

# AMS-NWA Memphis Chapter

Meeting Minutes  
November 17, 2021

## Opening

The virtual business meeting of the AMS-NWA Memphis Chapter was called to order at 7:00pm on November 17, 2021 by President Dorian Burnette.

## New Business

- The first item of business was recognition of recent and upcoming retirements in National Weather Service management, including WFO Memphis Meteorologist-in-Charge Jim Belles, WFO Memphis Warning Coordination Meteorologist Gary Woodall, and CWSU Memphis Meteorologist-in-Charge Doug Boyette. The chapter wishes them each the best after long and successful careers of public service!
- The Treasurer's Report was given by Erik Proseus. The scholarship fund balance is \$1,121.62. The general checking account balance is \$959.82. Dues can be paid and scholarship donations made on our website ([www.amsmemphis.org](http://www.amsmemphis.org)).

## Presentation

Our speaker for the evening was Chapter President Dr. Dorian Burnette. Burnette is Associate Professor in the Earth Sciences Department at the University of Memphis and presented highlights of recent research he and his graduate students have been engaged in at U of M. Ph.D. student

Tim Alexander's research is in aviation icing, specifically making seasonal predictions of surface-based icing conditions based on correlations with ENSO. The goal is to be able to predict icing days for several airports across the U.S., including Memphis, based on ENSO state.

Masters student Delmer Rodriguez will be using reanalysis methods to attempt to determine spatial and temporal trends in tornadoes in high shear/low instability (CAPE) scenarios.

Burnette also discussed his recently-published article in Bulletin of the AMS entitled "The Tree Ring Drought Atlas Portal." This website ([drought.memphis.edu](http://drought.memphis.edu)) includes a new tool he developed called the "North American Seasonal Precipitation Atlas" (NASPA), which provides historical precipitation data and trends dating to 0000 A.D., based primarily on tree ring data. He demonstrated the online tool, including its ability to produce time series of reconstructed precipitation totals for a point. Burnette indicated that he has found good agreement between instrumental and reconstructed records historically and also discussed his interest in societal impacts of historical droughts.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm by President Dorian Burnette.

Minutes submitted by: Erik Proseus, Secretary

Approved by: Dorian Burnette, President