WATERLOO TECHNICAL SOCIETY
09 October 2002 MINUTES

The 09 October 2002 meeting of the Waterloo Technical Society was held at Greenstreets located at the Cedar Falls Holiday Inn with 44 members and 7 guests (51 dinner's total). President Brian Carlson called the meeting to order at 7:17 PM. Following the introduction of guests, Past presidents and Honorary Members were recognized. Then the current officers were recognized.
Jim Hein, Co-Secretary read the minutes of the 11 September 02 meeting. There was a request to amend the minutes to include; "A joint venture with ABIL that utilizes soybean oil as a lubricant for wood bearings replacing paraffin wax. It was also reported that lubrication properties were superior to paraffin." The Treasurer's Report was presented by Co-Treasurer Dave Berry, which showed Income of $300.00, Expenses of $90.39 Resulting 30 September 02 balance of $452.00.

Old Business: None

New Business:
Tim Schoenfelder announced that there is now a new website host, the new Name is:"WaterlooTechnicalSociety.org" He then stated that a friend at UNI was Hosting the site and that there would be no "Pop-up Ads". He then said that he needed volunteers to help maintain the web-site. Then added that work was underway to be able to e-Mail somebody through the website and that it would take about 1 day for it to be up and running.
Brian Carlson thanked Tim for all of his work on this website.

Brian then announced that 3 Society Members had passed away, they are:

Ken Elkema
Bob Crowley
Herb Hauser

Nico DeJong was recognized; He suggested posting a memorial for members who have passed away.
Vice President Dick Michaels asked for a vote to adopt this Proposal; it passed with a majority.

Dick Michaels then Introduced Craig Johnson As the evenings speaker with a note that this is Craig's third time addressing the tech society. (Every 10 Years)

Craig began his talk by saying that he has four different presentations that he gives and that this would be a blend of the 4.
He then continued by saying that His education included a lot of engineering courses i.e. Thermodynamics , then gave an overview of what he was going to cover and added that if anyone had a question to please ask it. He said he had a Computer Model Samples handout and a 12 Minute Severe Storm Video that is used during "Storm Spotter" classes . He said that Meteorology does more daily number crunching than any other science.
He stated that Louis Richardson in 1920's had numeric Computation models to predict the weather for 1 day, the drawback was that it would take one full years worth of calculation. So the computer was revolutionary and a valuable tool for meteorology.
Weather balloons are used for data collection; they are sampled 2 times a day. They record temp., dew point, wind direction and speed. They are used for predicting high temperatures. Weather balloons have a sparse coverage which He showed in the handout. The then went on to say that NEXRAD Radar is a more accurate sampling 14 Layer Image 150 Miles.
A lot of weather satellites are now used to collect data; GeoStationary East, West, and Central.

Computer Models are available from the national weather service that Private Meteorologists use to help predict what is going to happen in the next 12-72 hours. The interpretation of all the data is part of the "Science"
Linear regression is used to give percentages of probability. Improvements in the accuracy of these tools have helped in reliability of 7day forecasts.

Many questions regarding weather were fielded by Mr. Johnson his responses were knowledgeable and professional. He then explained what happens during different types of storms and what we would be seeing in the video.

He then started the Video, after the video he answered more questions.

The meeting ended with Dick Michaels presenting the speaker with a plaque.
The meeting adjourned at 9:45

Respectfully submitted,

Roger Mott and Jim Hein, Co-Secretary's