

Meeting minutes from October 27th, 2003

NWA Central Iowa Chapter

The October 27, 2003 meeting of the Central Iowa Chapter of the NWA kicked off at 6:30 in the conference room of the NWS office in Johnston, with 14 members in attendance.

Our featured speaker tonight was Elwynn Taylor, ISU professor of Agronomy. Dr. Taylor talked about El Nino, La Nina, and precipitation and temperature changes, looking at the past to see what the future holds in store. Elwynn told us that he believes there will be another dust bowl in the plains states sometime between 2024 to 2026. We'll have to see whether or not that holds true, but some of the evidence he provided suggests that he might not be too far off.

Bryan Karrick gave us a short overview of the National NWA meeting he attended last week in Jacksonville, Florida. Bryan was the Broadcast session chair, which meant he organized the broadcast session at the national meeting. The broadcast session was held on Sunday, the 19th. The rest of the national conference was operational. Bryan learned a few things about conferences and he got a couple of ideas. The 2004 National NWA conference will be in Portland, Oregon.

Next, an amendment to the by-laws was passed by all in attendance. The amendment is as follows:

The executive committee of the Central Iowa NWA shall consist of the following officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. These officers shall be members in good standing and be elected by a majority of chapter members, also which must be in good standing.

In the event that active participation in the chapter is lacking, one or more of the officer positions may be combined as deemed necessary and appropriate by the present members of the executive committee. Combinations of officer positions are valid for one year and should be re-assessed at the next officer election period.

Elections were then held. The following new officers were elected by all 14 members in attendance. Mitch Keegan, President; Willard Sharp, Vice President and Secretary; Penny Zabel, Treasurer; Scott Lincoln, Webmaster. Congratulations to all the new officers and a big THANK YOU to the outgoing officers for their service.

Discussion then moved to another amendment to the by-laws. An amendment was passed and will be written to reflect the following: Officer Nominations will be completed in August. Elections will be held in September. Officer terms will be from October 1 to September 30. This was passed in order to comply more with the ISU school calendar since a large number of members are now ISU students. This will allow them to participate more actively from the beginning and encourage them to become officers.

At this point, Mitch presented Bryan with a gift of appreciation from the chapter, expressing their thanks to Bryan for his years of dedication and service to the chapter as President. Bryan received an engraved clock that says, "Bryan C. Karrick Thank you for your years of service to the Iowa NWA." Pictures of the clock will be posted on the chapter website in the near future.

At this point, the meeting was adjourned, for the last time, by Bryan Karrick. The new officers had their picture taken, which will also be posted on the website.

The next meeting is on Monday, November 17th, at 7 pm in 2050 Agronomy on the ISU campus. Alan Czarnetski will be the featured speaker. He will talk about the UNI Storm Project. This meeting is a joint effort between the Central Iowa NWA and the ISU AMS chapter. This meeting is not an official meeting. Our next official meeting will be in December. An online vote will be held to determine the date and location.

The chapter also welcomes 3 new members:
Steve Guimond, senior, Meteorology, ISU
Kari Kozak, junior, Meteorology, ISU
Rebecca Engels, sophomore, Meteorology, ISU

Mitch Keegan
Central Iowa NWA Secretary