



Houston Chapter of the American Meteorological Society

January 2012

Notes from the President –

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a great holiday period to finish off 2011. We had a great time touring KHOU studios with Gene Norman and Chita Johnson during our past meeting in December. I want to thank both of them again for their hospitality.

As we start 2012, I thought we should first highlight some of the weather records that the Houston area experienced during 2011, since it was an exceptionally dry and warm year.

From the NWS Houston/Galveston office climate focal point (Chuck Roeseler):

What a year! Southeast Texas endured intense heat, record drought, and dangerous wildfires. At least the locusts did not show up. The area has never endured a summer quite like the summer of 2011, with 100 degree heat almost daily during the month of August. 2011 was one of the warmest years on record across southeast Texas.

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“Texas Weather Pioneers; Making the Community Weather wise through Informal Education”

Speakers: Jill Hasling

President of the Weather Research Center

Maureen Maiuri

Meteorologist and Executive Director of the The John C. Freeman Weather Museum at the Weather Research Center

Friday, January 20th

Lunch & Meeting – Noon

The John C. Freeman Weather Museum
at Weather Research Center
5104 Caroline St.
Houston, Texas 77004

Speaker Information-

Jill F. Hasling is President of Weather Research Center. She became a Board Certified Consulting Meteorologist [CCM] of the American Meteorological Society (AMS) in 1992 and Fellow of the Society in 2000. Jill was the sixth woman to become a CCM, and she then became the first woman member of the NCIM, an association of private sector meteorologists. Jill is one of the few women Fellows of the American Meteorological Society.

Jill has worked in the field of meteorology since 1974 as a programmer, forecaster, researcher and forensic meteorologist. Since graduating in 1975, she has worked as a marine and tropical meteorologist and provides daily weather forecasts for the offshore oil industry all over the world. Jill started her meteorological career at the Institute for Storm Research at the University of St. Thomas in 1974 as a weather technician and programmer and became Vice President in 1980.

Speaker Information continued...

Jill founded Weather Research Center with her father, Dr. John C. Freeman, in 1987 and continued her work training young meteorologists the art of marine and tropical weather forecasting. In 2006, Jill opened the nation's first Weather Museum in memory of her father. Jill continues to engage in many community outreach programs with events, talks and visits to schools. Since WRC's inception, its outreach programs have served over one million in the community.

Maureen Maiuri is a Meteorologist and the Executive Director of The John C. Freeman Weather Museum at Weather Research Center. She received a B.S. degree in Meteorology from Millersville University of Pennsylvania in 2005 and began her career with the Weather Research Center in November 2005. She works as a marine and tropical meteorologist and provides daily weather forecasts for the offshore oil industry all over the world. As Museum Director, she oversees the staff and operation of the museum as well as manages museum programs and exhibitions. Maureen also participates in many community outreach programs with tours, events, talks and visits to schools.

Maps & Directions

The John C. Freeman Weather Museum at Weather Research Center
5104 Caroline St.
Houston, Texas 77004
713-529-3076



[Click Here for Link](#)

CHAPTER WEBSITE
www.amshouston.net

NATIONAL WEBSITE
www.ametsoc.org

Notes from the President continued...

Although this data is preliminary, it appears that the average temperature for the city of Houston will tie 1962 as the warmest year on record. 2011 did end as the warmest on record for Houston Hobby airport, and also for College Station. The city of Galveston recorded its' second warmest year on record, only trailing 2006.

Let's move on to rainfall. 2011 ended on a wet note, and despite most of 2011 being downright arid, the year as a whole was not the driest on record. 2011 finished as one of the five driest years on record across southeast Texas. 2011 was the driest year on record for Houston Hobby airport, but not for the other 1st order climate sites. The city of Houston received 24.57 inches of rain in 2011 and this is the 3rd driest year on record. College Station received only 19.97 inches of rain over the past year and this is also the 3rd driest year on record. The city of Galveston received 22.95 inches of rain and this is the 5th driest year on record.

I am pleased to announce that Jill Hasling and Maureen Maiuri have allowed us to host our January meeting at the John C. Freeman Weather Museum. They will be presenting their upcoming AMS conference papers over a lunch meeting. We will be ordering box lunches ahead of time, and eating our lunch during the meeting. The box lunches include chips and cost \$8.00. The choices for the boxes are: ham, turkey, and chicken salad. **Please send an RSVP e-mail by Wednesday, January 18th, if you would like to attend the meeting (lance.wood@noaa.gov). Also, please indicate your box lunch preference.** We will collect money for the lunches at the meeting. Hope to see you there!

Thanks,
Lance

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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 – 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>
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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.