

# Monthly Newsletter of the Central North Carolina Chapter of the American Meteorological Society

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January 2011

## **Upcoming Events:**

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, January 20, 7:15 PM.

**SPEAKER:** Tom Paylor, Trader, RenaissanceRe

**LOCATION:** Room 1132, Jordan Hall NC State University

**TOPIC:** Using Weather as a Tool in the Financial Markets--Both as Hedger and Speculator

## **ABSTRACT/BIO:**

Tom received his B.A. in geography from UNC-Chapel Hill in 1992 and his M.S. in meteorology from Florida State University in 1995. After working for a year as a television meteorologist in Georgia, Tom spent seven years working for the National Weather Service in various locations in Alaska, Florida, and NWS Headquarters.

Upon leaving the NWS in 2001, Tom went to work for Williams Energy in Tulsa, OK, where for two years he provided traders with weather forecasts focused on the energy industry. He returned to North Carolina in 2002 and spent a year at Progress Energy before joining WeatherPredict, a local weather forecasting company partly owned by Bermuda based reinsurer RenaissanceRe. While at WeatherPredict, Tom advised hedge funds on the impacts of weather and became involved in trading weather derivatives, energy, and agricultural products based on weather signals. In 2006, he moved to another group within RenaissanceRe, working as a trader on the weather and energy risk management side of the business.

As a friendly reminder, dues are \$10 (\$5 for student members) for the year, with half the dues going towards the Academic Achievement Fund. Dues can be paid at the monthly meeting or sent to:

Marilyn Schiermeier  
303 Glasgow Road  
Cary, NC 27511

Please make checks payable to "CNCC-AMS". Donations to the Academic Achievement Fund are also welcome, and are tax deductible.

# NEWS

## New Chapter Webmaster

The Chapter was excited to introduce Joseph D'Addezio as our new webmaster at the December meeting. Thanks to Joseph's effort, the Chapter can look forward to current information displayed on our website!

Joseph is a junior at North Carolina State University where he is a double major in meteorology and oceanography. In addition to his studies, Joseph has worked at PCO (PAMS Computer Operations) for the past year.

## Falls Lake Article in *News and Observer*

The December 22 Raleigh *News and Observer* contained an article related to our December presentation by Dana Matics. The article, "Water supply gets buffer from toxins", is about the cooperation of Raleigh and Creedmoor in purchasing 162 acres of land in the Falls Lake Watershed. The land is intended to become a Creedmoor park, which will help reduce pollutants from entering Falls Lake and the Raleigh water supply. The full article can be found at:

<http://www.newsobserver.com/2010/12/22/875740/water-supply-gets-buffer-from.html>

## Reminder: 2011 StormFest Invitation

StormFest is scheduled to return to the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences on June 18, 2011 from 9 a.m. to 5 pm. The highly successful event, which attracted around 7,500 people in 2010, plans to expand in 2011, with more agencies and companies invited to participate.

Participating agencies and companies will be allowed to set up information booths inside the museum, showcasing their roles and their services during disasters, primarily hurricanes and flooding. Educational sessions and presentations will run throughout the day. Additionally, large, outdoor displays, including rescue vehicles and communication equipment, will be displayed in front of the museum on Jones Street. The 2011 StormFest Facebook page is:

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#!/event.php?eid=118605968168801>

## Reminder: Marbles Kids Museum to Present "Science Solvers" Series

The Marbles Kids Museum in downtown Raleigh is putting together a series called "Science Solvers" that will feature a variety of different careers in the sciences and include activities for kids between the ages of three and eight years.

The planners would like to include meteorology in this series and are seeking anyone in the Chapter that enjoys working with young children and would be interested in hosting a two hour activity station on one Sunday afternoon in the spring.

If anyone is interested, please contact Sarah Wolfe, Program Events Manager, either by telephone at (919) 857-1008, or by the email address below.

[swolfe@marbleskidsmuseum.org](mailto:swolfe@marbleskidsmuseum.org)

## Announcements from the Student Chapter

On Wednesday, January 19, a representative from Eastern Research Group will be speaking to the Student Chapter.

On Tuesday, February 1, the Student Chapter will hold a Career/Internship meeting. Our Vice-President and Meteorologist-in-Charge at the NWS in Raleigh, Darin Figurskey, will join an Accuweather representative to share their experiences with the students.

## December Meeting Minutes

### Business Meeting Notes:

- 23 people were in attendance.
- Treasurer Marilyn Schiermeier noted that total Chapter assets are \$10,664.49, including \$215.00 in the Academic Achievement Fund. Paid Chapter membership stands at 45 individuals.
- Education Chair, Marvin Maddox, reported that an exhibit at the NC Science Teachers Association's Annual Meeting in Greensboro in November would cost \$150 for a booth and \$60 per person. Marvin has volunteered to attend, but would like another to attend as well. Anyone interested should contact Marvin.
- Joseph D'Addezio was introduced as the new Chapter Webmaster.
- Ashley McCraney, NCSU Student Chapter Secretary, will attend the Chapter Officers Breakfast at the AMS Meeting in January.
- The Annual Chapter Banquet in May will be held at the Bavarian Brathaus in Cary. More details will follow.

### Speaker Notes:

- Dana Matics, Park Ranger/Outreach Coordinator, United States Army Corps of Engineers, Falls Lake, presented, "The Operations of Falls Lake Dam".
- Falls Lake consists of 37,990 acres (land and water) in Wake, Durham, and Granville counties, and is part of the Neuse River Basin.
- Falls Lake Dam was congressionally mandated for water quality, flood damage reduction, recreation, wildlife management, and water supply. Each is valued equally.
- Falls Lake Dam is almost always releasing water, with decisions made by stakeholders, water control manual, and downstream targets (Smithfield, Goldsboro, Kinston).
- Despite floods associated with hurricanes and El Nino events, the emergency level of 264.8 ft above msl has never been reached.
- Falls Lake Dam has avoided an estimated \$587,627,439 in flood damage.

**Mark those Calendars!**

Here are the tentative dates for meetings during the 2010-2011 chapter year. We look forward to seeing you.

January 20th  
February 17th  
March 17th  
April 21st

Please be aware that dates are subject to change.

Let us know what you think. Have suggestions for speakers? Topics? Interesting weather websites? Please feel free to email any of the officers.

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