Central Oklahoma Chapter of the AMS/NWA (COCAMS/NWA)

Meeting Minutes
Thursday, 5:15 PM, April 24, 2008
National Weather Center (NWC) in Norman, OK

Recent Activities

President Patrick Burke opened the meeting with a summary of recent chapter activities. The last meeting was March 27th when Derek Arndt presented a talk on ten weather and climate events that have greatly impacted Oklahoma history. Jeremy Grams, secretary, and chapter member Heather Moser judged 17 projects at the Oklahoma State Science and Engineering Fair on March 28th in Ada. Jeremy mentioned they awarded three NOAA weather radios and five AMS certificates of "Outstanding Achivement in an Atmospheric Science Exhibit". A complete judging summary is available at http://cocams.nwc.ou.edu/OSSEF_2008.pdf.

2007-2008 Fawbush Miller Award

Chapter member Greg Carbin presented an engraved plaque to Philip Warren. Philip was the top University of Oklahoma undergraduate forecaster for the year in the Weather Challenge (http://www.wxchallenge.com). Philip will also receive a $500 cash award. As a team, the University of Oklahoma finished 22nd out of 48 qualifying schools in the nation.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Kit Wagner mentioned there are 18 dues-paying members for 2007-2008 and 3 OUSCAMS affiliate members. The chapter bank account has around $11500 in strictly COCAMS/NWA chapter funds, $8400 in Storms of 2007 DVD proceeds not yet given to charity, and $11500 in National Severe Weather Workshop contingency funds.

Upcoming Events

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 22nd. Chapter member Mansour Ansari will be presenting items produced by his Oklahoma City-based company, IPixCel. Mansour develops software for mobile news crews which are used by television storm spotters, including Oklahoma City stations.

The end-of-chapter-year spring bbq will likely be scheduled in late May/early June.

Speaker

Jerry Brotzge, research scientist at the Center for Analysis and Prediction of Storms, presented on the Center for Collaborative Adaptive Sensing of the Atmosphere (CASA) project. It is a ten-year Engineering Research Center established by the National Science Foundation for the development of small, inexpensive, low-power radars designed to improve scanning of the lowest levels (< 3km AGL) of the atmosphere. Instead of sensing autonomously, CASA radars are designed to operate as a network, collectively adapting to the changing needs of end-users and the environment; this network approach to scanning is known as Distributed, Collaborative, Adaptive Sensing (DCAS). A series of end-to-end testbeds are being operated to test and demonstrate these concepts. The first of these testbeds, collectively known as Integrative Project One (IP1), was deployed in southwestern Oklahoma in 2006 and consists of four low-power, X-

band radars. The presentation focused on three specific areas: i) Brief CASA overview; ii) Results from 2007 and plans for 2008; and iii) Discussion of the end-to-end system concept.