



# Houston Chapter of the American Meteorological Society

March 2013

## Notes from the President –

Greetings! We had a great meeting in January with the Houston Chronicle's SciGuy, Eric Berger. He gave us some great insight concerning how meteorologists are perceived, and also the reality of the challenges we face when communicating scientific information.

Several of us judged at the Science Engineering Fair of Houston on Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup>. I will fill everyone in on the winners and their projects at our upcoming March meeting.

I am pleased to announce that Dr. Barry Lefer from the University of Houston will be hosting our March meeting. Barry will speak to us about the program they have in place to launch weather balloons, and then we will watch a balloon launch. This will be a great opportunity to see and hear what is going on at UH's Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences. See below for all the meeting details.

Thanks,  
Lance

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## *"Weather Balloon Launches at the University of Houston"*

### **Speaker:**

Dr. Barry Lefer  
Associate Professor and Chair of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, University of Houston

### **Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>**

6:00pm Dinner  
7:00pm Meeting

### **Dinner Location:**

University of Houston Taco Cabana  
In the Stadium Parking Garage  
832-842-5989

### **Meeting Location:**

University of Houston  
Science and Research Building 1

## **Speaker Information-**

### *Education:*

University of Virginia Environmental Sciences  
B.A. 1989  
University of New Hampshire Earth Sciences  
M.S. 1991  
University of New Hampshire Earth Sciences  
Ph.D. 1997

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From the Houston Chronicle: University of Houston students Matt Haworth, left, and James Trammell work to tie off a weather balloon that they released from the University of Houston, in partnership with ImpactWeather. Instruments take temperature, wind and moisture measurements as the balloon rises. Photo: Cody Duty, Chronicle

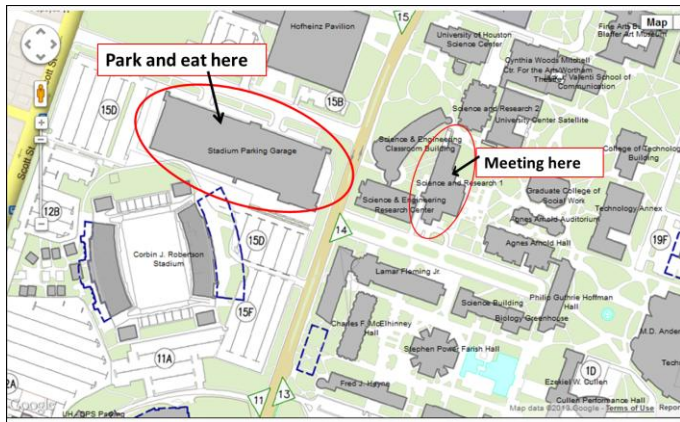
## Maps & Directions

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## Speaker Information continued...

### *Recent Research Interests:*

Direct measurement of ozone production in a small network – instrument improvement, deployment, and assessment of value

Air Quality Mapping and Related Data Management

University of Houston Study of Houston Atmospheric Radical Precursors (SHARP) Data Analysis

Quantification of industrial emissions of VOCs, NO<sub>2</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub> by SOF and mobile DOAS

### *Synergistic Activities:*

Mentor for NASA SARP (Student Airborne Research Program) Undergraduate Students.

Associate Editor – Journal of Geophysical Research – Atmospheres (2003 – 2007)

Mentor University of Houston – Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF)

**CHAPTER WEBSITE**  
[www.amshouston.net](http://www.amshouston.net)

**NATIONAL WEBSITE**  
[www.ametsoc.org](http://www.ametsoc.org)

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

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## Contact Information

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<p><i>Treasurer – Brian Planz</i> Ph: (713) 430-7400 Email: <a href="mailto:brian.planz@wilkensweather.com">brian.planz@wilkensweather.com</a></p>	<p><i>Secretary – Jennifer Stein</i> Ph: (210) 844-9384 Email: <a href="mailto:jstein@impactweather.com">jstein@impactweather.com</a></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 \$20 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 \$20 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.