

LIGHTNING DATA CENTER MINUTES

March 14, 2025

Monthly Quote: “The thunder itself is enough.” - Joe Kleefisch, cited below.

Members present: Clark, Langford, Ellis and Swanson. Meeting began at 11:55 AM and ended at 12:35 PM.

1. 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. The LDC currently has \$847.00 in cash.
2. I want to apologize to members who tried to attend the meeting and were not able to get in. This was due to a technology issue on my end. Long story short, I set up the meeting on a Zoom app from within Linux Mint, a computer operating system. I learned over the weekend that the Linux version of Zoom was severing the meeting invitation link. I tried setting up a Zoom meeting using Windows 11 and that worked fine. Hopefully, that will clean up any tech issues.
3. Ken Langford will chair the April meeting. I will be away on a cruise at that time and I will not have Internet access on the boat. Only one announcement will be issued and it will be on the date of the meeting or possibly the day before. Thank you, Ken for hosting the April meeting.
4. On Sunday, February 15, 2025, lightning struck the home of 12 religious community members in Cumming, Georgia. A fire ensued and the structure was declared a total loss. No one was injured or killed.
5. Greg Stewart and Ken Langford both mentioned an article discussing how the frequency of lightning along ship routes had decreased following international legislation that reduced sulfur emissions by 77%. Following the legislation, lightning along these routes has been reduced by approximately 50%. This discovery is helping researchers determine whether or not pollution influences thunderstorms and if so, to what extent.
6. Steve Clark presented an article from Los Alamos National Laboratory. Cosmic rays appear to play a pivotal in triggering lightning flashes. Using a three-dimensional polarization and mapping system designed by Los Alamos, scientists discovered the discharge currents caused by cosmic rays were slanted away from the propagating direction. They also learned the direction of polarization changed between the positive and negative discharges. The rays produce high-energy positrons and electrons which further ionizes the air and creates channels in the clouds, which allows the lightning to follow and travel faster.

7. Shayne Ellis gave us an update on his condition. Generally, he is doing much better and says he has become more spiritual. He had a lightning dream. He dreamed he was struck while doing lightning photography in the town he grew up in. He woke up from the dream in pain which was the same as that from the actual strike. Thankfully, the pain lasted for only a few seconds.

He asked about a lightning protection device manufactured by a company called Sertec and sold by a company called Seahawke Marine. The device uses “CMCE Technology”. The seller claims lightning is eliminated by neutralizing the electrical field between the clouds and the ground, which eliminates the upward streamers and thus prevents the formation of lightning. Shayne thinks such a device may have prevented him from being hit. We watched a sales video presented on the Seahawke Marine website. The video addressed Franklin rods and how they can fail, while showing footage of a house engulfed in flames. Ken noted Franklin rods are a proven technology and that the portrayal of Franklin rod failure appeared to be overdone. Steve asked about the radius of protection.

Shayne also said he has extreme sensitivity to EMF in big-box stores like Wal-Mart and Lowe’s. Ken referred him to a book titled Non-Tinfoil Guide to EMFs: How to Fix Our Stupid Use of Technology, which gives practical tips on how to eliminate or reduce exposure to EMF.

Shayne wants to publish a book about his experience and will soon meet with a publisher. He also wants to talk to other survivors who have published books. Ken mentioned three lightning survivors who have published books: Stacy McAnulty, Donna Salemink and Gretel Erlich.

8. LDC welcomes your 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 any answers given 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.
9. Questions, comments, error notifications, and critiques of these minutes are welcome. Please send them to Steve Clark. Please keep the communications professional and respectful. They will be forwarded to the appropriate author(s) of the minutes and addressed accordingly.
10. 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.
11. Next meeting: Friday, April 11, 2025, from 11:45 AM to 12:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Steven E. Clark
President, Lightning Data Center, Denver, CO

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.

Twardy, A., 2025: "I Didn't Feel Like I Could Survive This". Rockford Teacher Recounts Bout with Lightning Strike. WZZM-TV. March 19, 2025. Citation for Monthly Quote.

Link: <https://www.wzzm13.com/article/weather/lightning-strikes-rockford-teacher-tale-of-survival/69-7841d0db-49e7-40b1-8e67-6aa574c66586>

Winters, A., 2025: Suspected Lightning Strike Destroys Home of Atlanta Priests, Missionaries. *KUSA-TV*. February 16 and 17, 2025. Link: <https://www.9news.com/article/news/national/lightning-strike-causes-fire-at-home-on-woodsong-road-in-cumming/85-20ff3e80-2959-4573-8ba5-76f34931927e>

Public Affairs Office, Los Alamos National Laboratory, 2025. New Research Unravels the Mysteries of Lightning's Origins. March 5, 2025. Link: <https://www.lanl.gov/media/news/0306-lightning-origins>

Shao, X., D. Jensen, C. Ho, M. Caffrey, E. Raby, P. Graham, W. Haynes and W. Blaine, 2025: 3D Radio Frequency Mapping and Polarization Observations Show Lightning Flashes Were Ignited by Cosmic-Ray Showers. *JGR Atmospheres*. March 3, 2025.

Link: <https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1029/2024JD042549>

Seahawke Marine.

Link – How It Works: <https://www.seahawkemarine.com/pages/how-it-works>

Link – CMCE Technology Explainer Video (~2/3 down webpage): <https://www.seahawkemarine.com/>

Wright, C., 2025: The World Regulated Sulfur in Ship Fuels – and the Lightning Stopped. The Conversation. March 11, 2025.

Link: <https://theconversation.com/the-world-regulated-sulfur-in-ship-fuels-and-the-lightning-stopped-249445>

Wright, C., J. Thornton, L. Jaegle, Y. Cao, Y. Zhu, J. Liu, R Jones II, R. Holzworth, D. Rosenfeld, R. Wood, P. Blossey and D. Kim, 2025: Lightning Declines Over Shipping Lanes Following Regulation of Fuel Sulfur Emissions. *Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics*. European Geosciences Union. March 11, 2025. Link: <https://acp.copernicus.org/articles/25/2937/2025/>

Pineault, N., 2017: *Non-Tinfoil Guide to EMFs: How to Fix Our Stupid Use of Technology*. CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform. 249 pages

Erlich, G., 1995: *A Match to the Heart: One Woman's Story of Being Struck by Lightning*. Penguin Publishing Group, paperback edition. 208 pages.

Salemink, D., 2019: *Jumping the Candlestick: A True Story of Lightning, Living and Friendship*. Viridian Energetics. 52 pages.

McAnulty, S., 2018: *The Miscalculations of Lightning Girl*. Random House Books for Young Readers,; illustrated edition. 304 pages.
