

People make my field of meteorology relevant. As a broadcast meteorologist, I am on the front line of communication. Whether I am covering an imminent threat like a tornado or a more uncertain event like scattered snow showers, I have to facilitate an understanding of meteorological events on a daily basis.

On a personal level, I have an affinity towards both science and people. I was introduced to a concept called servant based leadership at a young age. Implementing the element of servant based leadership in my career has been and will continue to be a priority. The WAS*IS Workshop would be an outstanding opportunity to share my experiences with like minded individuals and further develop my own goal of serving people and interweaving an understandable brand of meteorology in their lives.

My job affords me a tremendous amount of resources and a significant platform to champion science and its impact on society. I am very interested in making science relevant and have sought out unique ways to involve the public. Louisiana has suffered recently from significant hurricanes. But while working in Louisiana's Acadiana region, the community also suffered from tornadoes and floods. I created the Live Doppler 10 StormReady Project. It was a partnership between the Lake Charles National Weather Service, KLFY-TV (my former employer), and nine parish Emergency Management Agencies. This collaboration allowed us all to communicate more efficiently during severe weather. It also gave us a chance to reach out to community members in a unique way. Storm spotter training is common in the Midwest, but not in south central Louisiana (until this partnership). I organized, with the cooperation NWS Lake Charles, the largest storm spotter training session in that region's history. People not only sat through these classes, they started calling and emailing reports during inclement weather. They were enfranchised in this process and instantly took an interest in the meteorological and public safety aspect. This partnership was the catalyst for an active weather spotter network in the region, parishes applying for the StormReady designation, and an increased public awareness about the relevance of meteorology in their own lives.

I give many school presentations to students. After talking with individual teachers, I realized there was no single resource used when covering meteorology topics. They would grab bits and pieces of weather information from the internet without verifying its validity. In order to bring science and meteorology to the forefront of a curriculum, educators must understand the concepts. I sought to create a weather related workbook that met several Louisiana state education standards. This workbook would allow teachers to use one resource that focused on weather relevant to Louisiana while emphasizing local geography. Students would learn about meteorology in school and participate interactively with the local television weather team. The program called for a special webpage on the television station's website, weather related questions during the evening newscasts, and even more school visits to energize students about meteorology. All nine parishes approved the workbook for use in schools. Unfortunately my own station balked in the end because this project only made them \$17,000.

These community outreach projects are most fulfilling to me. I want to champion science's impact on society. By creating these opportunities, the public gains an appreciation for science and takes an active approach in applying that knowledge to their lives. I put in many hours of thought and planning, but in the end I get to pass on something that is invaluable. That is knowledge.

Harrison Hove