



Central Iowa NWA Meeting
April 25, 2013 – 5:30 pm
Moore Memorial Park -- Ames, IA



1. Overview of 17th Annual Severe Storms and Doppler Radar Conference

- a. Very good overall, no major problems**
 - i. Please see the attached Pre-Meeting Updates for details from each team*
- b. The career mentoring session and panel discussion were new at the conference this year and received high praise.**
 - i. Many requests to make the career sessions longer – from 10 min to 12-15 min.*
- c. The video night will likely be gone for good since many videos are available on YouTube and are posted shortly after each chase.**
- d. NOAA Travel/Budget Issues**
 - i. The memorandum that prevented NOAA/NWS managers from attending our conference came down less than two weeks before the conference, which caused a number of issues. Thankfully, invited NWS speakers (those with their travel and expenses already paid for by the chapter) were still allowed to attend.*
 - ii. We might want to look at having a non-NOAA/NWS speaker at future banquets so we don't have to deal with this issue again.*
- e. Pam Daale Scholarship**
 - i. We were surprised and honored that Pam's parents showed up for the scholarship presentation. It was a very emotional presentation.*
- f. Finance Report from the Conference**
 - i. Income*
 1. Registration Fees: \$14,171
 2. Advertising: \$100
 3. DVD Sales: \$160
 - a. We might want to promote our DVDs more often during the conference to boost sales
 4. Scholarship: \$500
 - a. Donated by WeatherCall
 - ii. Expenses*
 1. Hotel: \$9,697
 2. Scholarship: \$2,000
 3. Travel: \$1,947
 - a. Still need to reimburse four speakers for gas
 4. Supplies/Printing: \$816
 5. Paypal/Google Wallet: \$426
 - iii. Net Income: \$46*
 1. Still pending additional travel expenditures
 - iv. Vendors*
 1. Other than WeatherCall (whose booth fees were waived because of their scholarship donation), we had no vendors present at the conference
 2. We might want to check our vendor costs to see if they are too high

2. *Cabinet Member Email Addresses*

- a. Recent ethics rules passed down by NOAA prevent NOAA/NWS personnel from using their government email accounts for any AMS/NWA purposes
- b. It would be good to have a standard email address for cabinet members to pass down from year to year
- c. Will likely use Gmail accounts (i.e. iowa.nwa.president@gmail.com)
- d. Email inboxes would be cleaned out and passwords changed every year
 - i. *Emails that would be needed each year would be saved.*

3. *Upcoming Activities*

- a. **NWR Programming Event**
 - i. *Saturday April 27 from 9am to 12pm*
 - ii. *West Ames and Urbandale (86th and Douglas) HyVee Stores*
 - iii. *Promoted by WOI and KCCI, along with the NWS in Des Moines*
 - iv. *Need more people to sign up for both locations!*
- b. **Summer Get-Together**
 - i. *I-Cubs Game, Frisbee Golf, or Mini Golf*
 - ii. *Will send out an email in the early summer to gauge interest*
- c. **Chapter of the Year Submission**
 - i. *Will submit paperwork to NWA for chapter of the year award*

4. *Treasurer Update*

- a. **Current balance: \$20,000+ (exact amount unknown, treasurer not in attendance)**

5. *Next Meeting: TBD (September)*

- a. **Likely back in Ames.**
- b. **Will discuss the creation of a student liaison position in the chapter to encourage more students to become involved.**
 - i. *Students are (and always have been) allowed to run for any cabinet or team chair position*
 - ii. *Due to a recent decline in student involvement, we hope that this new position will help increase student participation and get the word out about our group.*

Attendance

Mindy Beerends
Bill Gallus
Ethan Milius
Corey Harguth
Kevin Skow
Jimmy Cayer
Taylor Schillerberg
Sydney McBride
Katie Voitik
Josh Alland
Meghan Applegate
Seth Loyd
Hyelee Loyd



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Pre-Meeting Conference Team Notes

1. **Agenda** – None
2. **Registration** – Conference feedback provided at the Meeting (sent out via email as well).
 - Only other issue is the tote that the printer was being housed is cracking and putting stress on the printer. Therefore a new tote will need to be purchased.
3. **Electronics** – N/A
4. **Vendor** – None
5. **Scholarship** – None
6. **Radar Workshop** – Overall, the workshop went very well. There were no major problems and the few minor ones that came up were quickly solved. Thanks to Daryl, Dave, and everyone else who helped out to make it a success! Here are some more specific notes about possible changes or improvements for next year:
 - One of the biggest problems that cropped up was that people who attended the workshop last year and still had the old WarnGen program installed on their laptops didn't realize that they needed to uninstall the old program and install the newer version. Also, since the new version of WarnGen did not create a shortcut to launch the program, people were having a hard time figuring out what to do once it was installed. We should talk to Chris Karstens (or look into ourselves) about having the program installer create a shortcut on the Desktop or Start Menu, and we should be more explicit about telling people that they need to install the newest version of WarnGen.
 - We noticed that many times, only one or two people in the group were issuing warnings while the rest of the group sat back and watched. We should have the groups rotate through so that everyone has a chance to use WarnGen.
 - It might be a good idea to analyze the data with the groups in the beginning (10-15 min). Walk them through how to interrogate a storm and what features to look for. Issue a warning or two to demonstrate good polygonology. It was noted that most groups stuck to reflectivity and maybe SRM. Base velocity and the dual-pol products were seldom used.
 - Related to the note above, maybe have break points in the workshop where we stop the data and ask the groups what they are looking at. Maybe this will help other groups that are struggling. We could invest in some clickers so groups can vote anonymously.
 - We should look into getting more power strips and extension cords so we don't have to borrow (and worry about getting duct tape all over) the hotel's supplies.

2012 – 2013 Conference Committees

Registration Team

Mindy Beerends (Chair)
Josh Alland
Corey Harguth
Ethan Milius
Thomas LeBlanc
Lyndee Clark
Frank Boksa
Kristy Carter
Rachel Hatteberg

Electronics Team

Dave Flory (Chair)
Jimmy Cayer
Kevin Skow

Travel Team

Aubry Bhattarai (Chair)
Ken Podrazik
Jim Lee
Jimmy Cayer

Vendor Team

Chris Maiers (Chair)

Agenda Team

Dr. Gallus (Chair)
Ethan Milius
Mindy Beerends
Chris Maiers
Dave Flory
Ron Donavon
Aubry Bhattarai
Karl Jungbluth

Pam Daale Scholarship Team

Rod Donavon (Chair)
Jeff Zogg
Aubry Bhattarai
Karl Jungbluth
Ken Podrazik

Radar Workshop Team

Kevin Skow (Chair)
Chris Maiers
Tim Marquis
Dave Flory

Hotel Team

Mindy Beerends (Chair)
Chris Maiers
Jim Lee