receive a pdf copy of the article.

A big thank you to the CCM Board for making calls to people regarding spreading the word for qualified candidates to go ahead and apply. We all know people that we have been 'hounding' to get to apply and apparently this year it is working. Word of mouth seems to be quite effective. So please spread the word. In addition,

(Continued on page 2.)

## James Giraytys

With sadness we note the recent passing of James Giraytys, CCM 403. Jim had a long career in Meteorology having served in the U.S. Air Force, then working for NOAA and the World Meteorological Organization. He served on the Board of Certified Consulting Meteorologists from 2006 to 2010. His obituary was published in the August 2012 issue of BAMS.

## AMS Elections

Online voting for AMS elections is now open at <http://www2.ametsoc.org/govote.cfm>. We encourage all of you to participate in the voting process. The deadline for voting is November 6th.



## The Chair's Column (Continued from page 1)

the CCM application process is very streamlined. Once a candidate's application is accepted and a written exam is assigned, the candidate has 90 days to complete the exam. After which the CCM Board examiners assigned to grade the exam have 60 days to complete their grading. If the candidate passes the exam then an oral exam is scheduled (either a regional oral if the grade is high enough or at the Annual AMS Meeting in front of the entire board).

Thank you to those CCM's who have submitted a photograph of themselves. We are still in the process of gathering photos of all CCMs. Please send a photo of yourself (does not need to be a head shot) that they wish posted on the CCM Facebook page, LinkedIn page and hopefully the CCM Directory on the AMS site (currently being updated). Please send your photo to: Heather Foster at: [Heather@WeatherExtreme.com](mailto:Heather@WeatherExtreme.com) as she is going to keep the directory of them. Also, if any changes are needed to your CCM listing on the AMS site please pass these along too and we will see that it is updated. You may also submit any news items and photos about yourself or your company that you wish to have posted on our CCM social media pages.

We now have 45 CCMs that are members of the CCM LinkedIn group. Please join us to see what is going on with the CCM program and to stay abreast of new information. The more members, the more opportunity for dialog amongst fellow CCMs. Note that you will need to go to the "Groups" section to search for the page and type in the entire name "Certified Consulting Meteorologist". This group is just for CCMs and each new member will be approved pending a CCM status check.

For all CCMs, colleagues and the general public, we have a CCM Facebook page. It can be found by searching in Facebook for "Certified Consulting Meteorologist (CCM)". This page needs much more interest generated and this can begin with each CCM "liking" the page (currently 20 likes).

Please feel free to email me ([ccm@weatherextreme.com](mailto:ccm@weatherextreme.com)) or call my office (775) 636-8553 with any CCM questions, concerns or comments.

*Elizabeth J. Austin*, Ph.D., CCM#572

Chair, Board of Certified Consulting Meteorologists  
American Meteorological Society

## AMS 2013 Annual Meeting and CCM Forum Update

The planning for next year's CCM Forum is well under way. We will have a variety of topics spanning several domains in which CCMs make contributions. There will be four sessions:

Session 1 — Forensic Meteorology

Session 2— Applications of Water Resources and Hydrometeorological Analyses

Session 3— Alternate Energy

Session 4— Emergency Response Planning and Operations (Public Health)

I want to thank all of you who submitted abstracts for consideration to next year's Forum. The town hall meeting on: Tools and Data for CCMs: Progress on Fair Weather Recommendations, is still in the works. Budget restrictions on government employees are making finding panelists a challenge but we are continuing to "work the issue".

I look forward to chatting with you at the forum and listening to your questions and the responses of the panelists at the Town Hall Meeting on Wednesday January 9th.

See you there.

*Gerry Mulvey.*

## Volunteer Opportunities at the AMS Annual Meeting

Please email Kelly Savoie ([ksavoie@ametsoc.org](mailto:ksavoie@ametsoc.org)) if you are interested in volunteering at the AMS Annual Meeting. The following volunteer opportunities exist:

Student Conference and Career Fair:

CCM Table

Saturday (5:30pm - 7:30pm)

CCM booth at the AMS Resource Center during 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.)



## PowerPoint Display at the CCM Booth

There will once again be a PowerPoint display at the CCM booth at the AMS Annual Meeting profiling the background and interests of active CCMs. If you would like to include a slide for the display, please email it to Kelly Savoie ([ksavoie@ametsoc.org](mailto:ksavoie@ametsoc.org)) by December 21st. A sample slide and PowerPoint template may be found at <http://www.ametsoc.org/amscert/ccmppslides.html>. If you participated last year, your slide will once again be included. Please email Kelly a revised slide if there are changes. Otherwise, your previous slide will be included. You may view the current PowerPoint display at <http://www.ametsoc.org/amscert/50th%20Anniversary%20CCM%20Show%20Web.ppt>

## CCM Profiles

For the past several years CCM profiles have been published in the monthly AMS Bulletin. These are profiles that have been provided by various CCMs to help promote the program. If you have not submitted a profile in the past please consider participating and writing a bit about yourself. To submit your profile please contact Kelly Savoie at AMS headquarters [ksavoie@ametsoc.org](mailto:ksavoie@ametsoc.org).

## Studies Needed on the Value of the Weather Enterprise

"The AMS Ad Hoc Committee to establish the value of the Weather Enterprise, led by Scott Rayder, is working toward creating a Request For Proposals to do a formal evaluation of the total value of the Weather Enterprise (academic, public and private). The first part of that effort is an attempt to catalogue studies that have been done to date in various sectors to various levels of formality. That effort is ongoing and we hope to wrap that phase of the project up by mid October. If you know of any such studies, in any sector, please send them or links to them to phase I chair Gale Hoffnagle, CCM at ([ghoffnagle@trcsolutions.com](mailto:ghoffnagle@trcsolutions.com)) or to vice chair Dick Westergard, CCM at ([dick.westergard@shadetreemeteorology.com](mailto:dick.westergard@shadetreemeteorology.com)).

## Ethics and Beyond

by Gerry Mulvey

With the encouragement of the Board of CCMs Jerry Hill and Gerry Mulvey undertook to prepare a series of articles on professional ethics for publication in the Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society. After over a year of work the first two articles were published in the June and July 2012 issues of BAMS. Interestingly enough, one of these articles was recently translated into Spanish and posted at:

Revista del aficionado a la meteorología  
<http://www.tiempo.com/ram/25719/la-etica-de-definir-a-un-profesional-quien-es-meteorologo/>

La ética de definir a un profesional: ¿quién es meteorólogo?

The next article on "International Business and Meteorology: Special Ethical Dilemmas" is expected to appear in the November issue of the Bulletin. Your impressions and comments on these articles are welcome.

## Upcoming AMS Technical Meetings of Interest

### 2012 AMS Meetings

26th Conference on Severe Local Storms, 5–8 November 2012, Nashville, Tennessee

### 2013 AMS Meetings

12th Conference on Polar Meteorology and Oceanography, 29 April–2 May 2013, Seattle, WA

19th Conference on Atmospheric and Oceanic Fluid Dynamics, 17–21 June 2013, Newport, Rhode Island

## The Board of Certified Consulting Meteorologists

Members serving on the board during 2012 are:

### Terms Expiring 2013:

- Elizabeth J. Austin, CCM 572
- Gerry Mulvey, CCM 571
- Jerry D. Hill, P.E., CCM 151

### Terms Expiring 2014:

- Timothy Scott Dye, CCM 619
- Paul M. Fransioli, CCM 291
- H. Michael Mogil, CCM 391, CBM 334

### Terms Expiring 2015:

- Buddy A. Richie, CCM 648
- Jason Shafer, CCM 662
- Dick Westergard, CCM 632

### Terms Expiring 2016:

- Joseph Chia-Yung Chang, CCM 553
- Esmail Malek, CCM 667
- Jay Rosenthal, CCM 602

### Ex Officio Members:

- Jay J. Trobec, CCM 665, AMS Commission on Professional Affairs.
- Kelly Savoie, AMS Manager, Marketing/Special Programs

## New CCMs

Since the last newsletter was published, the following meteorologists have completed all requirements for certification and were added to the roll of active CCMs:

Rhett Milne, Reno, NV CCM 685

Steven Roberts, Hopewell Junction, NY CCM 686

## Plan Now to Attend Annual AMS Meeting

The 93rd Annual Meeting of the AMS will be held in Austin, Texas January 6-10, 2013. The theme for the Annual Meeting is "Taking Predictions to the Next Level: Expanding Beyond Today's Weather, Water, and Climate Forecasting and Projections". Preliminary programs, registration, hotel, and general information will be posted soon on the AMS Web site at: <http://www.ametsoc.org/meet/annual/>.

The theme of the meeting is expected to serve as a catalyst for focusing the attention of the research, and operational communities (and also those who are involved in accelerating the transition of research results into operations) on the possibilities related to advancing predictive capabilities across many disciplines and applications. Furthermore, the increasing use of predictions by decision makers throughout federal, state, and local government agencies and private/commercial sectors will serve as an important component for the annual meeting.

In addition to the CCM Forum, described on page 2, many CCMs will be interested in attending the First Symposium on the Weather and Climate Enterprise organized by the AMS Commission on the Weather and Climate Enterprise's Board on Enterprise Planning. Among the topics that are expected to be explored are:

- Renewable energy
- Water resources
- National mesonets, ie "Network of Networks"
- Climate services
- Open Weather and Climate concepts and practices
- Transportation and weather
- Weather and Resilient Ecosystems
- Dissemination Services
- Communicating risk and uncertainty in weather forecasts
- Weather decision technologies

All CCMs are encouraged to submit items for this quarterly newsletter. To submit items please forward them to the Newsletter editor, Jerry Hill, at [jerryd\\_hill@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jerryd_hill@sbcglobal.net)



## Changes in Access to Data at NCDC

*By Rich Baldwin, CDO Project Manager, NOAA/NCDC National Climatic Data Center*

NOAA's National Climatic Data Center (NCDC) significantly changed access to climate data in recent months by retiring old datasets and systems and making new ones available. NCDC released Climate Data Online (CDO) version 2.0 in December 2011 with three primary entry points for data acquisition: data search, dynamic maps, and web services. All three of these methods have an integrated underlying data model, which allows development of a consistent user interface and provides access to all products and services through a single system. Over the coming months, NCDC will continue to transition more datasets and systems to the new acquisition service. The scope of data archived and serviced at NCDC not only includes products related to global in-situ station data, but also balloon, radar, satellite, and model data. Our goal is to provide users a consistent approach to data discovery across all of these data networks.

The data search functionality allows users to search by common station name, station identifier, zip code, country, county, state, or hydrologic unit. The search results can be categorized by either representing a single station or by location (a group of stations). For example a search on "Charlotte, NC" will return results showing stations and locations that match the search term. Users can then filter or sort the results to meet their needs. Users can select stations or locations, data types, and a time range of interest and order the data in CSV, ASCII text, and PDF output forms.

By means of dynamic mapping applications, users can visually discover NCDC data through a Geographic Information System (GIS). As a starting point, maps display the station distribution of the various data networks archived at NCDC. Users can display these stations by the frequency of collection or summarization (hourly/sub-hourly, daily, monthly, or annually) or by climate theme (temperature, precipitation, drought, snowfall). A number of tools allow users to select stations by location (country, state, county, zip code, hydrologic unit), by freehand (rectangle/polygon), by proximity from a point, or by gazetteer (geographic name search). The user can also order the data from the resulting station search.

### Climate Data Online

[Map Search](#)[Data Search](#)[Legacy Access](#)[Product Catalog](#)

#### Search Data

1

Enter search term(s) for Station name or Location

Tips 

2

Select a data set/product

3

Click the Search button

[SEARCH](#)

### Climate Data Online

[Map Search](#)[Data Search](#)[Legacy Access](#)[Product Catalog](#)

#### Search by Country/State/ZIP code

##### Interactive Map Application

Allows Data Access using a map to search by countries, states, cities, ZIP code, climate divisions, and hydrologic units. Many other geographic tools and secondary functions available.

[Go to map application](#)

Select Tools

Hourly Global

Select By Location

select a location type

Climate Division

Climate Region

Country

US County

US State

#### Help

Have questions about the data? Need some assistance? Use the links below to quickly find the answers you need.

[Online help](#)[Check request status](#)[Request assistance](#)

Need technical documentation or system access?

[View data samples & documentation](#)[NCDC Web Services](#)[CDO Web Services Documentation](#)

NCDC constructed CDO Web services in a “Restful” style, allowing users to write their own client software to access NCDC datasets. Users who have limited and well-defined data requirements will benefit from this type of access. These services do not replace bulk data download, which is available through File Transfer Protocol (FTP). See <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cdo-web/webservices> for details.

CDO version 2.3 will be released this fall with additional data products and features. Future releases will include advanced searching and filtering capabilities, tighter map/search integration, and additional datasets, products, and services. Visit <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cdo-web> to discover the data NCDC provides!