

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

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October 2011

UPCOMING EVENTS:

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, October 20, 7:15 PM.

SPEAKER: Bill Reh, Morning Meteorologist, NBC-17

LOCATION: Room 1132, Jordan Hall North Carolina State University

TOPIC: A Day in the Life of an On-Air Early Morning Meteorologist

ABSTRACT/BIO:

Bill Reh has been forecasting the weather in central North Carolina since 1983. Weekday mornings you can see him on NBC-17 Today starting at 4:30 a.m.

Bill spent 13 years working and forecasting the weather at WTVD in Durham, covering such weather events as the Red Springs killer tornado outbreak of 1984, the deadly Raleigh tornado of November 1988, and Hurricane Fran in 1996. He also wrote and produced the exhibit: "*Ask a Meteorologist*" for the N.C. Museum of Life and Science in Durham.

Bill then worked at WB22 in Raleigh for five years forecasting, as well as covering Hurricane Floyd and the Snow Storm of the Century in 2000. He also initiated the first ozone maps to be used graphically in the country and presented a tutorial video at the 2003 National Air Quality Conference in San Antonio.

Bill graduated from Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, Illinois, with a double major in meteorology and broadcasting. He earned the American Meteorological Society Television Seal of Approval in 1984. He has taught continuing education classes on the weather at Duke University and has visited literally thousands of school children throughout the years explaining the hows and whys of weather.

When he is not forecasting the weather for NBC-17, Bill enjoys cooking, exercising (so he can eat), spending time with his family, and when the weather is nice, being outdoors.

Bill will be sharing his experiences as an on-air meteorologist. Bill will discuss what a day in the life of an early morning on-air meteorologist is like, including forecast preparation, demands of social media, what happens in the big events, and other challenges. Bill will also share some career advice for students considering the media.

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

American Meteorological Society Announces 2012 AMS/Industry Minority Scholarships

From Donna Fernandez, Development and Student Program Manger
(dfernandez@ametsoc.org):

The American Meteorological Society is pleased to announce the 2012 AMS/Industry Minority Scholarships. Now entering its nineteenth year, the scholarship is intended to help support college education for minority students traditionally underrepresented in the sciences, especially Hispanic/Latino, American Indian/Alaska Native, Black/African American, and Native Hawaiian Students, who intend to pursue careers in the atmospheric or related oceanic and hydrologic sciences. The two-year scholarships, funded by industry and through donations made by members to the AMS 21st Century Campaign, are for \$3000 during the freshman year and \$3000 during the sophomore year (second year funding depends on successful completion of the first academic year). Minority students who will be entering their freshman year of college in the fall of 2012 are eligible to apply.

Thanks to your assistance, we have had a successful eighteen years. Since the inception of the program, we have awarded the scholarships to over one hundred outstanding students. I hope that all of you will again assist in the distribution of information about this important program. The AMS web site includes a link to the information and application. The following link is provided for your convenience:

<http://www.ametsoc.org/amsstudentinfo/scholfeldocs/index.html> We have also asked AMS Television and Radio Seal holders and teachers associated with the AMS K-13 programs to help with getting the information out about the minority scholarship program.

In addition to having local chapters help with the distribution of information concerning this scholarship program, we have asked six local chapters to help with the collection and initial screening of the applications. The application form lists the local chapters that will receive the scholarship applications this year. Please inform the teachers and/or students that the completed application should be sent to the listed chapter nearest them, and to send a photocopy of the application materials to AMS Headquarters. If your chapter is interested in assisting with the review process in the future, please contact Donna Fernandez at AMS Headquarters.

Information on all AMS fellowship and scholarship programs is available on the Internet at: <http://www.ametsoc.org> and can be found by navigating through the student resource page. Thank you for your time and support. If you have any questions, please send me an email or call me directly at 617-226-3907.

AMS-NCIM Webinar Invitation: What is a Certified Consulting Meteorologist?

From Kelly Savoie, Manager of Marketing and Special Programs
(ksavoie@ametsoc.org):

Join AMS and the National Council of Industrial Meteorologists (NCIM) for a Webinar on October 25th.

Space is limited. Reserve your Webinar seat now:
<https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/251218409>

Have you ever heard of the Certified Consulting Meteorologist (CCM) program? For this Webinar, we are privileged that Dr. Bernard Meisner, the current Chair of the American Meteorological Society (AMS) Board for Certified Consulting Meteorologists (CCM), has volunteered to present an overview of the CCM program including its administration, requirements and professional benefits.

The designation by the American Meteorological Society (AMS) as a CCM is a significant accomplishment for a professional meteorologist. CCMs can be found in private practice, as experts in private industries, in academia, and in government agencies. Some CCMs are full-time consultants while others undertake consulting over and above their regular employment.

Dr. Meisner is a CCM and currently serves as the Chief, Science & Training for the National Weather Service (NWS) Southern Region. He received his Ph.D. in Meteorology from the University of Hawaii in 1978, M.S. in Meteorology from University of Hawaii in 1976, and a B.S in Physics and German from Carnegie Mellon University in 1971. Dr. Meisner has been a member of the AMS since 1976, and was elected a Fellow of the Society in 1998. He is a past vice president and current councilor of the National Weather Association (NWA). He was honored as the NWA Member of the Year in 2000.

This Webinar is co-sponsored by the AMS Board for Private Sector Meteorologists and the National Council of Industrial Meteorologists (NCIM).

Title: What is a Certified Consulting Meteorologist?

Date: Tuesday, October 25, 2011

Time: 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM EDT

After registering you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the Webinar.

Announcements from the Student Chapter

The Student Chapter will hold its next meeting on Thursday, October 13th at 6:00 PM in Jordan Hall room 1132. Dr. Anatha Aiyyer, Dr. Matthew Parker, Dr. Markus Petters, and Dr. Lian Xie will give presentations to the group.

For more information, please contact Student Chapter President Ashley McCraney (ajmccran@ncsu.edu).

September Meeting Minutes

Business Meeting Notes:

- 39 people were in attendance.
- Treasurer Marilyn Schiermeier noted that total Chapter assets are \$9,874.49, including \$30.00 in the Academic Achievement Fund. Chapter membership stands at 18 individuals.
- Chapter President Frank Schiermeier opened the 44th year of the Chapter with a

welcome, introductions of the officers and Student Chapter President Ashley McCraney, and a review of the May banquet, attended by 35 participants at the now closed Bavarian Brathaus in Cary.

- Member John White informed the Chapter of the North Carolina Science Teachers Association meeting to be held November 10th and 11th at the Koury Convention Center in Greensboro. John offered to help pay for a booth at the meeting if staffed by volunteers.

Speaker Notes:

- Darin Figurskey, Meteorologist-in-Charge, National Weather Service Forecast Office - Raleigh, presented, "April 16, 2011 Carolina Tornado Outbreak".
- 30 tornadoes touched down, although none were evaluated at EF-4 intensity.
- The Storm Prediction Center had a 30% high risk outlook for April 16th, which was only the third high risk tornado day for Central North Carolina since May 28, 1984 (the others being May 3, 1984 and March 29, 1991).
- A tornado watch was issued at 12:05 PM as the environment was influenced by a strong low over the Upper Midwest and an associated cold front extending south, strong upper-level winds and low-level moisture, and low LCLs.
- A line of storms transitioned into individual supercells and strong velocity and reflectivity signatures became observable on radar.
- The Raleigh NWS office was forced to inform the Blacksburg, Virginia NWS office of the need for an evacuation in response to a rain-wrapped EF-3 tornado, based on damage in Sanford, which passed through Raleigh around 3:50 PM.

Mark those Calendars!

Here are the tentative dates and speakers for meetings during the 2011-2012 chapter year. We look forward to seeing you.

September 15: Darin Figurskey – WFO Raleigh
October 20: Bill Reh – NBC17
November 17: Dr. Gerald Watson - NCSU
December 8: Dr. Jack Thigpen – North
Carolina Sea Grant
January 20: Mitch Burton – Progress Energy
February 16: Jessica Losego -RENCI
March 15: Jonathan Blaes – WFO Raleigh
April 19: Paschal Waniha - NCSU

Please be aware that dates are subject to change.

We are interested in any feedback or suggestions you may have. Please feel free to email any of the officers with comments.

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From the Archives

We continue our trip down memory lane with a list of attendees at the Blair House Luncheon on October 16, 1968, two days prior to the date on the proposal document in September's newsletter.