Metro Atlanta AMS Meeting –1/11/2007
National Weather Service, Peachtree City

Business:

- AMS/NWA
  - Congratulations to us, we are now Charter Members of the Metro Atlanta NWA! (Chip bought a cake.)
  - Technically, the NWA approved us back in October but the approval was lost in transmission.
  - We'll vote on the new bylaws at our next meeting
- Next meeting
  - Held at GA Tech, usual room, February 8th 2007
  - Will be a follow-up to the current meeting, but with different agencies' responses to the 2 January 2006 tornadoes
  - Agencies represented may include (but not necessarily limited to):
    - NWS (storm surveys)
    - FAA/CWSU (ATL airport)
    - GEMA
    - Fayette/Pike County EMA
    - Local TV stations?
  - We'll need to start taking nominations for 2007-2008 officers as well.
- Treasurer's report: $2,182 and some change. No outstanding bills.
  - As a note, for people who paid their dues last year at this time, dues may be due again now.
  - With new membership added tonight, we currently have 32 active members (thus 17 are needed for a quorum).
- Lans Rothfusz (MIC @ WFO FFC) announced that Gary Beeley, SOO, just retired and that his replacement is Steve Nelson.
- *Note: We had initially planned for this meeting to be at the Hartsfield-Jackson ATL ATC Tower, but due to security issues at the airport, the FAA could not approve a tour with a group this size.*

Presentation: Brandon Miller (GA Tech graduate student) and Trisha Palmer (WFO Peachtree City) – 2 January 2006 Tornadoes

- This meeting is the first in a two-part series covering the 2 January 2006 tornadoes. We'll cover the meteorology (what happened) during this meeting, and next month we'll take a look at the response to the event from different agencies' perspectives (see above).
- Event overview (Brandon):
  - Event consisted of outbreak with several supercells crossing the supercell spectrum (LP, CL, HP) with several reports of wind damage, hail (up to golf ball size), and six confirmed tornadoes (up to F3). Presentation focuses on two tornadoes: Fayette/Fulton (F2) and Pike County (F3) tornadoes

    - Synoptic pattern: progressive longwave pattern with negatively tilted trough and smaller shortwave impulse just ahead of the trough; significant jet-level divergence.
    - Mesoscale environment: cold-air damming in NE GA, dryline propagating through AL during the early afternoon hours (storms initiated along dryline), and cold front lagging ~250km behind dryline.
    - Storm scale:
        - Fayette/Fulton storm: Classic supercell (evolved into HP), prototypical life cycle, F2 tornado. Collapse of VIL, ET can be seen as tornado touched down (consistent with literature).
        - Pike County storm: LP evolving to CL to HP, atypical life cycle, F3 tornado. Storm still building as tornado touched down.
    - Summary: Very unique environment led to cross-spectrum supercells. The question is: what environmental factors caused the LP Pike County storm to produce an F3? Research is ongoing.
- WES overview (Trisha):
    - 30 minute overview of radar, satellite, and observational data on the Weather Event Simulator, including some vaguely recalled warning strategies from those working the event.

- After the presentation, a tour was offered of the office for those interested.