Big Saturday Night Event in the Works

It’s come to that time of year again, time for the largest LEADS membership event and this year it’s growing and changing in two ways. The 2008 Annual Membership Meeting and Banquet will be held in the newly expanded Little America Grand Ballroom allowing for a 50 percent increase in the number of available seats. This year the event has moved to Saturday night, March 15 instead of its normal Friday. Those are both exciting changes and the keynote speaker will be even more exciting than the location and time of the event.

Dr. Timothy Killeen, Director of the National Center for Atmospheric Research will be the keynote speaker at this year’s event. He will discuss the Super Computer project, where it is today and what is going on behind the scenes to prepare for it. Dr. Killeen will discuss what he and the other NCAR scientists do on a day-to-basis and what they are studying about the current and future atmospheric sciences. The relationship between NCAR, the University of Wyoming, the State of Wyoming and Cheyenne LEADS will be covered, describing what it means for the future of both NCAR and our state.

Dinner will be a delectable salad of Baby Greens with Pistachio Crusted Chèvre Cheese, a Grilled Filet Mignon with Shiitake mushroom Demi Glace and Lobster Tail with Garlic Saffron Creme and Yukon Whipped Potatoes. Individual seats can be reserved for $50 each and Corporate 8 top tables can be reserved for $525 each (Corporate Tables come with two bottles of wine and preferred seating).

You will not want to miss this opportunity to hear from a world renowned scientist and the Director that guided NCAR to Cheyenne. Invitations and more information will be mailed to all members this month, but if you would like to make reservations early please call the LEADS office at 638-6000.
Dr. Timothy Killeen

Dr. Tim Killeen, Director of the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR), will be discussing NCAR and what the future Cheyenne supercomputer means to his organization as well as what it will bring to Cheyenne. Dr. Killeen has overall responsibility for the scientific, technical, and educational activities of the Center which has an annual budget of over $130M and is home to over 800 permanent scientific and technical staff. NCAR has extensive observational and computational facilities that are used to support basic and applied research in atmospheric and related sciences on behalf of the university community. Dr. Killeen is also a senior scientist at the High Altitude Observatory (HAO) where he leads an experimental and theoretical program in upper atmosphere research. Prior to his move to NCAR, Dr. Killeen was full Professor of Atmospheric and Space Sciences at the University of Michigan (UM). He was the Director of the UM’s Space Physics Research Laboratory from 1993 to 1998 and Associate Vice President for Research from 1997 to 1999.

Dr. Killeen leads a research group of scientists and engineers working in the field of aeronomy, using a combination of theoretical and experimental techniques to investigate the dynamics, chemistry and composition of the upper atmospheres of the Earth and other planets. Dr. Killeen has authored over 140 publications in refereed journals. Dr. Killeen is or has been the Principal Investigator for many research projects for NASA, NSF, and the U.S. Air Force. These programs include an extensive ground-based network of remote automated optical observatories, including two in Greenland, one in Michigan, one in Chile, and one in Northern Canada. Dr. Killeen is the Principal Investigator for the Fabry-Perot interferometer investigation on the NASA Dynamics Explorer spacecraft and the interferometer investigation on the NASA TIMED spacecraft. He also has 15 years experience working under Air Force and NSF sponsorship to develop specification and predictive models of the terrestrial upper atmosphere and ionosphere. Current work includes the deployment of an operational nested-grid numerical general circulation model of the ionosphere and thermosphere/mesosphere. Dr. Killeen has taught many courses at both undergraduate and graduate levels, including an innovative introductory course sequence for non-science majors dealing with the physical and human impacts of global change.

Dr. Killeen is the immediate past President of the Space Physics and Aeronomy section of the American Geophysical Union. He is a current member of the NSF Advisory Committee for Geosciences. He was chair of the NASA Space Physics Subcommittee (SPS) from 1991-94 and also served on the NASA Space Sciences and...
LEADS wrapped up 2007 membership meetings with its partners, Laramie County Community College (LCCC) and the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR). With over 80 members in attendance, both organizations discussed their partnership with LEADS at the LEADS December 12, 2007 Membership Luncheon.

Dr. Darrel Hammon, President of LCCC opened the meeting with a presentation about LCCC specifically, community colleges in general and how the college partners with multiple organizations within the communities it is in. Dr. Hammon discussed the roles that LCCC plays within Cheyenne and Wyoming and what the vision for the future of the school looks like. He also described how LCCC and LEADS work together for economic development within Laramie County. The training programs that LCCC offers to businesses are important part of both attraction and retention of companies that LEADS works with. LCCC has a seat on the LEADS Board impart to directly support economic development and, in part, to be ahead of the curve to understand were the school needs to be into the future to provide appropriately trained workforce to the community. LEADS is in continuous contact with LCCC to provide up-to-date, correct information to its prospects about the available trained workforce, their skills and what will be available in the future.

Krista Laursen, NCAR Data Center Project Director intrigued the members by discussing what NCAR does, the status of the Cheyenne supercomputer project and how NCAR has formed a strong relationship with Cheyenne and Wyoming. Ms. Laursen illustrated a few of the atmospheric science projects that NCAR has completed in its history and what these projects mean for not only the future of global geoscience research, but the future of NCAR as well. Since NCAR is at the leading edge of global warming research its new supercomputing facility in Cheyenne is planned to be as energy efficient as possible to help reduce the impact of the center to the environment. The data center group is working on gathering information from alternative energy source companies for the Cheyenne center. In early February 2008 they plan to hold the first meetings with public and private experts on the Cheyenne project. Ms. Laursen indicated that NCAR would not be at this point in Wyoming if it wasn’t for the partnership between NCAR, the University of Wyoming, the Wyoming Business Council and Cheyenne LEADS. It is anticipated that the relationship between LEADS and NCAR will continue.
Datacenters Targeted

Cheyenne LEADS is continuing the effort to recruit datacenters. Datacenters can most easily be described as electronic data warehouses and are used by most large companies. Most data centers must guarantee 99.99% up time and are built with every imaginable backup system in place. Scott Sutherland and Greg Pettine, both with Cheyenne LEADS, recently attended a workshop on construction techniques for new data centers. Over 40 companies that are interested in data center construction or expansion attended the workshop, and Cheyenne LEADS was there to present the advantages that Cheyenne has to offer.

These advantages include reliable, low cost electricity and well educated computer workers. In fact, Wyoming’s two largest exports are energy and well educated youth. Data center operations in Cheyenne would provide jobs that pay over four times the average pay, add value to the electricity we currently transport out of state, and provide extensive opportunities for new companies providing support services.

Wyoming has never been a consideration for many of these Fortune 500 companies that operate data centers, that is until recently. The increased (and expensive) marketing efforts undertaken by LEADS, which include the hiring of a data center consultant, are beginning to pay off in high-level discussions with major regional and national firms. To date, LEADS’ Datacenter Project Consultant, Greg Pettine has attended eleven datacenter conferences. These targeted conferences bring together companies that currently own datacenters that are looking to expand or companies looking to build their first datacenter.

Many companies are now aware of Cheyenne and are starting to compare this area to areas normally associated with data centers. The first data center will undoubtedly be the hardest to recruit as the data center industry is risk adverse by its very nature. “If the data center recruitment is successful, Cheyenne’s economy will be enhanced for years to come, and the effort and expense will be well worth it” said Randy Bruns, Chief Executive Officer of Cheyenne LEADS. “But even if we do not have a commercial data center breaking ground in the short term, we have made major strides in raising Cheyenne’s visibility within an industry that should pay dividends long term.”

Applications Committee (SSAAC) and its executive committee. He was a former chair of the NSF CEDAR Advisory Committee and has served on the NSF Long Range planning committee for Atmospheric Sciences. He is a past member of the NSF Advisory Committee for Atmospheric Sciences and the Academy of Sciences - Committee for Solar-Terrestrial Research. He was the Chair for the NASA TIMED Science Definition Group. He has served as Associate Editor for the Journal of Geophysical Research and is the Editor-in-Chief for the Journal of Atmospheric and Solar Terrestrial Physics. He is also the Chair of Commission C.1 of COSPAR (Ionosphere and Thermosphere).
nanoMaterials Discovery Corporation Building Under Construction in Cheyenne Business Parkway
DAPCPA Pope & Jackson, Inc.
Contact: David A. Pope; Jonath Jackson
1712 Carey Avenue, Suite 100
Cheyenne, WY 82001
(307) 638-3170
(307) 635-5213 Fax
Email: davidpope@dapcpa.org
Business Member

DAPCPA was created in January of 1996 to serve the community of Cheyenne and the surrounding areas. We founded the firm with the goal of providing services to the business community that are accurate, timely, and highly personalized in nature. Since that time we have built a clientele in fifty states and two foreign countries and have also expanded our locations to two other offices; one in Riverton, Wyoming and one in Winter Park, Colorado. Our success has come from our highly interactive approach to dealing with our clients. We realize that our clients rarely work an 8-5 schedule, so we do not limit our business to those hours either. We encourage evening and weekend discussions and meetings, being available to answer questions, and in general being flexible to their schedule- not the other way around.

CA Boner Business Plans
Contact: Charlene A. Boner, President
3218 Rock Springs Street
Cheyenne, WY 82001
(307) 214-2043
Email: cboner@bresnan.net
Website: www.caboner.biz
Business Member

Create, develop, and update business plans for start-up and existing businesses and use as the primary tool for all areas of business development, funding, growth, assessment of business structure and operations, and succession planning.

“Luncheon” (continued from Page 3)

to grow throughout the entire data center project and beyond.

With over a quarter of LEADS’ membership at the December luncheon, the event proved to be very informational and interesting. Planning for the upcoming 2008 membership luncheons are in the works, but we need your help! The LEADS staff needs your suggestions of format, content and speakers. If you have suggestions please email them to Erica at ericas@cheyenneleads.org. ■
2008 Annual Meeting & Banquet
Saturday, March 15
Little America Hotel & Resort
6:00 p.m. No Host Cocktails
7:00 p.m. Dinner

Keynote: Dr. Timothy Killeen, Director of the National Center for Atmospheric Research

Individuals: $50
Corporate 8 Tops: $525
Call today for Reservations 638-6000