

1/15/2008

The meeting began at 7 PM, and pizza and drinks were served in Studio B. According to Gene Norman, studio B will soon become the main studio, while the current studio is renovated for HD. He also said that all TV will be broadcast digitally beginning in February '09.

While everyone finished eating, our President Stephanie Klipfel gave her report.

Presidents report:

- 1) She asked for anyone attending the National AMS meeting to be prepared to give a quick synopsis at the February meeting of some of the highlights.
- 2) International Science and Engineering Fair needs judges! This is a science fair with representation from over 40 countries and 1500 students. This event is sponsored by Intel and is being held in Atlanta this year. Judging will be all day on Wednesday, May 14. They need 3 judges that will judge approximately 30 meteorology projects and choose 1, 2, 3rd place along with 3 honorable mentions. Please e-mail me immediately if you can volunteer and did not sign up at the meeting (Stephanie.Klipfel@delta.com). You can check out the website at: <http://sciserv.org/isef/index.asp>
- 3) Fernbank is having Science Night Out for grades 4-6 on Friday, April 4. They need a few more additional volunteers to assist in the meteorology projects. Please contact me immediately if you can volunteer.
- 4) 2008 National Storm Conference – Saturday, March 8 near Dallas, TX. All day event is free and is expected to draw over 500 attendees. You can see more info at www.tessa.org
- 5) We need to hold elections for the 2008-2009 year. We will take nominations in the February meeting for President-Elect, Secretary and Treasurer. We also need to nominate award recipients for the Chandler Award, Excellence Award and Best Program Award. We have already sent information to UGA and GT on Student of the Year Awards.

President-elect Trisha Palmer then gave her report:

We have already begun preliminary planning and looking into possible hotels for the regional conference on "Inland Effects of Tropical Cyclones." We are only doing preliminary searches until we hear from the NWA on their Annual Meeting location. We have contacted several possible hotels, such as the Hyatt which is offering \$129/night. If you are interested in being involved in the planning or have any insight, there is a Google group set up. If you would like to join, talk to Trisha...it is very easy and you can easily communicate and give ideas.

After the business portion of the meeting was finished, we began the tour. The tour consisted of two parts, 1) the studio and the weather set, and 2) the new "Storm Chase van."

In the studio, Chief Meteorologist Gene Norman showed us all of the impressive gadgets and toys that they can utilize to forecast and display weather conditions both in ATL and around the country. Included in the presentation, Gene showed us their radar display which can zoom to street level using hi-resolution satellite photos to show details of the city.

Outside, Weather Producer Jason Disharoon gave us a tour of the new CBS-46 Storm Chase Van, which came fully-equipped with mounted computers, weather monitoring and data collecting equipment. He also entertained everyone with comical stories of the weather teams adventures in the van.

The turnout for the meeting was fantastic, as over 40 people attended. Hopefully we will see just as many at the NWS in Peachtree City for our next meeting February 12th (tonight).

Finally, we would like to thank Gene Norman and the entire CBS-46 weather team for allowing us to visit and tour their station, we had a wonderful time. We would also like to say good-bye and wish good luck to Gene Norman, who has left CBS-46 to begin his new job in Houston, TX.

Brandon Miller
Secretary Metro ATL AMS/NWA Chapter

