



Houston Chapter of the American Meteorological Society

January 2011

Notes from the President –

It is my pleasure to welcome the Houston Chapter of the American Meteorological Society to a new year and a new decade. I have had the good fortune to have been a member of this Chapter since 1996. This is actually my second go-round as President, the previous one being more than ten years ago.

One thing we have always strived for as an organization is an active membership. Whether it is by serving as an officer, reviewing scholarship applications or judging at the Science Fair, every effort that our members give is truly appreciated. Looking ahead, all three of these opportunities will be available over the next several months.

We have already started to receive scholarship applications and the best three submissions from our region will be considered for the AMS/Industry Minority Scholarships. These scholarships will award funding to minority students who have been traditionally underrepresented in the sciences, especially Hispanic, Native American, and Black/African American students.

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"Hurricane Ike and Some Comparisons" presented by Lance Wood

Monday, January 31

Dinner – 6:00pm

Meeting – 7:00pm

Saltgrass Steak House

20241 Gulf Freeway

Webster, TX 77598

Phone (281) 338-9778

Speaker Information

Lance Wood is the Science and Operations Officer at the National Weather Service (NWS) office in League City, TX. Prior to this position, he was a senior forecaster at the League City office.

Mr. Wood will be comparing model forecast track errors between Hurricanes Ike and Rita (2005), and also comparing the storm surge produced by Ike to that of Carla (1961) along the upper southeast Texas coast.

He began his career with the NWS in El Paso, TX, in 1994. Mr. Wood became a forecaster at the NWS Lake Charles, LA, office in 1995, before coming to the Houston/Galveston area in 1998. He also has experience as a trade floor meteorologist with Duke Energy.

He is a graduate of Texas A&M University, receiving both a Bachelors and Masters Degree in Meteorology.

He is married and has three children.

CHAPTER WEBSITE

www.amshouston.net

NATIONAL WEBSITE

www.ametsoc.org

Maps & Directions

Saltgrass Steak House

20241 Gulf Freeway Webster, TX 77598
(281) 338-9778



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

Notes from the President continued...

Funding for the scholarships is provided by industry and through donations made by members to the AMS 21st Century Campaign. We will be reviewing the applications later next month, so please consider volunteering.

In March, Chapter members will be judging at the Houston Science and Engineering Fair. This event is held annually at the George R. Brown Convention Center. We will review projects that have a basis in meteorology, ask questions of the students and award the top three entrants from the three age groups. The judging occurs on a Friday afternoon, so there's a way to take a half-day off work.

Finally in April, we will be having our Officer elections. If you are interested in helping the Chapter continue its progress into the 21st Century, please consider running for an office. If you have a question about what the responsibilities are, our contact information is available on this Newsletter.

Every member of our Chapter can contribute to our success. What are you going to do to make sure we are successful?

Best regards,

Aaron Studwell

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

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Secretary – Jennifer Stein

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Interested in being a Certified Consulting Meteorologist...

Are you interested in acquiring the AMS's designation as a Certified Consulting Meteorologist? The certification is open not just to people in private consulting practice but to any professional meteorologist. The list of CCMs includes many working in fields such as academia, government, and industrial practice. There are currently ten meteorologists in the Houston area who have achieved the CCM title.

Receiving the CCM designation is a career capstone for professional meteorologists, indicating that they have been given the endorsement of their peers. For more information check on the AMS's CCM website at:
<http://www.ametsoc.org/amscert/index.html#ccm>.

If you are interested in learning more about the path to becoming a CCM contact local chapter member Jerry Hill, who currently serves on the AMS Board of Certified Consulting Meteorologists. You can reach him at 713-784-9250 or at jerryd_hill@sbcglobal.net.

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 \$15 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

This is for: ___ Dues/ ___ Address change.