

AMS/NWA MEMPHIS CHAPTER 22 SEP 2015 MEETING MINUTES

1. The President welcomed everyone to the first meeting for the 2015-2016 year. Please don't forget to sign in and please pay dues.
2. The treasurer's report was given with a reminder that we are always accepting scholarship donations for next year's recipient. A reminder that Dues are \$10.00 for members and \$5.00 for all students.
3. A thank you went out to the four members who served on this year's scholarship committee.
4. If interested minority scholarships are available through AMS for students.
5. If interested the AMS Local Affairs position is open and accepting candidates.
6. The 40th annual NWA conference will be held in Oklahoma City next month. If you plan on attending, please see the president for more details.
7. This year's webpage cost has increased costing the chapter \$57.75.
8. The southeast VORTEX project will be coming to the Mid-South area next spring.
9. The president introduced the evening guest speaker, Jim Branda, a General Forecaster for the Memphis National Weather Service Forecast office Jim's presentation was titled Midsouth Tornado Statistics from 200 through 2014. The Memphis County Warning Area received 277 tornadoes in all with slightly weaker and violent tornadoes compared the national average. Overall the Midsouth saw an average of 19 tornadoes per year. He showed a break down by EF ratings vs. injuries and deaths, along with monthly and time of day occurrences. It was interesting to see that 43% of the tornadoes occurred during dusk and night time hours, which is one reason why there was an increase in deadly events and that straight-line winds comparable to weak tornadoes produced four deaths. Jim also showed that a small tornado alley had developed across Northeast Arkansas through the southern Bootheel of Missouri and ending into extreme Northwest Tennessee and that one EF-4 was not a killer.
10. A Question was asked if the causes of deaths were looked into further, such as were individuals in cars, caught outdoors, or mobile homes. This generated more discussion on social media.
11. The meeting concluded with the President reminding everyone that the upcoming fall lunch will be scheduled in mid-October and that the next official meeting will not be until November. Watch the website, Facebook or emails for the exact dates.

Jim Branda, Secretary

Approved,

Tom Salem, President