

AMS/NWA MEMPHIS CHAPTER 22 MAR 2016 MEETING MINUTES

1. The President welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the spring 2016 meeting and a special thanks to Dorian Burnette who kindly reserved the room for this meeting through the University of Memphis.
2. A call for dues of \$10.00; if you haven't already paid. Please pay our treasurer Jim Branda.
3. The treasurer's report was given.
4. Funds this year will again allow us to offer a \$500.00 scholarship to a worthy MET student.
5. Scholarship applications will be sent out to several universities in the area over the next few weeks. The deadline to fill out the application will be May 16th, and if you're interested, a scholarship committee will be formed later this spring to review and select a worthy applicant. See the president for further details.
6. The Southeast Severe Weather Symposium at Mississippi State University will be held the weekend of April 2nd and 3rd. The deadline for talk/paper submissions is coming up quick, March 24th. See me after the meeting if you're interested.
7. Introduction to tonight's speaker Dorian Burnette, an assistant professor in the Department of Earth Science at the University of Memphis. The presentation was titled "Influence of the Teleconnection on Significant Severe Thunderstorm Days over the Midsouth". Dorian stated this localized data is just a small window of a bigger study being conducted across the country. The study period was from 1851 to 2014, but that both severe storms and tornadoes are more biased in recent years due to the increase in both storm chasers and spotters. He also described the NCEP/NCAR 40yr Reanalysis Project, but that it too has biases in both observations and models towards the data. On earlier days in the study when data of severe weather was scarce proxies like Convective Available Potential Energy and Storm Relative Helicity were used to find results. Dorian was able to confidently show that during El-Nino years the Midsouth saw a reduction in the number of days/negative anomalies with severe weather to include tornadoes, while La Nina years the Midsouth and the southern plains saw an increase in days/positive anomalies. Part of the reason for this were differences in both 700mb temperatures and Sea Surface Temperatures in the Gulf of Mexico. Dorain's presentation ended with a few questions.
8. The president gave a final thanks to Dorian for his continuing work in finding how larger weather cycles affect the safety of Midsoutherners.
9. The President then reminded everyone that next month will be our Spring Luncheon with a date TBD, wishing everyone a safe trip home. The meeting was adjourned with light refreshments available.

Jim Branda, Secretary

Approved,

Tom Salem, President