

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

Meeting Minutes

Jeremy Grams, Secretary

Thursday, 4:30 PM, November 15, 2007

National Weather Center (NWC) in Norman, OK

### **Welcome/Recap**

President Patrick Burke welcomed the group to the third meeting of the 2007-2008 chapter year. He provided a recap of chapter meetings and events this fall. These included: the September 20th meeting where NWS WFO Norman meteorologists, Stevn Kruckenberg and Chris Sohl, presented on 2007 record rainfall over Oklahoma, a picnic at Bob Johns' home on September 22nd, and the October 2nd joint meeting with OUSCAMS where Carolyn Brewer, author of Caught in the Path, discussed her experiences with the 50th anniversary of the Kansas City, MO 1957 F5 tornado.

### **NSSL Multifunction Phased Array Radar Symposium**

The chapter co-sponsored this event held in the NWC on October 10th-12th. Kit Wagner, treasurer, processed check and credit card registrations.

### **NSSL Phased Array and Dual-Polarization Radar Tours**

Doug Forsyth provided seven chapter members with a tour on October 18th inside in the Phased Array radar dome, as well as the facility where data from both radars are processed.

### **NWA Annual Meeting**

Liz Quoetone, NWA commissioner of committees, discussed her trip to the annual meeting held on October 13th-18th in Reno, NV. Around 400 people attended the meeting and she showed a picture of award recipients. She mentioned the national web site had been extensively redesigned to provide easier access to information, a colorized NWA Digest would begin with the December issue, and student scholarship applications will be due this spring. A "back-to-school" special on member dues for the end of 2007 and 2008 was also discussed. The 33rd annual meeting is scheduled for October 11th-16th, 2008 in Louisville, KY.

### **AMS Annual Meeting**

An abstract was submitted to AMS and a chapter poster has been created for the annual meeting to be held on January 20th-24th, 2008 in New Orleans, LA. Patrick thanked the committee who did much of the production work.

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

A list of volunteers for labeling and mailing orders of the DVD was passed through those in attendance. Mark Sessing, vice-president, expected the bulk of the mailing to occur in the 3-4 weeks after Thanksgiving.

A free, public screening of the Storms of 2007 DVD will be held on Friday, November 30th at 7:30 pm in the NWC auditorium (room 1313). Volunteers are needed to greet people at the entrance to the building, to sell DVDs, and to purchase supplies for snacks, popcorn, and drinks.

### **Motion to provide additional funds to the Storms of 2007 DVD Project**

The chapter approved a motion (by an electronic vote ending November 3rd) to fund the production of the Storms of 2007 DVD up to an amount not to exceed \$2000. The following paragraph was the information provided to chapter members prior to voting.

- Sales of the Storms of 2004 and 2005 DVDs raised \$ 12,944 for charity and \$ 4,463 for COCAMS/NWA. "Storms of" series creators, Greg Stumpf and Jim Ladue, have requested that COCAMS/NWA again take the lead in sponsoring this year's version of the DVD, Storms of 2007. At the September 20 meeting, COCAMS/NWA approved a motion to fund DVD production up to an amount of \$500. Since that time, production goals have become better defined, and include not only the Storms of 2007 DVD, but also a series box set that would require producing additional copies of the 2004-2006 DVDs. The total cost for these plans is greater than \$500, but should not exceed \$2000. The initial costs would be recovered after selling about 60 DVDs. For comparison, the 2004 and 2005 projects sold 300 and 675 DVDs, respectively. Once initial costs are recovered, additional proceeds will be split as follows: 25% COCAMS/NWA; 75% charity (e.g., American Red Cross, Habitat for Humanity). If all DVDs are sold, COCAMS/NWA would receive back an amount roughly two times the initial costs. This money would be added to our treasury, and could be used for other projects and regular activities. The Storms of 2007 project would also act as a public service activity by raising money for agencies which provide public aid, often following weather-related disasters.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Kit provided an update on the chapter checking account balance, which stands at \$10165. There were 18 paid members for 2007-2008. Annual dues remain \$15 for local chapter membership.

### **Speaker**

Jack Hales, lead forecaster at the NWS Storm Prediction Center in Norman, presented "Brush Creek vs. Country Club Plaza", detailing the Kansas City, MO Flash Floods of 1977 and 1998. Tremendous rains fell during the nights of September 11th/12th, 1977 and during the evening of October 4th, 1998 over the Brush Creek basin which runs along the southern portion of Kansas City's Country Club Plaza region, an area of up-scale shopping and dining along with five-star hotels. Around 25 people were killed in the area from the flood in 1977, while 7 lost their lives during the 1998 event. Jack described the weather conditions that characterized each event and discussed some of the measures taken to mitigate flood damage after these events.