

**LIGHTNING DATA CENTER**  
**MINUTES**  
**SEPTEMBER 14, 2007**  
**ST. ANTHONY CENTRAL HOSPITAL, DENVER, CO**  
[www.stanthonylhc.org](http://www.stanthonylhc.org)

Monthly Quote: "Some problems are just too complicated for rational, logical solutions. They admit of insight, not answers." Jerome Weisner. From Complexification: Explaining a Paradoxical World Through the Science of Surprise, John L. Casti, p. 1. Harper Collins, 1994.

1. Meeting began at 11:45 AM and adjourned at 1:45 PM.
2. Members present: Foley, McDonough, Burrows, Glancy, Wells, Gift, Clark, Yarnell, Langford, Wachtel, Mendez, Keen.
3. Correction to last month's minutes: Karen Wells was present at the August meeting.
4. This month's focus was the continuation of work on the wording of the Lightning Safety Poster that the LDC is preparing for the U.S. Forest Service. Ken Langford submitted a revised poster and also an article entitled "The Effectiveness of Short-Notice Outdoor Lightning Risk Reduction and Why It Should Not Be Taught" by William P. Roeder of [struckbylightning.org](http://struckbylightning.org). After some discussion of the article and the poster, the members set to work touching up the final wording of the poster. The poster was sent to Greg Stewart for his comments. The final draft of the poster will be made available either just before or at the next meeting. Again, thanks to all of you for your valued input into this project.
5. Phil Yarnell presented an interesting case of a 28 year-old man struck while descending Mt. Elbert in August. He had left the summit by 2:50 PM and by 3:30 PM, he was in an area of lightning and hail. Lightning struck his cap, knocking both him and his girlfriend down to the ground. He was unconscious for about 30 seconds and then regained consciousness, complaining of headache. Later, he was in the hospital for 5 days being treated for muscle breakdown. Phil saw him for severe muscle soreness – especially in the arms. Phil says muscle damage is rare in lightning cases. A CPK test was run on this man. It is a test of leakage of muscle enzymes into the bloodstream. Normal values are around 25 and this patient registered approximately 20,000. Phil was curious to know if the lightning – medical literature mentions other people with high CPK values after being struck by lightning.
6. These minutes do not represent official positions of LDC or its members. They simply reflect the comments made at the meeting.
7. Next meeting: Friday, October 12, 2007 at 11:30 AM in the Main Auditorium of St. Anthony Central Hospital.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven E. Clark, Consulting Meteorologist