

Central Iowa NWA Meeting
Thursday Nov 10, 2011
Ames, IA – Iowa State University

- Dr. Gallus gave a presentation on the Joplin Tornado and his damage survey findings. Thank you Dr. Gallus!
- Agenda Update:
 - o Tim Marshall is banquet speaker
 - o Dr. Veer has agreed to come, the last of the “big name” speakers to agree to come
 - Did 1500 trauma surgeries after Joplin Tornado
 - Will likely also give a talk to DMU
 - He will share costs will DMU if he speaks there
 - o Will look for other speakers from around the area, such as the April Iowa tornado events, river flooding, and St. Louis tornado
 - o Sharing costs with ISU Grad club?
 - Russ Schumacher is a potential speaker
 - Speaker about forecasting heavy rain events
 - o How many speakers are weather-dependent?
 - James Spann from Alabama – Skype?
 - Bill Davis – NWS Springfield WFO – Do we need back up plan? Dr. Gallus thinks no.
 - Greg Carbin – SPC (if a national-outbreak kind of a day) – Skype?
 - Tim Marshall has health issues and may need a backup plan.
 - Plan B: Jeff Piotrowski’s interviews with people of Joplin (warm-fuzzy stories, not gut wrenching stories after dinner)
- Registration Team Update:
 - o Mindy not at meeting, Chris filled in.
 - o Mindy has been in touch with Jeff Duda about how things went
 - o Active time for registration hasn’t started yet, but things are getting going
- Travel Team:
 - o This year will be challenging with the number of speakers, and the number of speakers that will need “back-up plans”
 - o Discussion on what to do with back-up plan speakers:
 - Last year with Rick (flying from OKC and could not come with severe weather forecast) we bought him a ticket and if needed to cancel would rescheduled and use that airline credit to bring him up to speak to the chapter.
 - Probably not a good plan this year with 4 speakers needed backup plans
 - Could do refundable plane tickets, but this works out to about \$1000 extra per ticket. This is good for the chapter if they can’t come, but a big problem if they do come (which we want)
 - If we get tickets for the individuals and they cannot come we would get airline credit to use on other tickets. Sticking point here is that it has to be for that specific individual

- May be able to have the speaker buy their own ticket, and be refunded by chapter so that if they cannot come, they can use the airline credit for their own personal use.
 - Probably not the best solution, though may be viable for Tim Marshall.
 - Look into insurance programs?
 - Traditionally this is just for direct illness or death or something along those lines, not work requiring you to be there.
 - Aubry will look and see if there are alternative insurance programs
 - Could wait until last minute, but price and availability are concerns.
 - Jeff may drive up from Tulsa with wife (no extra cost for wife)
 - Have requested funding from the NWS again this year.
 - In the past we have received \$2000 from the NWS to help pay for conference travel.
 - Did not have this last year due to NWS budget concerns
 - NWS is very interested in helping the chapter out again this year, but funding is still undetermined, so we do not know and will not know for a while. Aubry and Brenda are not optimistic about getting funding.
 - Chris asked if they could give less than the \$2000 as in the past. This is likely, but again with budget concerns, this didn't work out last year. Additionally, the chapter needs to have time to get travelers into the government travel system, so even if the NWS is able to provide funds at the last minute, we may not be able to use them.
 - Discussion of partnering with DMU to bring in Dr. Veer:
 - Aubry's husband is a student at DMU (Des Moines University, the medical school in Des Moines) and has asked the Emergency Medical club about bringing Dr. Veer to speak at DMU
 - DMU is very much in favor of bringing in Dr. Veer. Budgeting does not seem to be much of an issue for the school, and could be able to help with travel costs.
 - Will be challenging to work with the school to figure out payment and scheduling.
 - Dr. Veer will likely drive
- Vendor Team:
 - Competing with NAB conference in Vegas shortly before our conference. Very large expense for the vendors, chewing up conference budgets.
 - Hasn't talked with Jeff, but will likely be able to get Baron to support Jeff coming to the conference
 - Weather Central is looking at it
 - WSI hasn't gotten back
 - People from last year will also be asked
 - No update on restaurants
- Hotel Team:
 - Price sheets received, looks similar to last year (food prices)
 - Haven't gotten back about next year's conference proposal
 - A few other hotels have put in packages for the conference for next year (Prairie Meadow and Stony Creek)

- Stony Creek was looked at 2 years ago and was too small for our conference
 - Prairie Meadows may not complete construction by next conference
 - No other hotels have responded.
 - Shariton again?
 - Embassy and Downtown Marriot are expensive. West Des Moines Marriot? (probably too small)
 - Hope to have something signed by Feb so we can announce at our conference where we'll be next year.
- Electronics' Team:
 - Willard not here, but trust things are going well.
 - Willard will be chair again this year
 - A bit early for electronics team to be running
- Radar Workshop:
 - Chris Karstens not here, Pete sick, Ricky spoke
 - Looking at dates for cases
 - Have to get with Daryl about lining up data with Iowa.
 - Talked about incorporating Tornado Emergency wording into the case
 - Will you adjust the criteria so that a metro area is impacted and Tornado Emergency can be used?
 - Will likely not be an actual tornado emergency event
- Scholarship Team:
 - Rod not at meeting, Jake Speaks
 - Vote to keep amount \$1500 this year, and some travel costs covered
 - Poster presentation awarded
 - Jake motions to keep scholarship the same
 - Roger seconds
 - Motion carries – Scholarship amounts will remain the same
 - Discussion of travel costs:
 - If needed \$250 is available
 - Did not use all last year
 - Need to get application finalized for the website
 - Advertising :
 - Send to chairs of ats departments
 - Send to AMS/NWA student chapters presidents
 - Should we split it into more than one scholarship to encourage additional applicants?
 - Concerns would be with travel costs to 3 winners, we couldn't cover travel, and a smaller amount with the student paying travel they may not get a lot out of the scholarship.
- Social Media:
 - Chapter Facebook page started last year.
 - Want to send out announcements with meeting information and conference information
 - Anyone interested in being an additional admin on the Facebook page?
 - Zach Mangin has volunteered
 - Follow the chapter on Facebook and Twitter!
 - Have a chapter Twitter feed as well.
 - Have 9 followers as of first day. Have 14 followers now.

- Chris M has twitter control and can manage for now
 - Radio people are also interested in the NWA – Cross promotion
 - Treasurer Update
 - Jim gone tonight, Aubry filling in.
 - Give dues to Aubry tonight if you have them (will take directly to Jim)
 - Can also pay dues online
 - Will likely lose P.O. Box when they close that Post Office branch
 - Move to the main branch in downtown Ames?
 - Did we want to discontinue the box?
 - We can't get mail without the box and we need the mail (conference)
 - \$43 a year to maintain the box
 - Convenient
 - Need to get bank paperwork for Jim & Jake so they can be on chapter account
 - Bank account balance should be unchanged
 - Fundraising Ideas?
 - Do we want to do this this year?
 - Willing to do Pizza Ranch again, made some money last year and was easy to do
 - Cold Stone might be a bit tricky (winter)
 - Chapter interest in a fundraising at Pizza Ranch
 - Chris will try to set up a date. Likely in February 2012
 - Outreach Updaters:
 - Chris heard back from Laser & Des Moines Radio Group about Severe Weather PSAs
 - Sounds like if we want to do something with Paul Rhodes or Kirk Frentz, we will have to wait until after football and before recruiting starts.
 - Could do something with them. Likely Paul Rhodes (closer)
 - Will he do it for free?
 - Unsure, but likely
 - Rod gone tonight and cannot speak about getting GR for Emergency Managers
 - GR level 3 version 2 coming out soon? What we should look at?
 - Will likely be less expensive & easier
 - Secretary Updates:
 - Kevin not here, Aubry filling in and does not have notes from last time
 - By-Laws need updating on website
 - Chris will send updates to Dave
 - Attendance sheet : Please sign
 - Dave needs pictures of new cabinet members for the webpage
 - Need to update emails on webpage as well
 - Dave needs update hotel block link from Chris for this year
 - Lost people last year since the couldn't find the block

Next meeting will be in Des Moines. Hopefully at KCCI. Likely the week of Dec 5 (due to ISU finals schedule)