

# Certified Consulting Meteorologists Newsletter



Volume 5, Issue 1

Spring 2014

*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:

Wow! Thanks to Paul, Buddy, and Kelly we held 17 oral exams in Atlanta and as another article in this newsletter describes (page 3), we welcome 14 new CCMs to our group. Please congratulate them personally as you have the opportunity.

As a result of the intense practice we had in working through the certification process with a large number of candidates last year, the BCCM is in the midst of an intense review and update of the BCCM procedures. A team of current and past BCCM members has made an array of suggestions and we are working to update the procedures to incorporate those suggestions wherever possible.

(continued on page 2)



## The Henry T. Harrison Award for Outstanding Contributions by a Consulting Meteorologist

### Gale Hoffnagle, CCM #152

Senior Vice President and Technical Director  
TRC Environmental Corporation, Windsor, Connecticut

For sound leadership and contributions in furthering science and ethics in consulting meteorology for environmental and forensic applications.

(Continued on page 2)



## Jay Trobec, CCM, CBM Elected 2014 AMS Fellow

We would like to extend congratulations to Jay Trobec, CCM, CBM who was elected a Fellow of the AMS as of the 2014 AMS meeting in Atlanta, GA.

Be sure to congratulate him at your next opportunity!





## The Chair's Column

### (Continued from page 1)

I am delighted to have the opportunity to work with the outstanding group of CCMs that make up the BCCM this year. They are listed on page 5 of this newsletter. Please thank them for their service as you have occasion to communicate with them.

I also encourage you to communicate to Buddy Ritchie your availability for regional exams. He is the BCCM chair elect for 2015 and has taken on the task of setting up regional exams during the course of 2014. To give you a little more incentive, we are adding regional exams to the list of items you can do for Professional Development credits (see page 7 for further details).

As always, if you have any questions about the BCCM or would like to refer potential new CCMs to someone who can answer their questions about the CCM process, please contact me at [chair.bccm@gmail.com](mailto:chair.bccm@gmail.com) or by telephone at 888-580-0747.

Dick Westergard, CCM #632

Chair, Board of Certified Consulting Meteorologists

American Meteorological Society

## Henry T. Harrison Award

### (Continued from Page 1)



**Gale F. Hoffnagle, CCM, QEP receiving the Henry T. Harrison Award from AMS president Dr. J. Marshall Shepherd**

I didn't get a chance to speak when I received this award, so here goes. It is with great pleasure and true humility that I accept the Henry T. Harrison Award for Outstanding Contribution by a Consulting Meteorologist. It is especially pleasing because it is the first

time that this brand new award has been bestowed. My greatest thanks are due to Loren Crow, CCM who taught a young meteorologist mountain meteorology and mentored his participation in the broader industry. Thanks Loren.

AMS honors Henry T Harrison because he was the first CCM. Here is a little more on Henry:

### Henry T. Harrison (1904–1991)

*Henry T. Harrison accompanied Rear Adm. Richard E. Byrd on his first Antarctic expedition in 1929–30, where he studied weather conditions. Prior to the expedition, Harrison was a meteorologist with the United States Weather Bureau in Cleveland for several years.*



*He then joined United Airlines as chief meteorologist and head of the department in Chicago and Denver. He remained with United for more than 30 years, working with other airlines to develop airborne radar for avoiding severe weather. He retired in 1964, but continued conducting weather studies for the airline until the late 1960's.*

*Harrison, a native of the District of Columbia, was a self-taught meteorologist. He was an Army lieutenant colonel in World War II, and was a weather forecaster at the Yalta Conference in 1945.*

*Harrison was named the first AMS Certified Consulting Meteorologist (CCM) in 1957.*

I know of many consulting meteorologists who have made far more contributions to the profession than I have. Let's make sure that more of them are recognized. The deadline to submit nominations is May 1. Here is the description of the awardees we are seeking.

"The Henry T. Harrison Award for Outstanding Contributions by a Consulting Meteorologist was established in 2011 to recognize a consulting meteorologist for outstanding contributions to the profession, clients, and society. Nominees should demonstrate expertise in weather or climate and their applications, adherence to ethical behavior, and a high level of service to clients and/or the weather and climate enterprise. Nominations are considered by the Board of Certified Consulting Meteorologists which makes recommendations for final approval by the AMS Council."

—Gale Hoffnagle, CCM #152



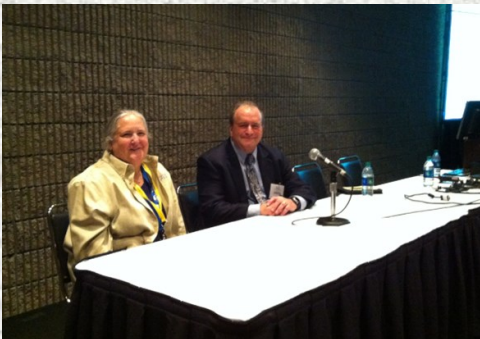
## 7th CCM Forum—Atlanta GA Program Chair Report

By Gerry Mulvey (University of the Incarnate Word)

February 2-6 was the annual meeting of the American Meteorological Society. There were over 3,450 attendees. With special sessions, lectures, town hall meetings, short courses and workshops in addition to the 35 symposiums and conferences, it was a very busy time. This year's CCM Forum was designed to mesh with the overall conference theme of Severe Weather. The Forum was divided up into 3 sessions to address CCM consulting opportunities before, during, and after the severe weather event. Although the sessions were sparsely attended (22, 36, and 34 attendees for sessions 1, 2, and 3 respectively) there were a relatively high percentage of students attending (25 -30%). The invited papers were well received and the panel sessions had a good number of comments and questions.

The first session started off at 8:15 AM in a room far away from the main conference areas and it was a challenge to get it going. While John Henz (Dewberry) could not be present, his selected pinch hitter Brad Workman (Dewberry) did an excellent job of presenting John's slides. The second presentation by Mark Wenclawiak, (All4 Inc.) added to the energy of the meeting. To start the discussion, I joined the panel and invited Brad to join. Although Brad was surprised to be invited, he did an excellent job fielding questions.

Jill Hasling (Weather Research Center) and Elliott Abrams (AccuWeather, Inc.) provided an excellent range of small company to large company perspectives on opportunities during an event. Surprisingly, their observations were similar unveiling the commonality of issues and responses across the range of enterprise sizes. The photo below was snapped just after the session.



Jill Hasling and Elliott Abrams ready for any other questions.

The last session had George Fredrick (Falcon Consultants LLC) and Dick Westergard, (Shade Tree Meteorology) presenting details of litigation after the event. George's perspective as a "rookie" was an interesting blend of a new CCM in forensic consulting and a long history of meteorological experiences. Dick's presentation brought out several questions on the use of data from "other non NWS/NOAA/FAA" sources. The panel discussion for this last session went on for a good 25 minutes after the conclusion of the presentations. All-in-all, the Forum was a success informing and yes, entertaining both the student and the experienced professional.

Now a plug for next year's Forum. We are in the planning stage to partner with NCIM to create a Forum dedicated to the advertising and promotion of businesses operated by or employing CCMs. Watch for the announcement.



## New CCMs

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

Paul McCrone, Monterey, CA CCM 692  
Howard Altschule, Albany, NY CCM 693  
Richard Shema, Kailua, HI CCM 694  
James Bria, Hopewell Junction, NY CCM 695  
David Imy, Norman, OK CCM 696  
Peter Chan, Grand Rapids, MI CCM 697  
Stephen Early, Louisville, CO CCM 698  
Michael Hammer, Dallas, TX CCM 699  
Charles Knoderer, Petaluma, CA CCM 700  
James Purpura, Temecula, CA CCM 701  
Todd Morris, Newbury Park, CA CCM 702  
Randall Bass, Manassas, VA CCM 703  
Allen Becker, Wauwatosa, WI CCM 704  
Brandon Hertell, New York, NY CCM 705

Be sure to make them feel welcome to the CCM ranks at your next opportunity!



## AMS Summer Policy Colloquium

**June 1-10, 2014, Washington, DC**

The Summer Policy Colloquium, presented by the American Meteorological Society Policy Program, brings a cohort of about 40 earth and atmospheric scientists from academia, government, and the private sector to Washington, D.C. for an intense, ten-day immersion in science policy. The Colloquium provides participants:

- An overview of policy basics including how decisions are made to govern the future course of Earth and atmospheric sciences
- Opportunities to meet and dialog with leaders in the federal agencies, the Executive Office of the President, bipartisan Congressional staff members, and other high-level leaders
- A survey of current science policy issues
- Exercises using the case study method to explore a number of issues, both past and present, in depth and detail
- Practical skills, experiences and contacts to use throughout your career to understand and influence the policy process
- Opportunities to gauge their aptitude for and interest in the challenges of matching science to national priorities, and scientific program leadership

The Colloquium also offers visits to Capitol Hill, hands-on workshops, and case studies of current issues in Earth and atmospheric sciences. The 2014 Colloquium will cover:

- The federal budget process
- Communicating research to non-scientific audiences
- Government affairs for the university, federal government, and private sector
- The different roles of the scientist when engaging in the policy process

AMS CBMs, Sealholders, and CCMs receive 4 professional development points for attending.

Register Now! [www.ametsoc.org/spc](http://www.ametsoc.org/spc)

**The deadline to register is April 30, 2014.**

Questions may be directed to Caitlin Buzzas at [cbuzzas@ametsoc.org](mailto:cbuzzas@ametsoc.org).

**For details about other meetings see the AMS Bulletin or check the AMS website at:**  
<http://www.ametsoc.org/MEET/meetinfo.html>

## AMS Award Nominations

Consider making a nomination for one of the society's annual awards that will be bestowed in 2015. The call for AMS Awards and Fellows Nominations has been issued and information is available at <http://www2.ametsoc.org/ams/index.cfm/about-ams/ams-awards-fellows-and-honorary-members/>.

New Fellows are elected each year by the AMS Council at its fall meeting from a slate submitted by the Fellows Committee of not more than two-tenths of 1 percent of all AMS Members.

Among the society's annual awards available to be presented are the Henry T. Harrison award for outstanding service by a consulting meteorologist. The Harrison award was established to recognize a consulting meteorologist for outstanding contributions to the profession, clients, and society. Nominees should demonstrate expertise in weather or climate and their applications, adherence to ethical behavior, and a high level of service to clients and/or the weather and climate enterprise.

Since self-promotion for personal recognition and gain is a character trait that is not admired in our culture, it falls to co-workers, managers, and students to initiate the awards process for a deserving person. The nomination process requires a nomination letter and three letters of support, along with other background material. Preparing this material is obviously a burden for those wishing to offer a name to receive an award, but without the willingness of society members to do this for deserving colleagues, the awards process could not exist, so give serious consideration to participating in the process. There is no satisfaction like that of seeing someone that you nominate actually being selected to receive an award and knowing that your effort made it possible.

We encourage you to nominate scientists, practitioners, broadcasters and others you believe are deserving of one or more of 30 prestigious awards. The awards are open to all sectors of the Society - academia, government, and industry. Please visit the website for more information: <http://www2.ametsoc.org/ams/index.cfm/about-ams/ams-awards-fellows-and-honorary-members/>.

## The Board of Certified Consulting Meteorologists

Members who will be serving on the board during 2014 are:

### Terms Expiring 2015:

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

### Terms Expiring 2016:

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

### Terms Expiring 2017:

- ☐ Mitchell Baer, Ph.D., CCM 474
- ☐ Jennifer Call, CCM 674
- ☐ Mark Wenclawiak, CCM 631

### Terms Expiring 2018:

- ☐ Ron Baskett, CCM 346
- ☐ Tim Hall, CCM 641
- ☐ Anthony Lupo, Ph.D., CCM 660

### Ex Officio Members:

- ☐ Jay J. Trobec, CCM 665, AMS Commission on Professional Affairs.
- ☐ Kelly Savoie, AMS Communications Manager

## CCM & Social Media Reminder

### LinkedIn

The LinkedIn page is becoming more active so if you have not joined, please do! The LinkedIn page will be accessed and open **only** to CCM's. As of writing this article there are currently 75 members of the LinkedIn page. You must join LinkedIn (it is free) first before requesting to join the Certified Consulting Meteorologists' page. Once you join LinkedIn (or if you are already a member) then just type in "Certified Consulting Meteorologist" in the search box on the top right to search for our group. We anticipate the LinkedIn site as being an easy way for CCMs to communicate with each other and keep us all abreast of new 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 generated and this can begin with each CCM "liking" the page (currently 138 likes).





## BCCM New Members

Three CCM's were welcomed onto the board at this year's meeting in Atlanta, GA. Ron Baskett, Tim Hall and Dr. Anthony Lupo are excited to serve in this capacity.

### Ron Baskett

In the early-1970s I began my career in meteorology at the University of California at Davis as one of three graduates in a new undergraduate major in biometeorology. I joined AMS as a student in the UCD Chapter. In 1976 I completed a masters degree in atmospheric science with a specialty in air quality and began my professional career.

Spanning almost four decades, my career includes six employers in both private consulting and government contracting. Early along, the great value of being a CCM became readily apparent when I interacted with clients and regulatory agencies as an air quality consultant. Throughout my three decades as a CCM, the certification has played a key role in enhancing the public and professional perception of my technical expertise and judgment. Being certified clearly heightened my professional credibility in forensic consulting cases as well as in forums throughout the years.

With a life-long interest in inspiring technical excellence, a strong sense of service, and keen awareness of professional ethics, I have supported career development of many atmospheric scientists and encouraged them to become CCMs. I am honored to serve as a member of the CCM board.

### Tim Hall

Following graduation in May 1992 from Penn State's College of Earth and Mineral Sciences, Tim Hall served a brief stint as a research assistant to Dr. Peter Bannon in Penn State's Department of Meteorology prior to entering U.S. Air Force active duty as a weather officer in Jan 1993. His military assignments ranged from operational weather forecasting to acquisition program management. From 2000 to 2003 he served as Officer-in-Charge of the Joint Presidential Weather Support Unit and was responsible to direct a team that provided global forecast services to the White House Military Office and Marine One. In 2006, he transitioned to the Air Force Reserve and was hired by The Aerospace Corporation. Currently, he serves as Director of Aerospace's Division responsible to provide expert technical advice and assistance to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The Division's primary charge is to work with NOAA senior decision makers involved in procurement of the next generation of weather satellites including GOES-R and JPSS. In 2009, he founded a meteorological consulting firm called WeatherSleuth LLC which provides services ranging from instrument site selection to weather risk intelligence and forensic meteorology.

Tim Hall's expertise includes applied climatology, applied meteorology, forensic meteorology, tropical meteorology, satellite meteorology, weather analysis and forecasting, space weather, "big data" nowcasting applications, weather risk management, and systems architecture. He holds a B.S. in Meteorology (1992) from The Pennsylvania State University, and a M.S. in Atmospheric Science (1997) from Colorado

State University. He is a member of The American Meteorological Society (AMS), The National Weather Association (NWA), and the National Council of Industrial Meteorologists (NCIM). He has presented technical papers and hosted sessions at numerous conferences. In January 2013, he organized and co-chaired several sessions of the AMS' Third Conference on Research Transition to Operations. From 2010 to 2013, Tim served on the AMS Board for Private Sector Meteorologists. In 2013 he was the private sector representative on AMS's ad hoc committee chartered to update the AMS's policy on full and open access to environmental data. Since January 2013, Tim has served as an officer on the NCIM Board of Directors. Tim earned his CCM (#641) in February 2008.

### Dr. Anthony Lupo

Dr. Anthony R. Lupo, currently, is a Professor and Chair of Atmospheric Sciences in the Soil, Environmental, and Atmospheric Sciences Department at the University of Missouri. He earned his BS in Meteorology from the State University of New York at Oswego in 1988, and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Purdue University in 1991 and 1995, respectively. His research has been in the areas of large-scale atmospheric dynamics, climate dynamics, and climate change including modeling, and has several peer-reviewed publications in each of these areas. Additionally, he edited and contributed to the book *Recent Hurricane Research: Climate, Dynamics, and Societal Impacts* (published in 2011). He has been a member of the American Meteorological Society since 1987 (Certified Consulting Meteorologist #660), and the National Weather Association since 1998. He was a Fulbright Scholar during the summer of 2004 to Russia, studying climate change at the Russian Academy of Sciences in Moscow. Additionally, he has served as an expert reviewer and/or contributing author to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) (sponsored by the United Nations – World Meteorological Organization) and The Report of the Nongovernmental International Panel on Climate Change (NIPCC) (sponsored by the Heartland Institute) Assessment Reports. His other professional associations include the Royal Meteorological Society (Fellow), American Geophysical Union, Sigma Xi, Gamma Sigma Delta, Phi Kappa Phi, and the Missouri Academy of Science (Fellow). He has won awards for teaching and advising at the University of Missouri, including the College of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources Senior Teaching Award (2006), the Outstanding Undergraduate advisor Award (April 2008), and the University of Missouri Kemper Foundation Award for Excellence in Teaching (April 2008 – This is the highest award in the state of Missouri for teaching). He was awarded the Most Distinguished Scientific Achievement Award by the Missouri Academy of Science (2009), and University of Missouri professor of the year (May, 2010). He was the graduate Alumni of the year in Atmospheric Science at Purdue University (October 2013).



## CCM Professional Development Reminders

In 2004, the Council of the American Meteorological Society approved a professional development component for all of the Society's certification programs. AMS Certified Consulting Meteorologists (CCMs), Certified Broadcast Meteorologists (CBMs), and Sealholders must submit a professional development portfolio consisting of 28 points every 5 years. As a means of evaluating the program, no more than 5% of the CCM portfolios submitted each year are randomly chosen to be audited.

AMS Headquarters sends reminder letters out in the summer to those certification holders whose portfolios will be due at the end of year. A final reminder letter will be sent the following February to CCMs whose portfolios are past due. The 28 professional development points must be submitted through the AMS online tracking system at <http://www.ametsoc.org/PDTS/>. A table of acceptable activities may be found on the AMS Web site at <http://www.ametsoc.org/amscert/ccmpointstable.cfm>. Your online membership profile credentials are used to log into the tracking system. You may enter activities as you complete them since the system saves entries until they are ready to be submitted for review.

CCMs do not need to submit proof of completion of their activities; however, it is a good idea to keep this information on file in case their portfolio is chosen to be audited. Individuals may be contacted by the Chair of the Board of Certified Consulting Meteorologists (CCM) for additional information if their portfolio is chosen during this audit. Results of the audits will be mailed to those individuals whose portfolios were selected.

In order to retain active CCM status, certification holders must pay their renewal fees each year and complete the professional development requirement every five years.

### Professional Development Tips

- Establish an online membership profile (<http://www.ametsoc.org/memb/account/index.cfm>) and keep your login credentials handy.

- Log into the tracking system and check to see when your next professional development portfolio is due.
- Review the table of activities so that you are aware of what is acceptable.
- Enter activities into the online system within one or two weeks of completion.
- If you judge science fairs, mentor students, or engage in office sponsored training programs, keep a log of names, dates, and locations for easy reference.
- Email [ccmpdts@ametsoc.org](mailto:ccmpdts@ametsoc.org) if you have a question on whether an activity is acceptable.
- When you are ready to submit your points for review, make sure to go to the "summary" tab in your portfolio and then hit the "submit for review" tab at the bottom of the page. Entering the required points into the system does not mean that your portfolio has been submitted.

### Professional Development Item Added to the CCM Table of Activities

The following item has been added to the table of professional development activities under the professional experience section:

16.) Participate in a Regional Oral Exam of a CCM candidate. 0.500 point per oral exam.

For more information on the professional development requirement see <http://www.ametsoc.org/amscert/profdevinfoccm.html>.

All CCMs are encouraged to submit items for this quarterly newsletter. We would like at least one article from a CCM about what they are doing for each issue. To submit items please forward them to:

Jennifer.M.Call@gmail.com.