

# LIGHTNING DATA CENTER MINUTES

## Denver, CO

April 10, 2026

Monthly Quote: “A Viennese physician named Derendinger was robbed of his purse on a train in the summer of 1865, the story goes. The tortoise shell purse had a steel plate on one side, etched with his monogram: DD. Some time later, the doctor was called on an emergency case involving a man found unconscious under a tall tree. He examined the man and found his own monogram marked on the man’s thigh. It turned out that the man – who revived – was the thief. Lightning had hit the tree, jumped to the steel plate in the purse and imprinted the monogram on the leg.”

- Dan Carlinsky, Tampa Bay Times, July 21, 1980

Members present: Clark, Yarnell, Stemple and Brewer. Meeting began at 11:45 AM and ended at 12:25 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 is maintained detailing the inflow and outflow of monies. The LDC currently has \$889.00 in cash due to a purchase of an annual Zoom license.
2. We were supposed to meet with a lightning survivor that Barb Stemple met last month, but the survivor had a job interview and could not attend. According to Barb, the survivor is very interested in telling his story to us. Barb said the survivor had been doing road work when the strike occurred and had scars on the neck. We will try to reschedule that individual.
3. A woman was hit by lightning in Superior, Colorado, near Boulder, Colorado. Residents in the area heard a loud boom at 5:39 PM and later found her lying unresponsive along a bike path under a tree that had been hit by lightning. When the Boulder County Sheriff’s deputies arrived on scene, the lady did not have a pulse and was not breathing. She was revived and begin to breathe and had a weak pulse, but still remained unconscious. Initially, she could not be identified due to the severity of her facial injuries but later, her family was able to identify her. She had a cellphone on her, but it was badly damaged. She had been wearing Beats brand earbuds. She was taken to a local hospital and then was airlifted to a Denver area hospital. The sheriff’s office reported she had regained a regular heartbeat and was breathing on her own, but she still was in critical condition.
4. In Labadie, Missouri, a man was electrocuted to death due to allegedly trying to steal copper wiring from utility poles. A power outage was reported at about 10:40 AM and a power line inspector found the man lying unconscious on the ground, a power tool attached to a utility pole, downed power lines and signs of electrocution. The man was pronounced dead at the scene.

5. Barb Stemple said she had not been able to show emotions after she was hit by lightning. Recently, she attended a funeral service for a motorcycle police officer that passed away from cancer. The officer was her niece's husband and he was the officer that confronted the shooter at the King Soopers grocery store in Boulder, Colorado, which made national headlines. All of that came home to roost for Barb at the funeral, as she was finally able to cry.
6. Phil Yarnell said LDC should ask the Lightning Strike & Electric Shock Survivors International Group if we can be added to their website for more local medical information and support.
7. The 2026 International Conference on Lightning and Static Electricity will be held in Charleston, South Carolina on October 5-8, 2026. Registration is now open. For more information, visit their website at [www.icolse2026.com](http://www.icolse2026.com).
8. Researchers using a combination of images from the Hubble Space Telescope and from amateur astronomers and the microwave radiometer on NASA's Juno spacecraft have determined that lightning on Jupiter can range from the power of lightning on earth to 100 times greater and possibly even greater. Often, storms on Jupiter occur simultaneously on belts across the planet, making it hard to tell the exact location of which storm produced the lightning. In 2021 and 2022, researchers caught a break and they were able to focus on single storms and detect the lightning. Images from the Hubble Space Telescope and amateur astronomers were able to accurately locate individual storms and Juno's microwave radiometer detected the flashes.

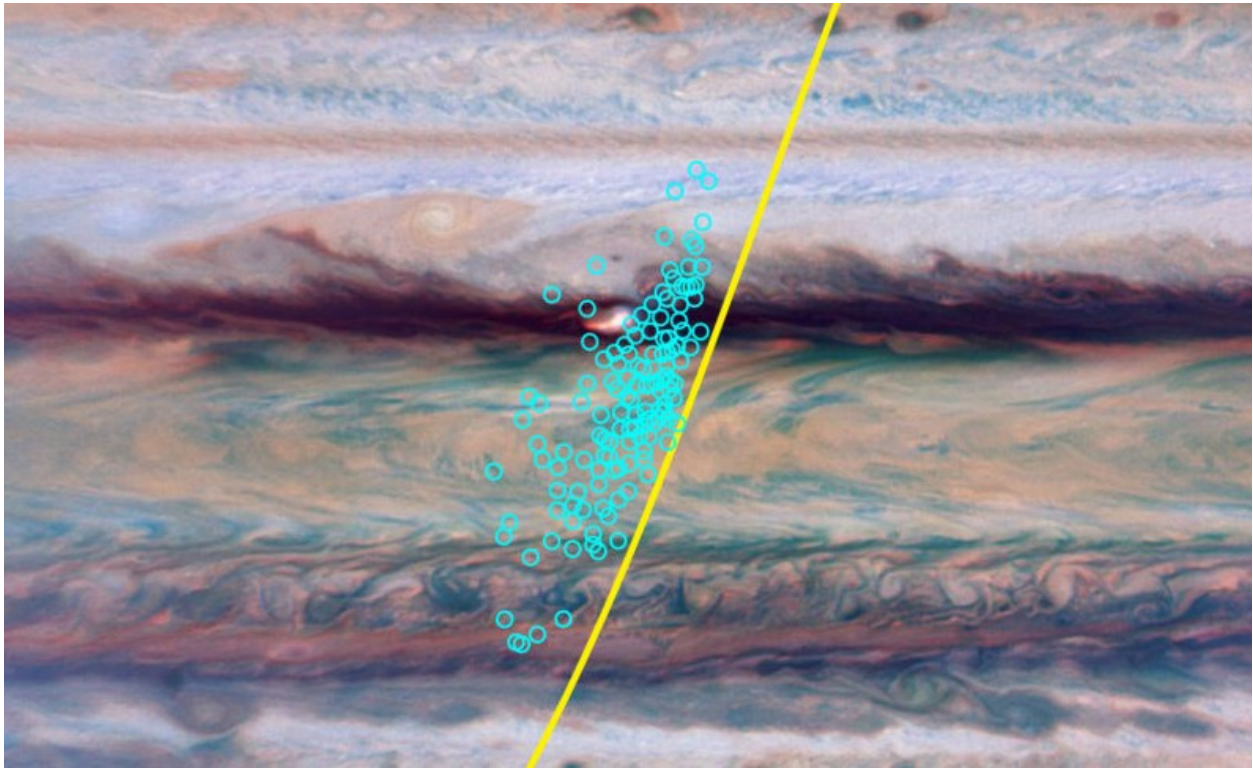


Image from NASA's Juno spacecraft taken on August 17, 2022. The yellow line is the track of Juno's flight above Jupiter and the blue dots are pulses emitted by lightning detected by the spacecraft. Image credit: UC Berkeley News, March 23, 2026.

9. Barbara Brewer reports her son Jacob is continuing on his recovery. He is still paralyzed from his knees down to his feet and is getting stimulation every day, twice per day. He does have feeling down to his feet and he can tell hot from cold.
10. LDC welcomes your questions. Please send them via e-mail to Steve Clark at [sclarktoto@gmail.com](mailto: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.
11. 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.
12. 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.
13. Next meeting: Friday, May 8, 2026, from 11:45 AM to TBA. Meeting topic: TBA.

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.**

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Oravetz, J. and W. Beese, 2026: Woman Struck by Lightning on Superior Walking Path Identified. *KUSA-TV*. April 10 and 11, 2026.

Link: <https://www.9news.com/article/news/local/woman-struck-lightning-superior-walking-path/73-86d5947a-efb6-48e7-8ac1-48bb6d185647?tbref=hp>

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Acosta, N., 2026: Mo. Man Electrocuted to Death While Allegedly Trying to Steal Copper Wire from Utility Poles. *People Magazine*. April 2, 2026.

Link: <https://people.com/man-electrocuted-to-death-allegedly-trying-steal-copper-wire-11941891>

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Sanders, R., 2026: Lightning Bolts on Jupiter Pack More Than 100 Times the Power of Earth's Flashes. *UC Berkeley News*. March 23, 2026.

Link: <https://news.berkeley.edu/2026/03/23/lightning-bolts-on-jupiter-pack-more-than-100-times-the-power-of-earths-flashes/>

Wong, M., I. Kolmasova, F. Oyafuso, M. Imai, S. Mizumoto, S. Levin, R. Sankar, A. Simon, S. Brueshaber, G. Orton, S. Atreya, C. Li and S. Bolton, 2026: Radio Pulse Power Distribution of Lightning in Jupiter's 2021-2022 Stealth Superstorms. *AGU Advances*. March 20, 2026.

Link: <https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1029/2025AV002083>

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