

AMS/NWA MEMPHIS CHAPTER 20 JAN 2015 MEETING MINUTES

1. The President welcomed everyone with a special welcome to our newest members and visitors.
2. An introduction review of the current officers was also conducted.
3. The treasurer's report was given with a reminder call for annual dues and for any scholarship donations. Dues are \$10.00 for members and \$5.00 for students.
4. The upcoming Mississippi State Southeast Severe Weather Symposium is scheduled for March 27th and 28th. Please see the president if you would like further details.
5. Scholarship forms were handed out, any comments on format or questions please let the president know.
6. New business consisted of having a chapter Facebook page for another means to communicate internally and to draw in more public. Second it was asked to the members if they would be interested in a Google Hangout account to host future functions. There was overwhelming majority that said yes, to include volunteers to help set that up.
7. The president introduced the evening guest speaker, Gary Woodall, the new Warning Coordination Meteorologist (WCM) for the Memphis National Weather Service Forecast office. Gary's presentation was an overview of his latest visit to the NWA Conference held in Phoenix, Arizona earlier in the month. First, Gary showed his career progression and then quickly shifted to the inspiring briefings held at the conference. New trends were presented in regards to the NWS going towards more impact based warnings vs. criteria to provide the best service to partners. Next Gary showed where latest NWS experimental research in alerting the public who are downstream of approaching severe storms and tornadoes. A feature very similar to the forecast cones used with hurricanes to alert people downstream, with a percentage of impacts. Last, Gary showed how lightning data was being utilized with a study of severe weather at the Tulsa NWS weather forecast office. Several questions were asked after the presentation.
8. The meeting concluded with the President reminding everyone that the upcoming winter lunch will be scheduled in February and that the next official meeting will be held in middle March. Watch the website or emails for the exact dates.

Jim Branda, Secretary

Approved,

Tom Salem, President