

**LIGHTNING DATA CENTER
MINUTES
APRIL 11, 2008
ST. ANTHONY CENTRAL HOSPITAL, DENVER, CO
www.stanthonyldc.org**

Monthly Quote: "Basic research is what I am doing when I don't know what am I doing."
Werner Von Braun. One of the fathers of modern rocketry. From Complexification:
Explaining a Paradoxical World Through the Science of Surprise, p. 260. John L. Casti.
Harper Collins, 1994.

1. Meeting began at 11:45 AM and adjourned at 12:55 PM.
2. Members present: Clark, McDonough, Langford, Bergschneider, Wells, Wallace, Gift, Cui-Gift, Nibbe, and Mullan. Steve Clark moderated the meeting.
3. The meeting was a roundtable discussion.
4. Dick Burrows advised via e-mail that the Lightning Safety Poster is still with the U.S. Forest Service and he still has not heard anything back from them. Dick advised he will try to initiate contact to see if it can moved forward.
5. Bob Wallace informed us that LDC is now formally recognized as being part of St. Anthony's Outreach Department. In recognition of this, Bob will be meeting soon with our webmaster and a few LDC members to update our website to help better market the LDC to the outside world.
6. Ken Langford wrote an outline describing what he thinks should be included in the updated website and solicited ideas from the other members. Some of the ideas are:
 - More prominent homepage
 - Speaker guidelines
 - Photos
 - History section
 - Research papers LDC/LDC members have done
 - LDC History
 - Speakers wanted
 - LDC-Related medical articles
 - Meeting database/minutes archives
 - LDC Safety Poster
 - School research page
 - Lightning victim page (Hopefully we can re-word this one better!)
 - New member sign-up
 - Feedback or comments page.
7. We need speakers! If any of you, especially those of you in the Denver metro area, know of people who may want to speak to our group about lightning-related topics, please refer them to Steve Clark.

8. The question was asked: "Where should the LDC be in the future?" The following comments are observations from the meeting and my (Steve Clark's) own humble opinion(s). Right now, the "Lightning Data Center" is NOT what the name connotes – a repository for lightning data. I don't see the LDC becoming a repository for lightning data. What I do see, is for the LDC to become a massive clearinghouse pointing people to lightning data and research aimed primarily at physicians, meteorologists, and engineers, and other allied disciplines. The re-design of the website has the potential to realize this vision.

During the meeting, some felt the need for LDC to do case studies. Others said we should promote lightning safety and education. What do you think? Send your thoughts about this and/or ideas about the website to Steve Clark. His e-mail address is: sclarkoto@eml.cc. Your thoughts and ideas will be included in the May minutes.

9. These minutes do not represent official positions of LDC or its members. They simply reflect the comments made at the meeting.
10. Next meeting: Friday, May 9, 2008 at 11:30 AM in the Main Auditorium of St. Anthony Central Hospital.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steven E. Clark, Consulting Meteorologist