



Houston Chapter of the American Meteorological Society

December 2011

Notes from the President –

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving! November was good to the Houston area as we finally saw above normal rainfall for a month. IAH came in with 4.7 inches of rain for November! Now, we just need a repeat performance for December.

We had a great meeting in October, as Brad Smith educated us on the recent, historic Texas fires and the extreme dry conditions that supported those fires. I want to encourage all of our members to continue to attend our monthly meetings when possible to support our chapter and speakers such as Brad, who are volunteering their time.

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Speaker: Gene Norman,
Chief Meteorologist
KHOU 11 News

Tuesday, December 13th

Dinner & Meeting – 6:30pm
KHOU 11 News
1945 Allen Parkway
Houston, TX 77019

Speaker Information-

Gene joined KHOU 11 News in January 2008 and in June of that year was promoted to Chief Meteorologist. His ability to provide the most detailed weather forecasts is attributed to his extensive education, experience and knack for relating to viewers. Gene brings to Houston more than 20 years of meteorology experience at NASA and on television, along with a lifelong passion for science.

While at NASA's Johnson Space Center, Gene spent eight years developing weather monitoring software for the space shuttle. During that time he landed his first meteorologist job moonlighting at a TV station in Beaumont.

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Speaker Information continued...

From there he became a weekend meteorologist at KTRK-TV in Houston and then moved on to WGCL-TV in Atlanta where he served as Chief Meteorologist prior to his Houston return.

Throughout his career, Gene has received numerous accolades. He has been honored with five Emmy awards for his extensive weather reporting, including one in 2009 for the KHOU 11 hurricane special "Storm Warnings: Lessons Learned." Also in 2009, Gene received the Texas Associated Press Broadcasters Award for Best Weathercast.

Gene is a member of the National Weather Association, holds the Seal of Approval from the American Meteorologist Society (AMS) and has earned a Certified Broadcast Meteorologist (CBM) designation. He also previously served as president of the American Meteorology Society's Broadcast Board.

Originally from New York, Gene holds a bachelor's degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a master's degree in meteorology from the University of Maryland. He is very active in the community with charitable organizations, and serves on the board of the Freeman Weather Museum.

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Notes from the President continued...

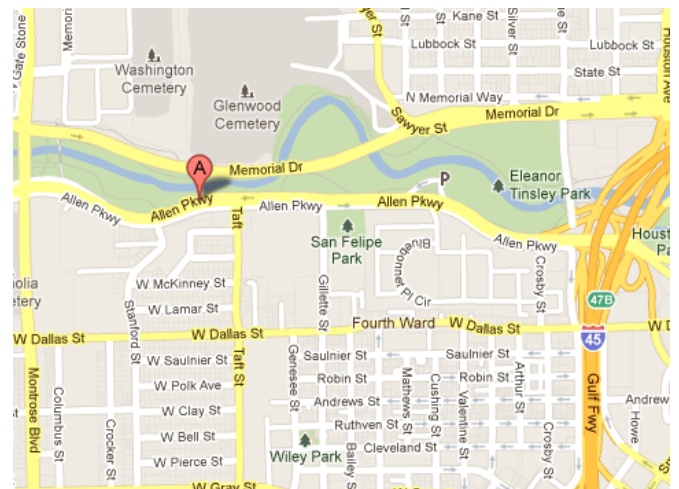
One of our very own AMS members is going to be hosting a meeting for us in December. Gene Norman, broadcast meteorologist for KHOU 11 News, is graciously allowing us to visit his station, and we will get a behind the scenes look at the studio and what he does to prepare for his broadcasts. Gene is also providing pizza and soda for us, while we are there visiting KHOU 11 News. **Please RSVP to me (lance.wood@noaa.gov) by Sunday, December 11th if you will be attending our December meeting, so we can get a head count for Gene.** This is a great opportunity, so please come out for our final meeting of 2011.

I want to wish everyone Happy Holidays!

Thanks,
Lance

Maps & Directions

KHOU 11 News
1945 Allen Parkway
Houston, TX 77019



[Click Here for Link](#)

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.