

Certified Consulting Meteorologists Newsletter



Volume 2, Issue 2

Winter 2011-12

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>

Highlights Inside this Issue

Board Seeks Questions for Written Examination	2
Recognition of CCMs	2
The Board of Certified Consulting Meteorologists	3
New Board Members and Chair	3
New CCMs	3
Meetings of the AMS	4
CCM Profiles	4
Fifth Annual CCM Forum	4
Annual CCM Breakfast	6
Program for Short Course in Forensic Meteorology	6

The Chair's Column

Dear CCM Colleagues:

I'm pleased to report that 2011 has been another successful and productive year for our CCM program. This will be my last contribution to the newsletter before I rotate off of the board. The major recent highlights that I'd like to share with you include:



Bernard Meisner, Chair

- Establishment of the Henry T. Harrison Award for Outstanding Contributions by a Consulting Meteorologist.
- Development of "The Art & Science of Forensic Meteorology" Short Course in collaboration with the NCIM.
- Our first Town Hall Meeting: "The Role of Ethics in the Business of Meteorological Consulting and Research." has been planned for the 2012 annual AMS meeting.
- Ongoing development of a series of articles for the Bulletin on professional ethics and personal conduct.
- Conducting the "What is a Certified Consulting Meteorologist?" Webinar sponsored by the Board for Private Sector Meteorologists and the NCIM. A recording of the Webinar is available at: <http://www.ametsoc.net/webinars/>
- Due to the dedicated work of the recent Board chairs and the current Board members, essentially no backup remains in applications. Of the active candidates, the last 2009 candidate is scheduled for an oral exam in New Orleans, and we've been negotiating all year with the last 2010 candidate on a mutually convenient place and time for an oral exam.
- Ongoing substantial review of the written exam question catalog.
- A large number of CCMs supported the CCM Program by serving on oral exam panels, submitting new written exam questions, staffing the CCM booth at the Annual Meeting and/or volunteering to serve on the Board.
- Enabled Kelly Savoie, Manager of Marketing/Special Programs, to observe an oral exam so she can better respond to queries from potential candidates.
- Regularly scheduled bimonthly conference calls have been held with the Board members.

(continued on page 2)

The Chair's Column (Continued from page 1)

- Presentations promoting the CCM Program were made at the 39th Conference on Broadcast Meteorology/The Conference on Weather Warnings and Communication, and the 36th Annual Meeting of the National Weather Association.
- Establishment of an open process for succession planning in identifying and selecting of new Board members and chair.

And finally, this year, for the first time, I've seen "A Certified Consulting Meteorologist Certificate is desired" in a job announcement (posted by San Diego Gas and Electric).

Thanks to the CCM Community.

In addition to the members of the Board, the following CCMs actively contributed to the CCM program in 2011:

Thanks to Joe Shaefer (CCM 294), Kit Wagner (CCM 388) of Atmospheric Information Systems, Richard Carpenter Jr. (CCM 626) of Weather Decision Technologies, Jill Hasling (CCM 496) of the Weather Research Center, James Caron (CCM 652) of Macquarie, DeWayne Mitchell (CCM 663) of Weather Decision Technologies, John Snow (CCM 423) of the University of Oklahoma College of Geosciences, Janice Godfrey (CCM 607) of the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources, John Irwin (CCM 596) of John S. Irwin and Associates, and Ted Palma (CCM 515) of the Environmental Protection Agency, who served on one or more regional oral exam panels.

Thanks to Dian Seidel (CCM 649) of the NOAA Air Resources Laboratory, and Stephen Rich (CCM 656) of Southeast Weather Consulting, for staffing the CCM Booth during the Annual Meeting in Seattle.

Thanks also to Jason Finley (CCM 671) of Fugro Consultants, Inc., Mark Wenclawiak (CCM 631) of O'Brien and Gere, and Thomas M. Else (CCM 675) of Weather Works LLC for submitting questions for the CCM written exam.

Bernard N. Meisner, CCM #440,
Chair, Board of Certified Consulting Meteorologists
American Meteorological Society

Board Seeks Questions for Written Examination

Perhaps you have recently been confronted with an issue or challenge during the course of your work when you thought, "That would be a good question to ask during a CCM exam!" Here's your opportunity to do just that.

We continue to seek questions in all areas of consulting, so please consider submitting a question or two, perhaps based on your own experience as a consultant.

This year CCM board member Jerry Hill is coordinating an update of the questions. Please submit your questions and answers, with any appropriate references and comments for graders to:

jerryd_hill@sbcglobal.net.

Recognition of CCMs

The Board was pleased to note that three CCMs are new AMS award recipients:

- George E. McVehil (CCM 108), *The Charles Franklin Brooks Award for Outstanding Services to The Society*.
- Robert T. Ryan (CCM 599), *The Award for Broadcast Meteorology*.
- Timothy W. Garner (CCM 672), *The Award for an Exceptional Specific Prediction*.

Four CCMs have been elected to the grade of Fellow:

- Mark D. Powell (CCM 475)
- Steven A. Root (CCM 321)
- Roland B. Stull (CCM 490)
- Eugene S. Takle (CCM 359).

Two CCMs are candidates for election to positions of leadership within the Society:

John T. Snow (CCM 423), *candidate for AMS President*.

Gerald J. Dittberner (CCM 409), *candidate for AMS Council*.

The Board of Certified Consulting Meteorologists

Members serving on the board during 2011 are:

Terms Expiring 2012:

- John F. Henz, CCM 270
- Bernard N. Meisner, CCM 440
- Kenneth H. Underwood, CCM 466

Terms Expiring 2013:

- Elizabeth J. Austin, CCM 572
- Stephen W. Harned, CCM 622
- Jerry D. Hill, 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

Ex Officio Members:

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

As the current board members complete their terms and rotate off of the board their replacements are needed. If you are interested in serving on the board in the future and are willing to commit the time, please let your willingness be known to the Board Chair or to Kelly Savoie.

Status of CCM Candidates.

There were eleven new CCM applications received in 2011. The following is the status of candidates who are moving through the certification process:

Candidates with exams assigned – 4

Candidates with exams/reports being graded – 3

Candidates ready for oral exams – 7

New Board Members and Chair

Joining your CCM Board in 2012 will be Joseph Chia-Yung Chang (CCM 553), Homeland Security Studies and Analysis Institute, Arlington, VA; Esmail Malek (CCM 667), Emeritus Associate Professor, Port Orange, FL; and Jay Rosenthal (CCM 602), Air, Weather & Sea Conditions, Inc., Pacific Palisades, CA.

Steven Harned has asked to leave the Board at the end of the Short Course on January 22, 2012. Former CCM Board Chair Gerald J. Mulvey (CCM 571) is nominated to fill the remaining year of Steve Harned's term. Gerry has been active in planning the Town Hall Meeting to be held during the Annual Meeting in New Orleans, and has also been working with Board member Jerry Hill on a series of articles about ethical practice for the AMS Bulletin.

Elizabeth Austin, WeatherExtreme Ltd., in Fallbrook, CA has accepted the nomination to become your new CCM Board chair starting in January 2012 at the Annual Meeting in New Orleans. Elizabeth has been one of the key people organizing the Forensic Meteorology Short Course and arranging oral examinations for qualified candidates.

A special thanks is due to the members who will be rotating off of the board this year after completing their four year terms. They are Bernard Meisner, John Henz, and Ken Underwood.

New CCMs

During 2011 the following individuals successfully completed all the requirements for certification and were added to the roll of active CCMs:

Patrick C. Campbell	Laramie, WY	CCM 669
Frank R. Freedman	San Jose, CA	CCM 670
Jason P. Finley	Sherman Oaks, CA	CCM 671
Timothy W. Garner	Friendswood, TX	CCM 672
John R. Scala	Lancaster, PA	CCM 673
Jennifer M. Call	Florence, AL	CCM 674
Thomas M. Else	Hackettstown, NJ	CCM 675
Kimberly L. Elmore	Norman, OK	CCM 676
John Henderson	Lexington, MA	CCM 677
Stephen D. Pelletiere	Denville, NJ	CCM 678

Meetings of the AMS

Are you planning your calendar for the next year? Here is a list of various AMS topical conferences and meetings that will be coming up in the U.S. during 2012. See the AMS website at:

<http://www.ametsoc.org/MEET/meetinfo.html> for details.

- Second National Flood Workshop, 27 February–1 March 2012, Houston, Texas.
- 12th National Severe Weather Workshop, 1–2 March 2012, Norman, Oklahoma
- 30th Conference on Hurricanes and Tropical Meteorology, 15–20 April 2012, Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida
- 30th Conference on Agricultural and Forest Meteorology, 27 May–1 June 2012, Boston, MA
- First Conference on Atmospheric Biogeosciences, 27 May–1 June 2012, Boston, MA
- AMS 25th Conference on Weather Analysis and Forecasting (WAF) and the 21st Conference on Numerical Weather Prediction (NW) Jointly with the 46th Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographical Society (CMOS) Congress 2012, 29 May–1 June 2012, Montreal, Quebec, Canada
- 20th Symposium on Boundary Layers and Turbulence, 8–13 July 2012, Boston, Massachusetts
- 18th Conference on Air-Sea Interaction, 8–13 July 2012, Boston, Massachusetts
- 40th Broadcast Meteorology Conference, 22–25 August 2012, Boston, MA
- 15th Conference on Mountain Meteorology, 20–24 August 2012, Steamboat Springs, Colorado
- 26th Conference on Severe Local Storms, 5–8 November 2012, Nashville, Tennessee

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 in AMS headquarters at:

ksavoie@ametsoc.org.

Fifth Annual CCM Forum

The Fifth Annual CCM Forum will be held as a part of the AMS Annual Meeting January 22–26 in New Orleans. The CCM Forum is scheduled for Wednesday, January 25th. The theme is: *Meeting the Demand for Specialized Weather and Climate Information in the 21st Century Business Environment*. Program Chair John Henz has put together a program that will appeal to all CCMs.

The first session will begin in room 245 of the Convention Center at 8:30 AM, following the CCM breakfast. Full details and the meeting program can be found at: <http://ams.confex.com/ams/92Annual/webprogram/5CCM.html>

This year the Forum will include a Town Hall Meeting on the unique topic of *The Role of Ethics in the Business of Meteorological Consulting and Research*. The keynote speaker for the session will be Prof. Marsha Baum, Regents Professor of Law at the University of New Mexico. Prof. Baum currently teaches a course titled *Weather in U.S. Law and Society*. The subject of her presentation will be: *Is it law or is it ethics?* The meeting will be held from 12:15 to 1:15 PM in Room 239 of the Convention Center.

The Town Hall Meeting will be followed by a panel discussion on *Contemporary Ethics Problems Facing the Meteorology Community*. The panel discussion will be held from 1:30 to 2:30 PM in Room 245. We have an outstanding group of representatives from a cross section of the meteorology community who will form the panel.

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

In September the AMS Council approved the creation of the Henry T. Harrison Award for Outstanding Contributions by a Consulting Meteorologist! Kudos to former CCM Board chair John Henz for his hard work and dedication in shepherding the proposal through the process. Nominations for the first award recipient will be accepted through the end of April, 2012, and the CCM Board will make a recommendation in June.

Annual CCM Breakfast

The annual CCM breakfast will be held at 7:00 am on Wednesday, January 25, 2011, in Room 337 of the New Orleans Convention Center. Please come to meet incoming Board Chair Elizabeth Austin and your CCM Board, then stay for the CCM Forum, including our Town Hall Meeting and panel discussion.

Volunteer Opportunities at the AMS Annual Meeting

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

1. Student Conference and Career Fair:

CCM Table

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

2. 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.)

Short Course: The Art and Science of Forensic Meteorology

On Sunday, January 21st, the Board of Certified Consulting Meteorologists and the National Council of Industrial Meteorologists are jointly sponsoring a short course on the topic of The Art & Science of Forensic Meteorology. The short course will be held at the conference site in the New Orleans convention center. The program for the short course is attached at the end of this newsletter. Please circulate it among your colleagues and others who might be interested in attending. You may register for the course at:

<https://secure.ametsoc.org/meet/atreg/login/index?ReturnUrl=%2fmeet%2fatreg%2fEvent%2f92ANNUAL>.

The period for early registration has passed and the fee for the short course is \$265 for AMS members. For non-members the registration fee is \$305. Lunch is included.

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) by January 16th. 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>.

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

The Art & Science of Forensic Meteorology

Short Course: Sunday January 22, 2012
New Orleans Louisiana

CO-SPONSORED BY

The Board of Certified Consulting Meteorologists
And
The National Council of Industrial Meteorologists

- 8:00 A.M.** **ARRIVAL AND INTRODUCTIONS.** Elizabeth Austin, CCM, WeatherExtreme Ltd. and Stephen Harned, CCM, Atlantic States Weather, Inc.
- 8:20 A.M.** **HOW TO GET STARTED AS A FORENSIC METEOROLOGIST. WHAT AM I AN EXPERT IN (AND NOT AN EXPERT IN)** Stephen Harned, CCM, Atlantic States Weather, Inc.
- 8:40 A.M.** **RUNNING YOUR OWN COMPANY: Including Sole Proprietorship, LLC or Incorporation (which is best for me), How to handle Taxes, Do I need Business Insurance, The Do's and Don'ts of Schedule of Fees and Billing, How do I keep track of my hours.** John Henz, CCM, Dewberry
- 9:15 A.M.** **ETHICS, ETHICS, ETHICS: Including how to deal with conflict of interest, what is the meteorologist expected to provide – and not provide- to the client, etc. .** Jerry Hill, CCM, and Gerry Mulvey, CCM, Northrop Grumman Corporation.
- 9:30 A.M.** **“JUNK SCIENCE” AND STRENGTHENING FORENSIC SCIENCE IN THE UNITED STATES.** Jerry Hill, CCM, Consulting Meteorologist
- 9:45 A.M.** **COFFEE BREAK**
- 10:15 A.M.** **THE ART AND SCIENCE OF GRAPHICS, ANIMATIONS AND MAPPING FOR THE JUDGE OR JURY.** Elizabeth Austin, CCM, WeatherExtreme Ltd.
- 10:35 A.M.** **SUCCESS STORIES AND HORRIFIC STORES OF ACTUAL FORENSIC METEOROLOGY CASE STUDIES,** Stephen Harned, CCM, Atlantic States Weather, Inc. and Jan Null, Golden Gate Weather Services.
- 10:55 A.M.** **NATIONAL CLIMATIC DATA CENTER (NCDC) PRESENTATION: Their new products including digital datasets. Has data certification gone by the wayside? The role and importance of Regional Climate Centers. What worldwide data are available at NCDC.** NCDC Speaker
- 11:40 A.M.** **CCM CERTIFICATION AND ITS ROLE IN FORENSIC METEOROLOGY. NCIM MEMBERSHIP TYPES AND ITS IMPORTANCE IN BUSINESS.** Bernard Meisner, CCM Board Chair, NOAA/National Weather Service, and Dick Westergard, CCM, NCIM President, Shade Tree Meteorology, LLC
- 12:00 P.M.** **SHORT COURSE LUNCHEON (included).**
- 1:30 P.M.** **PANEL DISCUSSION** John Henz, CCM, Dewberry, Peter Hildebrand, NASA Goddard, Michael Kaplan, Desert Research Institute, KC King, Esq., Desert Research Institute, Jerry Hill, CCM, Consulting Meteorologist, Jan Null, CCM, NCIM, Frank Lombardo, CCM, WeatherWorks, Inc., and Stephen Harned (Moderator), CCM, Atlantic States Weather, Inc.

- 2:00 P.M.** **ALL ABOUT THE RESEARCH DATA ARCHIVE AT NCAR: Overview of the data, demo and question/answer session** Joey Comeaux, National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR)
- 2:40 P.M.** **BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN UNIVERSITY/GOVERNMENT WORK AND CONSULTING including how to balance your day job with forensic consulting.** Peter Hildebrand, Director Earth Sciences Division, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center.
- 2:55 P.M.** **COFFEE BREAK**
- 3:30 P.M.** **MOCK DEPOSITION** Elizabeth Austin, CCM, WeatherExtreme Ltd., Stephen Harned, CCM, Atlantic States Weather, Inc., H. Michael Mogil, CCM, CBM, NCIM, How The Weatherworks, John Henz, CCM, Dewberry
- 4:30 P.M.** **THE ART OF TESTIFYING.** Multiple presenters from throughout the day
- 4:50 P.M.** **CLOSING REMARKS.** Elizabeth Austin, CCM, WeatherExtreme Ltd. and Stephen Harned, CCM, Atlantic States Weather, Inc.