

AMS-NWA Memphis Chapter

Meeting Minutes
September 21, 2021

Opening

The virtual business meeting of the AMS-NWA Memphis Chapter was called to order at 7:05pm on September 21, 2021 by President Dorian Burnette.

New Business

- Welcome to the first meeting of the 2021-2022 academic year. Officers were introduced – Dorian Burnette, President; Ned Savage, Vice President; Erik Proseus, Secretary/Treasurer.
- The Treasurer’s Report was given by Erik Proseus. The scholarship fund balance is \$1,021.58. The general checking account balance is \$1,012.15. Dues can be paid and scholarship donations made on our website (www.amsmemphis.org). The chapter voted in favor of using available funds to pay for website costs for the next two years.
- Future meeting topics were discussed and a number of suggestions were received, including hosting representatives from Tennessee Valley Authority, Shelby County Health Department, and the Storm Prediction Center, as well as a meeting/tour at FedEx.

Presentation

Our speaker for the evening was Tom Salem, Science and Operations Officer (SOO) at NWS-Memphis. Salem discussed research by a summer intern (Gavin Fry), who compared statistics from an earlier study of tornadoes between 1873-2012 to newer data from 2007-2020. A few observations stood out. March has seen fewer tornadoes of late, while April and May are still “peak season,” with a slight rise noted in February as well. Of late, more tornadoes are occurring during secondary severe weather season in the month of December rather than November. Regarding hourly distribution, tornadoes tend to peak in the 5pm-6pm timeframe, but can occur anytime. There were 11 outbreak days producing 111 tornadoes, while there were 90 non-outbreak days with a total of 165 tornadoes. The EF-scale distribution for non-outbreak days was typically on the lower end (EF-0 to EF-2), while outbreak days tended to see more strong tornadoes than non-outbreak days, despite fewer overall tornadoes.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm by President Dorian Burnette.

Minutes submitted by: Erik Proseus, Secretary

Approved by: Dorian Burnette, President