



Houston Chapter of the American Meteorological Society

October 2011

Notes from the President –

First, I want to thank everyone who came out to our first meeting last month. We had a great turnout and we were treated to a very thorough look at the ongoing drought and what we might expect for the future from Dr. John Nielsen-Gammon. I want to encourage all of our members to continue to attend our monthly meetings when possible to support our chapter and our speakers who are volunteering their time.

Thankfully, the Houston area did receive some much needed rainfall this past Sunday, October 9th. The big winner was the southeast side, as Hobby airport received 5.11 inches. This is the most rain at Hobby since 5.15 inches fell on April 18, 2009.

Continued on page 2

"Gauging Fire Potential in Texas"

**Presented by Brad Smith,
Fire Behavior Analyst
Texas Forest Service**

Tuesday, October 25th

**Dinner – 6:00pm
Meeting – 6:45pm**
Lyndon's BBQ
5320 Hollister St
Houston, TX 77040

Speaker Information-

Brad received a BS in Forestry from Stephen F Austin in 1981, and is a 30-year employee of the Texas Forest Service. He has been a wildland firefighter since 1979, when he was working as a seasonal employee on the Rio Grande Forest in Colorado. Understanding wildland fire has been a career long endeavor and includes assignments on handcrews to his current role in Predictive Services. His focus now is trying to understand the relationship between weather and fuels and which combinations of weather and fuel conditions can produce significant wildland fires.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1** Notes from the President
- 1** Meeting Information
- 2** Maps & Directions
- 3** Contact Information
- 3** Membership Information

Maps & Directions

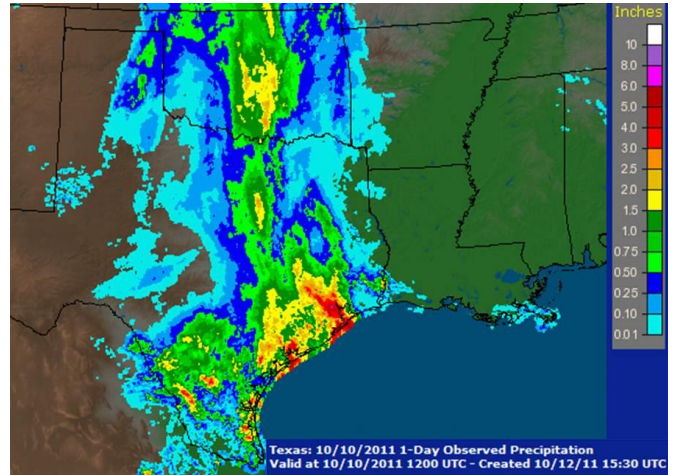
Lyndon's BBQ, 5320 Hollister St
Houston, TX 77040
Phone (713) 690-2112



[Click Here For Link](#)

Notes from the President continued...

I have included an image below that shows the 24 hour precipitation from 7 AM Sunday through 7 AM Monday morning.



Although we received some short-term relief from the drought, in general we expect dry conditions and dry fuel to continue to produce a serious fire weather threat this coming winter and early spring across southeast Texas. We are fortunate to have Mr. Brad Smith speaking at our upcoming October meeting. Our fire weather forecasters have worked closely with Brad in the past, and value his experience and fire weather insight. In March 2011, Brad was honored with a Texas A&M University Vice Chancellor's Award in Excellence, "for reaching the highest levels of wildland fire analysis capabilities".

**Thanks,
Lance**

CORPORATE SPONSORS



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

CHAPTER WEBSITE
www.amshouston.net

NATIONAL WEBSITE
www.ametsoc.org

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 – Lance Wood</i> Ph: (281) 799-7349 Email: lance.wood@noaa.gov</p>	<p><i>Vice President – Chris McKinney</i> Ph: (817) 266-9885 Email: chris.mckinney@noaa.gov</p>
<p><i>Treasurer – Brian Planz</i> Ph: (713) 430-7400 Email: brian.planz@wilkensweather.com</p>	<p><i>Secretary – Jennifer Stein</i> Ph: (210) 844-9384 Email: jstein@impactweather.com</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 \$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 \$15 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.