



March 13, 2010

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Report of Recent Club Speakers

MSgt Michael Sanborn from the Air Force Weather Agency (AFWA) at USSTRATCOM was the speaker this week. AFWA produces weather forecasts for pinpoint areas, such as airports around the globe, each point including an area of only about five miles radius. This contrasts with the National Weather Service (NWS) which forecasts for a broad area. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is part of the NWS and mainly predicts severe weather, especially for sea and space. AFWA also doesn't give percentage possibilities for rain. For a specific point, like an airport, they say it either will rain or will not.

AFWA produces about 800,000 products each day. They include forecasts for 79 airfields in the United States, with three forecasts for each location each day and forecasting for each hour of the day. AFWA has three main weather hubs in the United States.

Weather forecasting is a broad career field. AFWA and NOAA forecasters go to school for nine months in Mississippi. Their work can include aviation weather, space weather forecasting, specialized weather for the intelligence community, and climatology. They also do volcano monitoring, especially for ash fallout, and humanitarian missions to forecast for aircraft takeoffs and landings. Weather is especially important for helicopter missions.

Space weather forecasting is a developing field and AFWA is the sole source of information there. It includes studies of solar flares and electromagnetic energy from the sun. We are entering the Solar maximum, part of a nine year cycle where sun activity is the highest and can affect GPS, cell phones, TV, and other signals.

MSgt Sanborn has been to Iraq three times, maintaining a weather station there. He hopes to go to Afghanistan on his next deployment. More information about AFWA is available at www.afweather.af.mil.

Meeting Minutes

Gary Gutttau opened the meeting with the pledge and Mick Gutttau gave the prayer. Keith Denton, Gary Gutttau, and Mick provided jokes. There were 21 members and three guests in attendance.

The club celebrated Ken Graham's birthday and Keith and Georgia Denton's anniversary this past

week, and Dick and Betty Baber's anniversary on Monday. Help is needed for Can Kennel sorting at 3:45 p.m. this Wednesday for the Jr. Optimist club. Club members will also help with the Quiz Bowl at the High School, which starts at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday.

Jim Clausen won the 50-50 drawing. Kelly Sutherland won the attendance drawing, but did not collect it.

The Optimist Club Board met Saturday after the meeting. The Board discussed upcoming events, including Pitch, hit, and Run in April, the Flag project, Arbor Day and Youth Appreciation in May, and club officer elections.

The Board approved paying the yearly club fee for the JOOI club and the \$25 fee for JOOI club members to attend the District JOOI club meeting in March.

CALENDAR

- March proceeds for the Can Kennel will be for the Jr. Optimist Club
- Mar 9 – Optimist Zone meeting in Griswold, 7:00 p.m. at the Methodist Church
- Mar 13 – Treynor Optimist Board Meeting
- Mar 14 – Cub Scout Pack meeting, 3:00 p.m.
- Mar 17 – Can Sorting – 5:30 p.m.
- Mar 31 – Can sorting – 5:30 p.m.

Birthdays

- Mar 2 – Ward Chambers
- Mar 11 – Kenneth Graham (recognized)
- Mar 20 – Jon Jacobsen

Anniversaries

- Mar 4 – Gene & Erika Seran
- Mar 8 – Keith & Georgia Denton (recognized)
- Mar 15 – Dick & Betty Baber (recognized)
- Mar 15 – Jeff & Carrie Nelson

Speakers

- Mar 20 - Bob Allen: Writes for Nonpareil: Program on astronomy
- Mar 27 - Lou Jensen: Asst: Professor at Creighton Univ. Clinical Education on Strokes and re-habilitation

Programs

- Mar – Dick Baber
- Apr – Chad Gutttau
- May – Dale Willenborg
- June – Linnea White
- July – Jeff Jorgensen
- Aug – Charlie Johnson
- Sept – Eric Allen
- Oct – Steve Irvin
- Nov – Arlyn Norris
- Dec – Chuck Nielsen/Keith Denton

If you are into gaming, check out the AFWA Weather Apprentice, Games and extras link at <http://www.dosomethingamazing.com/games-and-extras/>

One summer evening during a violent thunderstorm a mother was tucking her small boy into bed. She was about to turn off the light when he asked with a tremor in his voice, "Mommy, will you sleep with me tonight?" The mother smiled and gave him a reassuring hug. "I can't dear," she said. "I have to sleep in Daddy's room." A long silence was broken at last by a shaken little voice saying, "The big sissy."