

Messages of the Day
January 2013

Wednesday, January 2, 2013

**The "Five For CoCoRaHS" Year-End Fundraiser
continues through January 15, 2013**

To all who have given to our annual year-end fundraiser, we thank you so very much for your generous support! If you have yet to do so please consider giving \$5.00 during our campaign.

For more information and to access the donation portal click here: ["INFO/DONATE"](#)



**CoCoRaHS WxTalk Webinar for January 2013:
"Flavors of Climate variability: El Nino, La Nina and Recurring Jet
Stream patterns" . . . register today!**

Phenomena that influence our climate will be the focus of our next ["WxTalk Webinar"](#) on January 17th, "*Flavors of Climate variability: El Nino, La Nina and Recurring Jet Stream patterns*" presented by Jerry Bell of NOAA's Climate Prediction Center, College Park, MD.

Space is limited to the first 500 registrants, so register today! We will notify the first 500 who register of their acceptance to the Webinar. Those who aren't able to attend will be able to watch this episode on-line the following day.

REGISTRATION INFO

Title: Webinar #14 - CoCoRaHS WxTalk: "Flavors of Climate variability: El Nino, La Nina and Recurring Jet Stream patterns"

Date: Thursday, January 17, 2013

Time: 1:00 PM Eastern, Noon Central, 11:00 AM Mountain, 10:00 AM Pacific

This webinar is designed to introduce several major climate phenomena that strongly influence our weather throughout the year, sometimes for decades at a time. Some of these climate patterns are linked to recurring jet stream patterns and are called teleconnections. Another climate phenomenon (El Niño) is linked to tropical Pacific sea surface temperature and rainfall patterns, while yet another is linked to Atlantic sea surface temperature patterns. The nature of these various climate phenomena will be

described, and their importance for weather in the U.S. and elsewhere will be shown. The manner in which various combinations of climate factors interact, along with aspects of their predictability, will also be discussed."

Reserve your seat now by registering here: [CLIMATE VARIABILITY](#)

Our February CoCoRaHS WxTalk Webinar: "Educated Echoes: An Introduction to Doppler and Dual-polarization Weather Radar" by Pat Kennedy of Colorado State University's CHILL Radar will take place on February 7th . Stay tuned for an upcoming announcement on how to register.

Wednesday, January 9, 2013

FINAL WEEK! The "Five For CoCoRaHS" Year-End Fundraiser continues through January 15, 2013

To all who have given to our annual year-end fundraiser, we thank you so very much for your generous support! If you have yet to do so please consider giving \$5.00 during our campaign.

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Sleet . . . "That other frozen stuff"!

A CoCoRaHS observer asks "What is sleet and how do I measure it when it makes it's rare appearance in my state?"

Here's our answer: Sleet is precipitation that leaves the cloud as rain, but on its way down freezes into little balls of ice before reaching the ground. Sleet is measured and reported in the same manner as snow. You melt the contents of your gauge to get the water content, and you measure the accumulation of sleet on the ground or on your snow board, and report that as "New Snowfall" and as "Total Snow and Ice on Ground at Observation Time". Please note "sleet" in your comments so we know that it fell at your location.

Tuesday, January 15, 2013

The "Five For CoCoRaHS" Year-End Fundraiser -- A great success!

A great big thanks to all who gave to our annual year-end fundraiser. We appreciate your generous support! The campaign raised over \$37,000 thanks to you.

Missed the campaign? Donations are appreciated anytime of year and can be made by clicking on the "[DONATION LOGO](#)" on our home page.

Friday, January 18, 2013

NASA's GPM "Let it Snow" Photo Contest

NASA's Global Precipitation Measurement Mission is holding a "Let it Snow!" photo contest. The submission period is now through February 4th.

Their advertisement says: "*Winter winds blow in cold air, snow, ice, freezing rain, and a slew of other cold weather phenomena. What is winter like in your area or favorite vacation spot?*"

Whether you're in the northern or southern hemisphere, post your coolest photographs of winter weather and we'll pick the best ones to feature on the NASA Precipitation Measurement Missions websites <http://pmm.nasa.gov> and <http://www.nasa.gov/GPM>.

To find out more click here: [NASA Snow Photo Contest](#)

Tuesday, January 22, 2013

The NOAA Resources Page

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has many exciting informative resources available for the public to view and learn about our oceans and atmosphere. CoCoRaHS in partnership with NOAA will continue to strive to bring you the latest products and information as they become available.

During the year NOAA runs a series of weather awareness and preparedness weeks providing important information on a variety of weather related subjects. These include: Severe Weather Preparedness Week, Flood Awareness Week and Lightning Safety Awareness Week just to name a few. Visit the NOAA Resources page to see this year's schedule.

To learn more about NOAA Resources listed on the CoCoRaHS Web site click on the NOAA logo on the left side of our home page: www.cocorahs.org or click here: "[NOAA Resources](#)"

Friday, January 25, 2013

CoCoRaHS WxTalk Webinar for February 2013: "Educated Echoes: An Introduction to Doppler and Dual-polarization Weather Radar" . . . register today!

Radar will be the focus of our next "[WxTalk Webinar](#)" on February 7th, "*Educated Echoes: An Introduction to Doppler and Dual-polarization Weather Radar*" presented by Pat Kennedy of Colorado State University's CHILL Radar, Fort Collins, CO.

Space is limited to the first 500 registrants, so register today! We will notify the first 500 who register of their acceptance to the Webinar. Those who aren't able to attend will be able to watch this episode on-line the following day.

REGISTRATION INFO

Title: Webinar #15 - CoCoRaHS WxTalk: "Educated Echoes: An Introduction to Doppler and Dual-polarization Weather Radar"

Date: Thursday, February 7, 2013

Time: 1:00 PM Eastern, Noon Central, 11:00 AM Mountain, 10:00 AM Pacific

"Weather radar images showing the geographic distribution and intensity of precipitation are routinely distributed via both broadcast television and the internet. These images have historically been based on the strength of the received radar signal (the "echo"). Recent technological advances have expanded the range of measurements that can be made by National Weather Service (NWS) radars. These enhanced measurements include radial (Doppler) velocity as well as several additional quantities that have become available through the ongoing NWS upgrade to dual-polarization operations. This talk will provide a basic introduction to the measurements made by dual-polarization Doppler weather radars. Example observations collected by the National Science Foundation-sponsored CSU-CHILL radar will be presented."

Reserve your seat now by registering here: [RADAR](#)

Our March CoCoRaHS WxTalk Webinar: "I before E" Except in Drought by Mark Svoboda of the National Drought Mitigation Center in Lincoln, NE will take place on March 7th. Stay tuned for an upcoming announcement on how to register.

Tuesday, January 29, 2013

Snow depth is important too!

Many of us are good about reporting new snowfall and it's water content. But many of us skip measuring the "Total Snow and Ice on the ground".

New Snowfall	
<input type="text" value="NA"/>	Accumulation of new snow in inches to the nearest
<input type="text" value="NA"/>	Melted value from core to the nearest hundredth
Total Snow and Ice on Ground at Observation Time	
<input type="text" value="NA"/>	Depth of total snow and ice (new and old) in inches
<input type="text" value="NA"/>	Melted value from core to the nearest hundredth

That's really important information, too, even on clear days when no new snow has fallen. Snow depth affects soil temperatures, winter recreation, weather forecasts (air temperatures are greatly affected by snow cover) and much more. Snow depth changes even during cold weather when snow is not melting. Total depth can vary a lot from sunny to shaded areas and from protected to windblown areas. Do your best to assess the average depth in the vicinity of your home, and then watch how it changes. During the winter months, if there is no snow on the ground, type in 0.0 so we know for sure. Thanks, your help is greatly appreciated.

For a refresher on how to measure and report the total depth of snow on the ground and its' water content view our [Snow Training Shorts](#) or [Snow Training Webinar](#).