

Houston Chapter of the American Meteorological Society

February 2010

Notes from the President –

Our Houston Chapter relies on volunteers. The speakers freely volunteer their time and share their knowledge with us. Without them, our monthly meetings are only dinners and listening to the officers. Speaking of officers, we also volunteer our time. But it is more than just showing up at the monthly meetings, it is arranging them too. Both the speakers and the locations must be scheduled; meeting reminders have to be sent out. We strive to make this process seamless so that our members can show up, enjoy themselves, and have the opportunity to learn something new and interesting.

However, it is now our turn to ask our membership to consider volunteering. It was brought to my attention at last month's meeting that only 25 of our members have paid their dues. To put this in some perspective, we send our monthly newsletter out to over 150 local members. The annual dues are just \$10 and are used for several purposes. First, we pay for our speaker's meals, so we would like to be able to continue this courtesy. Second, and more importantly, we provide prizes to the winners of the Science Engineering Fair of Houston. As a Special Awarding agency, our members judge at the Fair as representatives of the American Meteorological Society. The prizes are presented by

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Vignettes on Rain and Atmospheric Variability in Southeast Texas –

**presented by Courtney
Schumacher**

Thursday, February 25th

Dinner – 6:00pm

Meeting – 7:00pm

Olive Garden Restaurant

10830 Northwest Freeway

Houston, TX 77092

Courtney Schumacher, an associate professor at Texas A&M University, and two of her doctoral students, Larry Hopper and Justin Stachnik, will present a series of studies highlighting precipitation and atmospheric variability in Southeast Texas based on observations and research performed during an NSF-funded project called the Student Operational ADRAD Project (SOAP) that has involved almost 100 undergraduate students over the five-year program. In addition to presenting an overview of our research and education program, the vignettes will include a climatology of Southeast Texas storm types and how much they rain, how variable the storm types are over a county-scale gauge network, why there is a summertime noontime peak in rainfall, and a discussion of whether Southeast Texas should have an additional upper-air station.

Dr. Schumacher did her undergraduate work at the University of Virginia and her graduate work at the University of Washington and has been at A&M since

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CHAPTER WEBSITE

www.amshouston.net

NATIONAL WEBSITE

www.ametsoc.org

Speaker Information continued...

2003. Her main research interests are tropical and radar meteorology. Larry Hopper did his undergraduate work at the University of Oklahoma, earned his masters at A&M in 2008, and has been an integral part of SOAP since its inception in 2005. Justin Stachnik did his bachelors and masters at Purdue before joining the A&M graduate program and our SOAP efforts in 2007.

For more information on SOAP, check out the group's webpage: [SOAP](#).

Notes from the President continued...

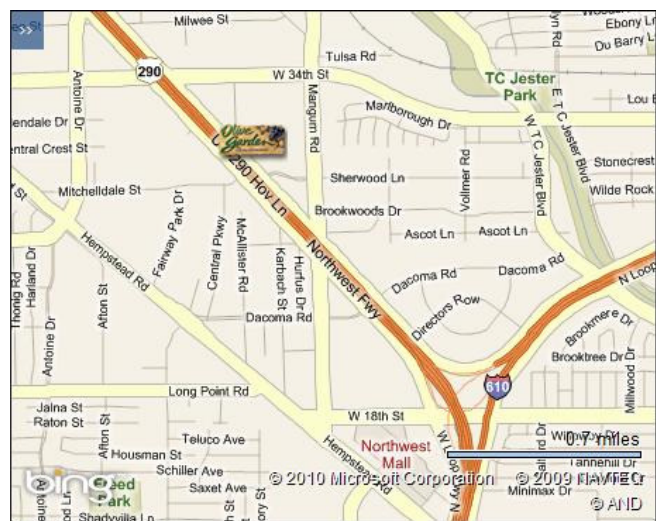
the Chapter to the best meteorological/earth sciences project in different grade categories. So, please consider paying your annual dues to the Chapter, so we can continue our work as a Special Awarding agency. Speaking of the Science Engineering Fair, we need volunteers (there's that word again) to work as judges. The fair is at the George R. Brown Convention Center and the judging is conducted on Friday, March 12th. Please contact any of the officers at the e-mails listed on the Chapter's website, www.amshouston.net or at houstonams@gmail.com.

Finally, I am going to bring this full circle. We need a volunteer to serve as our Chapter Secretary. The responsibilities of the Secretary include the publication of the Monthly newsletter and communicating with the AMS National Office about our ongoing activities. It is a great chance to learn more about our Chapter and network with other AMS members in our area.

Kind Regards,
Aaron Studwell

Maps & Directions

Olive Garden Restaurant
10830 Northwest Freeway, Houston, TX 77092
713-682-1465



[Click here for link](#)

CORPORATE SPONSORS



Contact an officer to see how your company can support the local chapter.

Feel free to contact any of the officers for comments, questions, suggestions or even additions to the newsletter. We would appreciate hearing from you.

Contact Information

<p><i>President – Aaron Studwell</i> Ph: 713-361-4973 Email: aaron.studell@weatherinsight.com</p>	<p><i>Vice President – Lance Wood</i> Ph: 281-799-7349 Email: lance.wood@noaa.gov</p>
<p><i>Treasurer – Brian Planz</i> Ph: 713-430-7400 Email: brian.planz@wilkenweather.com</p>	<p><i>Secretary – TBD</i> Ph: Email:</p>

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The Houston Chapter boasts of one of the most diverse memberships in the country. Due to our location we have meteorologists and scientists working for many different types of industry, government, private and media. These people are involved in forecasting and monitoring weather world-wide, right from Houston.

In addition, we welcome everyone and anyone who is interested in weather and weather-related topics.

Our dues are only \$10 per year. Funds are used to pay for dinner and thank you gifts for our speakers, and provide awards for the winners of the Houston AMS Special Awards at the Science and Engineering Fair of Houston held each spring.

If you'd like to become a member, please fill out the form below with your most recent information, include \$10 cash or check and turn it into any officer. If you prefer, you can mail the form and money to our Treasurer. Please see the address below. Checks should be made out to: *Houston Chapter of the American Meteorological Society*

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Work or Home? (please circle one)

Email Address _____

Home phone number _____

Work _____

Mail to:

Brian Planz

c/o Wilkens Weather Technologies, Inc.

2925 Briar Park Drive, 7th Floor

Houston, TX 77042

Send my newsletter by: ___ mail/ ___ email.

This is for: ___ Dues/ ___ Address change.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TEXAS SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK

DATES: 21-27 FEBRUARY 2010

10TH NATIONAL SEVERE WEATHER WORKSHOP

LOCATION: NORMAN, OK – DATES: 4-6 MARCH 2010

2010 NATIONAL STORM CONFERENCE

LOCATION: COLLEYVILLE, TX – DATE: 13 MARCH 2010

NATIONAL FLOOD SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK

DATES: 15-19 MARCH 2010

WORLD METEOROLOGICAL DAY

DATE: 23 MARCH 2010

32ND ANNUAL NATIONAL HURRICANE CONFERENCE

LOCATION: ORLANDO, FL – DATES: 29 MARCH TO 2 APRIL 2010