

The American Meteorological Society

Certified Consulting Meteorologists

Newsletter

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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. Please remember to use the **CCM forum on the AMS website** for your communication and exchanges between CCMs

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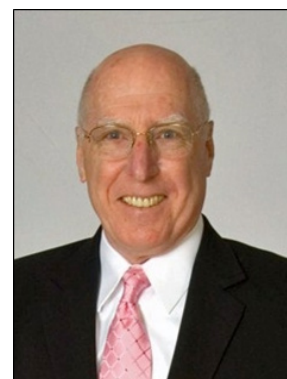
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The Chair's Column

Dear CCM Colleagues,

Board members Tim Hall and Joe Chang reviewed the Professional Development Table of Activities and made a number of changes that your CCM Board is reviewing. We expect to publish the updated Table of Activities with point values by the end of 2015. We included a number of new activities, such as Nominating AMS individuals for AMS Fellow and/or the Henry T. Harrison Award for Outstanding Contributions by a Consulting Meteorologist. If you have suggestions for activities and their associated point value, please let me know at bccm.chair@gmail.com.



You can find the current Table of Activities at the AMS website (ametsoc.org); the entire website has been revised/updated to look more in line with the current professional websites. CCM information can be found under the [Education & Careers Tab in the tile "Get Certified."](#) Of course the previous links to CCM information have not changed.

So far this year, 10 AMS members have made an application to become CCMs. This is in line with the number of new applications over the last few years. Some candidates are taking their written exam while most are waiting for their oral exam at the AMS Annual Meeting in New Orleans. We expect to conduct 14 oral exams at the Annual Meeting. These include the remainder of the candidates from last year who were not far enough along in the process to participate in the orals plus most of the candidates this year. One candidate is

participating in a regional oral exam as this newsletter is being published. Regional exams are an opportunity for you to be involved in the certification process, as we asked for local CCMs to participate, plus you earn professional development points.

Much of the AMS survey data has been released to various committees who are interested in “slicing and dicing” the data. I expect you will see a number of articles in *BAMS* in the next year discussing the various results and comparing the 2014 survey data with the results of the earlier survey. A committee of the CCM Board members has begun to look at the CCM data and develop some simple statistics. After this committee has completed the statistical analyses, we will let you know some of the major results and also incorporate these results into marketing the CCM program. Some of the early results are:

- a. There were 172 CCMs who responded to the survey. That represents about a 37% response rate which is a little below the overall rate of 43%.
- b. 62% of the CCM respondents were 60 and older compared to 30% of the non-student AMS respondents.
- c. 93% of the CCM respondents rated the value of your dues with respect to the services AMS provides as excellent or satisfactory.

Last year, the Board instituted the position of vice chair. This is in line with other AMS committees and will provide more consistency in the Board processes. Jennifer Call is serving as the vice chair this year, and she will be the 2016 Chair of the Board of Certified Consulting Meteorologists, starting at the end of the Annual Meeting. You can meet her at the CCM Breakfast on Weds., Jan 13, 2016. Look in the program for the breakfast time and location. Four CCMs have been selected to serve a 4–

year appointment to your Board starting in Jan 2016. They are:

- Dr. David Legates, Center for Climatic Research, University of Delaware, Newark, DE
- Mr. Lance Steele, Weathernews America, Inc., Norman, OK
- Dr. Alicia Wasula, Shade Tree Meteorology, LLC, Niskayuna, NY
- Mr. Larry Peabody, Self–Employed CCM and freelance writer, San Antonio, TX

Their contact information will be published in the AMS CCM web pages.

Have a great fall, and we will see you at the AMS Annual Meeting in New Orleans.

Buddy Ritchie CCM #648
2015 Chair, Board of CCMs
Fellow of the AMS ■

Lesson Learned from a Consulting Meteorologist

Contributed by George D. Greenly, CCM #214

Recently George D. Greenly Jr., CCM #214, was hired as a meteorological consultant and expert witness in a federal case regarding an OSHA violation following a lightning strike that injured several workers on a job site. The injured individuals had appropriately sheltered upon thunderstorms moving into the vicinity of the work location. Once it was deemed safe to leave the shelter, they returned to work. Not long afterwards, a cloud-to-ground lightning strike left several workers on the ground dazed and with their clothing smoking. Ambulances transported the injured individuals to the hospital for treatment and subsequent release; luckily there were no fatalities. Following this incident, the company these individuals worked for was cited under the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) of 1970 Section (5)(a)(1). The citation read: "the employer did not furnish employment and a place of employment which were free from recognized hazards that were causing or likely to cause death or serious physical harm to employees in that employees were exposed to being struck by lightning." Rather than pay the imposed OSHA fine, the company took the case to a federal court and the company's lawyers hired Mr. Greenly as the meteorological consultant.

After completing a study of the incident, Mr. Greenly constructed a report for the company's lawyers. Instead of a deposition by OSHA's lawyers, he was called to testify in court before a Federal Judge and OSHA's legal team. On the witness stand he was cross-examined with regards to his professional background and the prepared report. The court and OSHA's legal team accepted Mr. Greenly's expert credentials, and the court's clerk entered the acceptance into the court's record. During further questioning, OSHA's lawyer declared to the court that OSHA was questioning the aforementioned credentials, to which the company's lawyer objected on grounds that acceptance of the credentials had already been entered in the official trial record. The judge inquired as to the reason for OSHA's newfound concern, to which they responded that Mr. Greenly had excluded two publications from his official list of publications. OSHA's legal team had accessed Mr. Greenly's literary web page, which included two fiction novels having nothing to do with meteorology. The objection was sustained and Mr. Greenly was allowed to complete the trial as an expert witness.

This incident caused Mr. Greenly to consider how to avoid this type of issue in the future. He decided to construct a new professional CCM web page containing a comprehensive list of all publications, including the fiction writings, but making sure they are very plainly marked as such. Only future trials will confirm the efficacy of this action. Other CCMs who are also following their literary muse may want to consider a similar action to avoid this type of questioning of one's credentials. ■



NCIM has a New Slate of Very Active Officers

The National Council of Industrial Meteorologists (NCIM), the marketing arm of the CCM Program, recently elected a new President and Board of Directors.

President – H. Michael Mogil
President Elect – Elizabeth Austin
Past President – Steve Root
Secretary – Jill Hasling
Treasurer – Stanley Marsh
Director – Steve Harned
Director – Nick Keener
Director – George Frederick

These individuals have already begun a major effort at redefining the mission of NCIM and

working toward increasing the visibility of CCM's and the CCM Program.

The following are some initial NCIM success stories:

The AMS has recently updated its web pages and now features access to the CCM Directory directly from the main page. NOAA has agreed to maintain its IM (Industrial Meteorology) listing and share updates with all NWS Forecast offices. And, NCEI (the new name for NCDC) has a direct link from its web-site to the AMS CCM Directory. These actions will make it easier for people in certain industries (e.g., attorneys) to find CCMs. ■

NCIM Annual Membership Drive

Since the NCIM represents ALL CCMs in its marketing and outreach efforts, the NCIM Board would like to encourage ALL CCMs to attend our Annual Board/Membership Meeting at the AMS Annual Meeting. Attendees can see, firsthand, what NCIM is doing and is planning to do, as it embarks on a major marketing push. If those who attend like what NCIM is doing, they can discuss membership

with the Board at the meeting.

Anyone wishing to join NCIM, at any time, may contact Stanley Marsh at marshwxman@gmail.com.

Dues range from \$75 per year to \$200 per year depending upon the class of membership. ■

New CCMs

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

Megan Walker-Radtke, CCM #713
Gainesville, FL

Be sure to welcome her to the CCM ranks at your next opportunity! ■

AMS Elections

Online voting for AMS elections is now open at <http://www2.ametsoc.org/ams/index.cfm/about-ams/ams-election-information/>.

We encourage all of you to participate in the voting process. The deadline for voting is **November 10th**. ■

AMS Online Awards and Fellows Nominations will open on November 1st

The Council of the American Meteorological Society invites members and friends of the AMS to submit nominations for consideration for the Society Awards, Lecturers, Named Symposia, Fellows, Honorary Members, and nominees for elective Officers and Councilors of the Society. Of particular interest to CCMs, are the following awards:

- The Henry T. Harrison Award for Outstanding Contributions by a Consulting Meteorologist
- The Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Advance of Applied Meteorology
- Fellows

The AMS Online Awards and Fellows Nominations will open starting November 1st. For a description of the awards and details on the nomination process, please see the AMS Awards site at <http://www.ametsoc.org/awards/index.html>.

Nomination Deadlines

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| -- Online Awards and Fellows: | 1 May 2016 |
| -- Honorary members: | 1 July 2016 |
| -- Lecturers: | 1 October 2016 |



The AMS Annual Meeting will be held 10–14 January 2016 in New Orleans, LA. The theme of the 2016 meeting is Earth System Science in Service to Society. There will be 9 short courses offered the weekend prior to the start of the meeting. CCMs receive up to 8 professional development points for attending the meeting and completing a short course (4 points for the meeting, 4 points for a full day short course, 2 points for a 1½–day short course). Early registration rates are valid through 1 December 2015. For details on the meeting and registration information, please visit the AMS website at <http://annual.ametsoc.org/2016/>. ■

PowerPoint Display at the AMS Certification Booth

As usual there will be a PowerPoint display at the AMS Certification 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) by December 15th. 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 <https://www2.ametsoc.org/ams/index.cfm/education-careers/ams-professional-certification-programs/certified-consulting-meteorologist-program-ccm/power-point-presentation-profiling-the-work-of-ccms/>. ■

Volunteer Opportunities at the AMS Annual Meeting

There are several volunteer opportunities available during the AMS Annual Meeting. We particularly would love to have a few CCMs available at the CCM/NCIM Table during the Student Conference and Career Fair reception on Saturday night from 5:30pm to 7:30pm, if anyone is available. The table would also need to be staffed during the Career Fair on Sunday night from 5:00pm to 7:00 pm. Staffing by both CCMs and NCIM members would help students fully appreciate the scope of the CCM program (both implementation and real-world applications). Please email Kelly Savoie (ksavoie@ametsoc.org) if you are interested

in volunteering at the AMS Annual Meeting during any of the below days/times.

Student Conference and Career Fair:
CCM/NCIM Table
Saturday (5:30pm – 7:30 pm)
Sunday (5:00pm – 7:00 pm)

AMS Certification Booth at the AMS Resource Center during high traffic times:
Monday (5:30–7:30 p.m.)
Tuesday (3:00–3:30 p.m.)
Wednesday (10:00–10:30 a.m. and 5:30–6:30 p.m.) ■

CCM Breakfast

The CCM Breakfast at the Annual Meeting will take place at the Convention Center on Wednesday, January 13th from 7:00 to 8:30am. If you plan on attending, please RSVP to Kelly Savoie (ksavoie@ametsoc.org) by November 2nd. ■

Professional Development Opportunities

Become a Mentor

Are you a professional working in private sector meteorology? Serve as a mentor in the AMS Board for Private Sector Meteorology's Student Mentorship Program!

For the last eight years, the AMS Board for Private Sector Meteorologists (BPSM) has reached across private industry to connect a cross-section of professionals working in private sector positions related to meteorology with students interested in learning more about the private sector.

The highly successful BPSM mentorship program is seeking professionals working in the private sector to volunteer to serve as a mentor for some of the best students in our nation.

This program is uniquely focused on skill development, coaching, and helping students grow their professional network and business acumen. The program gives students the skills to allow them to stand out in the eyes of employers, and mentors an opportunity to positively impact the lives of young men and women, and build life-long relationships.

The program is structured to pair students with a mentor who is active in the private sector discipline of greatest interest to the student protégé.

Examples include—but are not limited to—energy forecasting, software development, project management, broadcasting, and

catastrophe risk management. Every attempt is also made to pair students with a mentor in the same geographic region to facilitate face-to-face interactions, in addition to regular phone calls, e-mails, and other forms of communication. In order to ensure students and mentors have an opportunity to build a strong working relationship during the 2015/16 academic year, we request that mentor applications be submitted by November 13th, 2015. Mentors can become an integral part of our program by completing a

short application at <http://www.ametsoc.org/boardpges/bpsm/mentorapp.html>.

For more information about the BPSM mentorship program, including student testimonials and mentor profiles, please visit <http://www.ametsoc.org/boardpges/bpsm/mentorshipprogram.html> or contact BPSM@ametsoc.org. ■

“Hydrologic Impacts under Climate Change” Online Course Announcement

The COMET Program and the Climate Change and Water Working Group (CCAWWG) are pleased to announce a three-day, online, instructor-led course “Hydrologic Impacts under Climate Change” (HIUCC). The course is being developed with financial support from the Bureau of Reclamation and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The HIUCC course is part of the Professional Development Series “Assessing Natural Systems Impacts under Climate Change.” Participants will work through hydrological models to explore and project impacts of a changing climate on surface water hydrology. HIUCC is designed for a broad range of technical participants, including water resource professionals, environmental scientists, hydrologists, state and local planners, and university faculty.



Date: Tuesday, October 20 – Thursday, October 22, 2015

Time: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. MDT daily

Details and registration info: <http://comet.ucar.edu/news/hiucc> ■

Connect on Social Media

LinkedIn

The LinkedIn page is becoming more active. If you have not joined, please do! The LinkedIn page is accessible and open only to CCMs. You must join LinkedIn (it is free) first before requesting to join the CCM page. Once you join LinkedIn (or if you are already a member), then just simply type "Certified Consulting Meteorologist" in the search box on the top right to search for our group. We anticipate the LinkedIn site to be an easy way for CCMs to communicate with each other and keep us all abreast of news, developments, and items of interest to CCMs.



Facebook

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 to be generated, beginning with every CCM "liking" the page.



Twitter

For all CCMs, colleagues and the general public, we have a new Twitter account. Leading up to the Annual Meeting, this year we intend to market the CCM booths at the Student & Career Fairs and AMS Resource Center via Twitter. Also at the Annual Meeting, we use this account to announce upcoming speakers to promote the CCM Forum during each talk. If you are on Twitter, please follow the handle @AMS_BCCM ■



Upcoming AMS Meetings

[11th International Conference on Southern Hemisphere Meteorology and Oceanography](#)

5–9 October 2015, Santiago, Chile

[2016 Washington Forum](#)

12–14 April 2016, Washington, DC

[32nd Conference on Hurricanes and Tropical Meteorology](#)

18–22 April 2016, San Juan, PR

[44th Conference on Broadcast Meteorology](#)

15–17 June 2016, Austin, TX

[Exhibitor Information](#)

[17th Conference on Mountain Meteorology](#)

27 June – 1 July 2016, Burlington, VT

[Joint 21st Satellite Meteorology, Oceanography and Climatology Conference and 20th Conference on Air Sea Interaction](#)

16–19 August 2016, Madison, WI ■

Thanks to all of our contributors
for this issue.

We encourage you to share your
experiences, views, findings, or
studies for the next newsletter.

E-mail your articles to:
[Ron Baskett](#) and/or [Jennifer Call](#)

Winter 2015 Newsletter
submission deadline is
November 27