

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

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, 4:30 PM, March 27, 2008

National Weather Center (NWC) in Norman, OK

### **Recent Activities**

Vice-President Mark Sessing opened the meeting with a summary of recent chapter activities. The last meeting was January 31st when Greg Carbin presented details of 10 of the nation's high-impact weather events in 2007. Plans to tour the Moore Emergency Operations Center in February did not work out, but we may attempt to set this up for a future activity. The National Severe Weather Workshop was held on March 6th-8th. The chapter co-sponsored the workshop and assisted in handling registration fees. Both Mark and Kit Wagner, treasurer, sold Storms of 2007 DVDs at the storm spotter training event.

### **Oklahoma State Science and Engineering Fair**

Jeremy Grams, secretary, and Heather Moser have volunteered to judge projects at the fair, which will be held on March 28th in Ada. The chapter will sponsor weather radios to be given to the top atmospheric and/or related hydrological/oceanic sciences in the junior and senior high categories. AMS certificates of "Outstanding Achievement in an Atmospheric Science Exhibit" will also be presented.

### **Storms of 2007 DVD Project**

Since October, there has been over \$12000 in sales with \$6500 provided to the American Red Cross so far. President Patrick Burke acknowledged Mark's hard work with this project.

### **Spring Contest**

The objective of the contest was to predict the date, time, and county of the first confirmed tornado in Oklahoma during 2008. It concluded when a tornado occurred in Blaine County on March 2nd at 4:46 pm CST. The following are the winners and the prizes they received:

- Date: Jacob Petre with March 3rd. He received the AMS Monograph, "Lewis and Clark: Weather and Climate Data."
- Time: Rodger Brown with 4:45 pm CST. He received "Mid-Latitude Weather Systems and Spacious Skies Cloud Chart."
- Location: Mark Sessing with Blaine County. He received a box set of the "Storms of..." DVD series.

### **Upcoming Events**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 24th. Dr. Jerry Brotzge, a research scientist at OU's Center for the Analysis and Prediction of Storms (CAPS), will report on the early findings and current direction of the Center for Collaborative Adaptive Sensing of the Atmosphere (CASA) project.

Chapter member, Mansour Ansari, will also be presenting items produced by his Oklahoma City-based company, IPixCel, at either the April or May meeting. Mansour develops software for mobile news crews, some which is used by television storm spotters, including Oklahoma City stations.

**Officer Elections**

The executive committee will appoint a nominating committee. Members will be notified of nominations in advance of the election meeting in either April or May. Nominations will also be taken from the floor during the election meeting. If any chapter member is interested in serving as an officer, please volunteer. The nominating committee will be seeking volunteers over the next few weeks.

**Speaker**

Derek Arndt, Associate State Climatologist at the Oklahoma Climatological Survey, presented a talk on ten weather and climate events that have greatly impacted Oklahoma history. Some of these events included: the 1930s Dust Bowl, May 3rd 1999 tornado outbreak, Woodward tornado of April 1947, Tinker AFB tornadoes of March 1948, the Hammon Flood on the Washita River in 1934, and tropical storm Erin in August 2007. Much of this research will be found in a soon-to-be-completed book Derek is writing about events in Oklahoma climate history. At the end of the presentation, the chapter gave Derek an Oklahoma Centennial Coin.