



Copenhagen and Climate Change: Two Local Student's Eye-Witness Impressions

Last December, leaders from nearly 200 nations of the world gathered in **Copenhagen, Denmark**, to discuss how to address **Climate Change**. A large number of young people from many countries participated. What message do they have for the world?

On **Wednesday evening Feb. 10th at the Atascadero Lake Pavilion**, Atascadero resident and Templeton High Junior **Kayla Clark** and Cal Poly Senior **Michael Symmes** will report on their first-hand experiences at the **UN Global Climate Summit in Copenhagen**.

Preceding their presentations, **Dr. Ray Weymann** will provide a **non-technical summary of climate science**: What are the scientists who are doing climate research finding out, and why is it important?

The event is free and open to the public. Doors open at 6:30 PM and **the program starts promptly at 7 PM** in the Sarah Grondstrom room, but seating is limited.

Atascadero resident **Kayla Clark** is a Junior at Templeton High School. She was selected to be a "California/International Climate Champion" sponsored by the California Air Resources Board and the British Council. These agencies sponsored her attendance at the Copenhagen Conference. Kayla is active in educating the public on "Climate Justice" and is initiating a project to reduce use of disposable plastic water bottles at schools to reduce waste and greenhouse gas emissions.

Cal Poly Senior **Michael Symmes** will graduate next fall with a degree in Environmental Management and Protection. He served as an Executive Intern with the California Student Sustainability Coalition. The CSSC facilitated the attendance at Copenhagen of around 60 California college students. Upon graduation, Michael plans to earn a masters degree, with a career in the field of sustainable development. Currently, Michael plans to become a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Associate.

Retired professional astronomer **Dr. Ray Weymann** has over 40 years experience in astronomical research and teaching. He is an elected member of both the National Academy of Sciences and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. His research has involved use of the world's largest telescopes and the Hubble Space Telescope. Since retiring in Atascadero, he has used his background in physics and astronomy to promote understanding of climate science. He has also done volunteer tutoring in advanced math at Atascadero High School.