

LIGHTNING DATA CENTER MINUTES

February 13, 2020
ST. ANTHONY HOSPITAL WEST, LAKEWOOD, CO
www.lightningdatacenter.org

Monthly Quote: “Good health is a duty to yourself, to your contemporaries, to your inheritors, to the progress of the world.” ~Gwendolyn Brooks

Source: <http://www.quote garden.com/health.html>

1. Members Present: Clark and Swanson via Zoom. Clark moderated. Meeting began at 11:45 AM and ended at 12:05 PM.
2. **VERY IMPORTANT – PLEASE READ.** Due to the coronavirus, LDC will suspend future meetings for the time being at St. Anthony Hospital, until it is deemed safe to resume. The hospital will not allow groups larger than 20 to meet and is discouraging smaller groups. For those members in the Denver area, if you know of someone who does not get the minutes via e-mail, please let them know of the suspension of the meetings. After communication with a majority of the LDC Executive Committee, we are going to try an electronic meeting via Zoom. The hospital has Zoom and so does Carl Swanson. Since the minutes go to ALL of our members, the electronic meeting will allow those who are not in the Denver area to attend. More details will be in the meeting announcement, which will be issued ~1-2 weeks beforehand.
3. The LDC is accepting donations, either as cash or check. If you donate via check, please make your check payable to Steve Clark at 755 S. Clinton Street, #2A; Denver, CO 80247. He will cash the check and keep the cash holdings specifically for the LDC. When the LDC incurs expenses, Steve will pay for services rendered through his bank account using the cash from LDC’s cash holdings. A log will be maintained detailing the inflow and outflow of monies. At the present, the LDC has \$439.00 in cash holdings.
4. Carl Swanson reported he has a total of 27 departments participating in Tennessee.
5. During the violent EF-3 tornado in Nashville on March 2-3, 2020, Carl saw TV coverage of the storm. The on-air meteorologist reported 46% of the lightning strikes were positive from the thunderstorm that produced the tornado. Carl thought the number of positive strokes was high. It is not unusual to have a spike in positive flashes from storms that produce violent, long-lived tornadoes. From a brief sampling of the literature (see below), the timing of those flashes with respect to tornado occurrence is not always consistent. The spike can occur prior to, during, or after the tornado. Furthermore, it appears total lightning, not just CG lightning, appears to be a better precursor to occurrences of tornadoes.
6. The lightning safety brochure is finished and is ready to go to the graphic artist and then the printer. The finished brochure will also be posted to the LDC website.

7. LDC welcomes your medical questions. Please send them via e-mail to Steve Clark at sclarktoto@gmail.com. Your medical questions will be forwarded to Dr. Phil Yarnell for his review and will usually be taken up for discussion in the next month's meeting. Please be advised any questions posed are for the general consideration by the group and do not constitute a formal medical opinion. If a formal evaluation is requested, arrangements can be made directly with Dr. Yarnell. If you have a medical emergency, please call 911 or your local EMS.
8. Questions, comments, notification of errors, and critiques of these minutes are welcome. Please forward those to Steve Clark at: sclarktoto@gmail.com. Please keep your communications professional and respectful. Communications will be forwarded to the appropriate author(s) of the minutes and addressed accordingly.
9. LDC Disclaimer: These minutes do not represent official positions of the LDC or its members. They simply reflect the comments made at the meeting. Furthermore, the LDC does not implicitly or explicitly recommend or endorse any product or service. Any product or service presented in these minutes is done so for purposes of discussion and analysis. The merit (or lack thereof) is open for the consideration and review by the entire membership.
10. Next meeting: Electronic Meeting via Zoom. Friday, April 10, 2020, from 11:45 AM to 1:00 PM MDT.

Respectfully Submitted,
Steven E. Clark, Consulting Meteorologist

Lightning Links

This is a monthly listing of periodicals, websites, and videos about lightning and allied areas from a variety of sources. A headline or description is listed, followed by the link. Please note that some of the links are perishable, which means you'll need to go to the source for the information.

Perez, A.H., L.J. Wicker and R.E. Orville, 2017: Characteristics of Cloud-to-Ground Lightning Associated with Violent Tornadoes. *Weather and Forecasting*. September 1, 1997.

Link: <https://journals.ametsoc.org/doi/abs/10.1175/1520-0434%281997%29012%3C0428%3ACOCTGL%3E2.0.CO%3B2>

MacGorman, D.R. and D.W. Burgess, 1994: Positive Cloud-to-Ground Lightning in Tornadic Storms and Hailstorms. *Monthly Weather Review*. August 1, 1994.

Link: <https://journals.ametsoc.org/doi/abs/10.1175/1520-0493%281994%29122%3C1671%3APCTGLI%3E2.0.CO%3B2>

Carey, L.D., W.A. Peterson and S.A. Rutledge, 2003: Evolution of Cloud-to-Ground Lightning and Storm Structure in the Spencer, South Dakota, Supercell of 30 May 1998. *Monthly Weather Review*. August 1, 2003. Link: <https://journals.ametsoc.org/doi/abs/10.1175//2566.1>
