



## President's Message

### RAS Annual Meeting and Spring Lecture, April 9, 2015

Jutta Dudley, President RAS

The Annual Meeting of the Academy and the Spring Lecture will commence at **7:30 p.m., April 9<sup>th</sup> in Room 38, Golisano Academic Building, Nazareth College.** The results of the election for the Board of Directors will be announced at the brief business meeting. A ballot is included in this Bulletin on page 2. Please show us your support by returning the completed ballot.

The Spring Lecture will follow the business meeting. We are delighted to have as our guest Dr. Paul Graman of the University of Rochester who will speak about Ebola and Rochester's preparation to treat ill patients. I hope you will join us for an interesting discussion about a troubling microbe.

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### Spring Lecture, April 9, 2015

#### *Could it happen here? Preparing for Ebola in Rochester, NY*

*Presented by Paul Graman, M.D.*

The break out in Africa of the deadly Ebola disease caught the attention of the world this fall. Concern over the disease's potential to appear in NYS led the

state's department of health to name Strong Memorial Hospital as a regional center to care for any ill patients. Dr. Paul Graman, hospital epidemiologist, will help us understand the challenges we face with Ebola as he covers the following questions:

What do we know about the transmission of Ebola virus? How can we protect healthcare personnel caring for Ebola patients? How have we prepared for possible Ebola in Rochester, and specifically at Strong Memorial Hospital? What are the challenges we face going forward to sustain our readiness for Ebola and unknown future threats?

### About Our Speaker



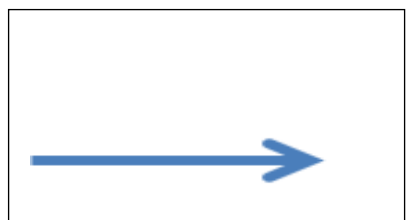
**PAUL S. GRAMAN, M.D.**

*Professor of Medicine  
Clinical Director, Infectious Diseases Division  
Hospital Epidemiologist, Strong Memorial Hospital  
University of Rochester Medical Center*

Dr. Graman earned degrees in psychology and medicine at Harvard University and the University of Rochester, respectively. He returned to Rochester in the early 1980s after postdoctoral training in Vermont and practicing medicine in Plattsburg. He joined the faculty at the U of Rochester in 1985 and began a career specializing in infectious diseases.

The Rochester regional community has been well served by his expertise over the past three decades. He has served in many capacities to further the field of infectious disease study in the interest of public health. He has authored many research articles, abstracts, and book chapters; he serves on administrative and advisory committees to help community and county agencies; and as hospital epidemiologist, he directs infection control procedures.

For his contributions, Dr. Graman was recognized and honored as Fellow in national societies such as the Infectious Disease Society of America and the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America.



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The following article is an abstract presented at the 2013 RAS Fall Paper Session.

**A STUDY OF ROCHESTER’S CLIMATE TREND USING METEOROLOGICAL NORMALS.**

Frederick J. Bloom  
Buffalo State College, Geography and Planning Department, 1300 Elmwood Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14206

A climate ‘Normal’ is defined as average climate over a defined 30 year period. Normals are used because they are of sufficient length to filter out many short-term anomalies between years, but short enough to reflect longer term climate trends. This study used data from five Normal periods, beginning with the 1941-1970 period and ending with the 1981-2010 period, to assess

possible changes in Western New York’s regional climate. Data was obtained from the National Weather Service site in Rochester, NY. Aside from annual values, the data was broken down by month and season. The Normals studied included average, maximum, and minimum temperatures, as well as precipitation, snowfall, and heating and cooling degree days. Findings indicate that over the five normal periods studied, Rochester, NY has seen an overall increase in both temperature and precipitation, albeit a weaker change than in other sites, such as in Buffalo, NY. The data does indicate a trend toward increasing snowfall throughout this time period in Rochester, NY with an increase of 11.3 inches (13% change) over the five Normal periods studied. This increase could very well be related to winter warming helping to maintain elevated lake waters

temperatures slightly higher than in the past.

**Did You Know....**

...that bats are implicated as serving as reservoir and host for the Ebola virus?

...that *Hypsignathus monstrosus*, a large fruit bat hunted as bushmeat in equatorial Africa, may carry Ebola without getting ill?



From GH Ford, proceedings of the Zoological Society of London-1862. In public domain UK & US, PD-1996. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hypsignathus\\_monstrosus](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hypsignathus_monstrosus)

**ROCHESTER ACADEMY OF SCIENCE  
BALLOT FOR JUNE 2015 – MAY 2016 OFFICERS**

OFFICE	NAME	✓	WRITE-IN CANDIDATE
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Vice President:	Jeff S. Gutterman, P.E.		
Membership:	open		
Treasurer:	William Hallahan, Ph.D.		
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Member, Board of Directors	Frank Bov		
Member, Board of Directors	open		

Completed ballots delivered in person at the RAS Annual Meeting & Spring Lecture on April 9, or can be mailed to the RAS post office box: Rochester Academy of Science, PO Box 92642, Rochester NY 14692-0642

# Events for March, 2015

For updates to events, check the Academy website, <http://www.rasny.org>, and Section websites.

## **Tues 3 FOSSIL SECTION MEETING**

7:30 p.m. Brighton Town Hall Downstairs Meeting Room. This meeting will feature a visit from members of the local Science Olympiad teams. This year's competition features a segment on fossils so the section will be holding an information sharing session to enhance the knowledge of the team members. Refreshments will be served immediately following the talk. For more information, contact Dan Krisher at 293-9033.

## **Fri 6 ASTRONOMY SECTION MEETING**

7:30 p.m.–10:00 p.m RIT, Gosnell Hall, Room A300. ASRAS General Members Meeting. Fairport High School HUNCH team will be talking about their zero gravity experiments. For more information, contact Valerie Rapson at (585) 301-3424.

## **Tues 17 MINERAL SECTION MEETING**

7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m in the Downstairs Meeting Room of the Brighton Town Hall, 2300 Elmwood Ave, Rochester, 14618. It's St Patrick's Day and we're going green! Join us for a talk and discussion about Green Minerals with geologist Dan Robertson of Monroe Community College. To add to the fun, bring

along your own green minerals for display. Door prizes and refreshments.

For more information contact Stephen Buschaert at [mineralvp@rasny.org](mailto:mineralvp@rasny.org) or 732-5321.

## **Wed 18 LIFE SCIENCES HERBARIUM WORKSHOP**

1:00-4:00 p.m. Life Sciences section will hold a workshop at the RAS Herbarium, located in the basement of the Rochester Museum and Science Center (RMSC). We will continue work on replacing torn and damaged genus folders, as well as repairing specimens as needed. It is a great way to see interesting plants from the Rochester region and around the world! No experience needed! If you plan to attend, please send an RSVP to Elizabeth Pixley. Then, at RMSC, go to the front desk and ask staff person to call ext. 368, phone in the Herbarium. For more information, contact Elizabeth Pixley, herbarium curator (334-0977 or [epixley@rochester.rr.com](mailto:epixley@rochester.rr.com)).

## **Wed 18 RAS BOARD MEETING**

7:00 p.m. Brighton Town Hall, Stage Conference Room.

## **Sat 21 LIFE SCIENCES FIELD TRIP**

10:00 a.m. We will meet at Tinker Nature Park, in the Calkins Rd. parking lot, at 1525 Calkins Rd.

in Henrietta. The field trip will consist of winter tree identifications along the park trails with Kenneth Wolf (our tree ID expert) and will end with a visit to the indoor exhibits at Tinker's Hanson Nature Center. For more information call Larry Hirsch at 429-6199.

## **ANTHROPOLOGY SECTION**

No meeting this month.

## **ONGOING EVENT**

ASRAS will operate the telescope, or one on the sidewalk, at Strassenburgh Planetarium on mostly clear Saturday nights. Contact Jim Seidewand at (585) 703-9876. Note: We have a new Celestron 11 inch SCT permanently mounted on the deck outside the Cave observatory. Come and check it out!

*Welcome the  
Vernal Equinox!  
March 20  
6:45 p.m. EDT*

**Rochester Academy of Science**  
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**ABOUT THE ACADEMY** - The Rochester Academy Of Science, Inc. is an organization that has been promoting interest in the natural sciences since 1881, with special focus on the western New York state region. Membership is open to anyone with an interest in science. Dues are minimal for the Academy and are listed in the membership application. Each Section also sets dues to cover Section-related publications and mailings.  
 For applications and/or more information, contact Jutta Dudley, 140 Railroad Mills Road, Pittsford, NY 14534; by telephone (585) 385-2368; or by e-mail <pres@rasny.org>. The **Academy** Internet website is <http://www.rasny.org>  
 Or see us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/RochesterAcademyOfScience>

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This “**BULLETIN**” is produced monthly, *except July and September*, by the **Astronomy Section, Rochester Academy of Science**. Submissions are due by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month, and may be emailed to editor@rasny.org

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