

**American Meteorological Society (AMS) - St. Louis Chapter Meeting**

Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Location: Favazza's Restaurant, The Hill, St. Louis, MO

Call to Order: 8:18 pm by Charles Graves

Board Members in Attendance:

Dr. Charles Graves – President  
Ron Przybylinski – Vice President  
Allison Wreath – Treasurer  
Benjamin Sipprell – Secretary  
Lou Hull – Membership  
Chad Gravelle – Webmaster

**Introductions** – Dr. Charles Graves

Welcoming notes

**Secretary Report** – Benjamin Daniel Sipprell

Minutes to the March 2009 meeting were not available

**Treasurer's Report** – Allison Wreath

Checking ...	\$797.80 ... Additional \$40 in deposits from University of Missouri
	\$837.80 ... Minus \$99.89 in reimbursement for Dr. Strivaka's hotel room
	\$737.91 ... Additional \$47 in cash
	\$784.91 ... Final
Savings ...	\$462.22 (+0.38 dividend)

**Old Business** – Dr. Charles Graves

Missouri of Academy of Sciences recap

Positive results with 9 students from SLU attending (2 undergraduates)

Next year it is postulated that the meeting will take place in Springfield, MO

Fred Glass and Mark Britt will be attending Vortex2 in the month of May

Specifically working in the operation center with WFO Norman and SPC inbetween

Focus of targets for specific days

Chad Gravelle and Dr. Charles Graves will be providing a poster presentation for the AMS

Weather and Forecaster meeting in Omaha, NE on June 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>

November conference at the College of DuPage ... Severe Weather Symposium

November 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> ; operational and storm chasing focused

**New Business** – Dr. Charles Graves

Winter storm workshop will be offered to the media by the NWS  
Planned data for October into early November

Elections

Allison Wreath agreed to stay on as acting treasurer  
Benjamin Sipprell agreed to stay on as acting secretary  
Ron Przybylinski stepped down from his duties  
Dr. Charles Graves will retain the presidency

Retention of all officers approved by the members

Ron Przybylinski was nominated as a life-long member

This will add to acting life-long memberships with Wayne McCollum  
Ron nominated with free membership  
Lou Hull mentioned  
Wayne McCollum seconded  
All approved

Idea suggested to have a drawing at every meeting for one member to get half off their meal

Suggested by Mark Emmanuel

This would consist of names within a hat and one being drawn

Idea was tabled for the first meeting of Fall of 2009

Officiating board will come up with a plan during the summer months to present

**Speaker Introductions** – Ron Przybylinski

Chris Higgins – Television Meteorologist – Fox 2 News, St. Louis, MO

*Notes:*

Experience with weather (combined air and space) for the CAOC (operations center)

Mission control for all air wars

War games room with Mr. Higgins acting as the weather support team

Branched out through the entire CAOC

Overview

Stationed in Qatar

Acted with operational weather centers, the most and largest in the U.S.

Centers have ultimate forecast responsibility for everything

Combat weather flights

The big-mother hub will make the forecast

Forecast functions

28<sup>th</sup> Operational Weather Squadron

Generates graphics

Collaborates with combat weather flights

Combat weather flights

Use large scale forecasts to shape execution test

Brief pilots and base leadership

Mr. Chris Higgins responsibilities

Take products from the forecast funnel and tailor them to 2-3 star generals who are responsible for the air war

Forecast planning was for the long range  
Situational awareness for the top brass  
    How will weather impact and shape the battle space presently and into the future  
    Knowledge of weather limitations  
    Know and understand the impact of weather on ground operations and close-air  
    support availability  
Needed to know all Arabian weather, European, and U.S. for the top brass  
    For weather all over the world had implications on global military operations

#### Weather Support Team

Monitor and SUGGEST different things concerning meteorology to forecasters  
Extensive coordination's between 28<sup>th</sup> OWS, CWF's, and other field weather troops

Full mix of briefings 24/7

    Formal stand-up, intranet/multi-media, walk-up, over the phone

Other tasks

    Providing support for time sensitive targets and high value individuals; personal  
    recovery; drop zone/landing zone

#### Challenges

Iraq – Thunderstorms, Shamal winds, dust, and Haboobs from virga showers  
Afghanistan – Thunderstorms along the PAK border, dust storms, and several unusual  
dust events

#### Weather

Mediterranean High with High over northern Iran combined to produce a lee-trogh  
through Iraq for which a meandering low traversed upon ... thus providing  
northwest flow all season long

For Afghanistan, weak cold air advection through the narrow mountain chain passes  
across the north would allow for the acceleration of winds and blow across the  
dry lake beds resulting in large dust storms

HaBoobs ... thunderstorm outflows resulting in cool air kicking up dust

*Meeting Adjourned: By Dr. Charles Graves*