Oklahoma Sponsors National Severe Weather Symposium

April and May afforded Oklahoma Floodplain Managers unprecedented opportunities to obtain first-class professional training. Professional development opportunities included the National Symposium on Mitigating Severe Weather Impacts: Design for Disaster Reduction; The Oklahoma Flood Forum; and five Oklahoma Water Resources Board NFIP workshops held throughout the state. (See “OWRB Holds Flood Training Around State”)

National Symposium on Mitigating Severe Weather Impacts: Design for Disaster Reduction. The University of Oklahoma’s Severe Weather Center and the City of Tulsa’s Project Impact hosted a major national conference on the mitigation of natural hazards. The symposium

(Continued on page 3)
Oklahoma Flood Forum

(Continued from page 1)

Commissioner Carroll Fisher spoke at the Forum, and Continuing Education credits were awarded to real estate and insurance agents, as well as floodplain managers.

An awards luncheon was sponsored by OFMA’s Corporate Partners, Meshek & Associates, Engineers; Swift Water Resources Engineering, LLC; R.D. Flanagan & Associates, Planning Consultants; and the Severe Weather Center at U.O.

Walter Stout Elected OFMA Vice-Chair

Walter Stout, CFM, Floodplain Administrator for the City of Pryor, was elected by the Board of Directors to fill the remaining term of Vice-Chair. OFMA’s outgoing Vice-Chair, Larry Shelton, City Manager of Chickasha, found the demands of the OFMA Board and his city manager’s job were just too heavy. Larry will be missed. As a city manager, Shelton brought a fresh perspective to the board.

Walter Stout has been an active member of OFMA for a long time, having served on the Professional Development and Certification Committee, and assisted in the development of the Certified Floodplain Managers Program (CFM).

Walter won in a tight three-way race between himself, hydrologic engineering consultant Janet Meshek, Sand Springs, and C.M. Lin, SWODA. OFMA is fortunate to have such diverse and well-qualified members willing to take on the responsibilities of the organization.

(See OFMA Profile on Walter Stout on Page 7)
National Severe Weather Symposium

(Continued from page 1)

The symposium was held at Tulsa’s Civic Convention Center, March 31 - April 5, 2001.

The symposium, put on by OU’s Dr. Baxter Vieux, was a national level conference that few Oklahoma emergency and floodplain managers would normally have an opportunity to attend.

The keynote speaker was Dr. Vincent Mileti, Director of the Natural Hazards Institute, Boulder, Colorado, and author of Disasters by Design—A Reassessment of Natural Hazards in the United States.

Dr. Mileti’s keynote address was inspirational, challenging, and disturbing. As one of the foremost international disaster experts, Dr. Mileti pointed out that the bulk of America’s population is crowded into the nation’s most disaster-prone areas. As a result, disaster losses are growing at an alarming rate, and are now approaching $6 billion per year.

Over the past 20 years, natural disasters have cost the U.S. over $500 billion, killed 24,000 people, and injured 100,000 more.

These disaster losses are predictable, Dr. Mileti said, and result from the development of hazardous locations.

The symposium featured sessions on flooding, tornadoes, hurricanes, drought, extreme cold, and earthquakes.

A major theme of the symposium was the need to develop partnerships at every level—which is the focus of the Project Impact program (see “Floodplain and Emergency Managers plan Fall Conference.”)
Web Sites

OFMA  www.okflood.org
ASPFM  www.floods.org
OWRB  www.state.ok.us/~owrb
FEMA  www.fema.gov
OEMA  www.angelfire.com/ok2/oema/
ODCEM  www.onenet.net/~odcem/
Corps of Engineers (USACE)  www.swt.usace.army.mil
U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)  ok.water.usgs.gov
EMI Independent Study  www.fema.gov/home/emi/ishome.htm
Advanced Study Institute  web.uccs.edu/geogenvs/natoasi

WebMaster: Hank Elling, P.E., CFM  (580)248-7762  hcelling@owrb.state.ok.us

Definition: Future Conditions

Area of Future Conditions Flood Hazard: The land area that would be inundated by the 1-percent-annual-chance flood based on future condition hydrology.

Future Conditions Hydrology: The flood discharge associated with projected land-use conditions based on a community’s zoning maps or comprehensive land-use plans.

FEMA Considers Adding Future Conditions to SFHA Maps

At the urging of the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) and numerous communities, FEMA is considering adding future conditions (see above) to its Special Flood Hazard Area maps. Present FEMA maps reflect only existing conditions hydrology. As the basin develops, buildings permitted today under existing conditions will often be flooded as the floodplain is filled, storage is removed, and the upstream basin urbanizes or develops.

FEMA is proposing to add Future Conditions Hydrology on the SFHA maps on a voluntary basis for information purposes only. The community may regulate the Future Conditions area.

Many communities, including Tulsa, regulate their floodplains to a higher standard than FEMA’s minimum national standard. Tulsa’s floodplains, for example, assume full urbanization of the upstream basin, and do not allow removal of floodplain storage. Tulsa regulates the FEMA floodplain for insurance purposes, and its more extensive local floodplain for regulatory and developmental purposes.

OFMA recommends that all communities consider future upstream basin conditions when regulating their floodplains. FEMA’s SFHA is only a national minimum.

Calendar of Educational Opportunities

The Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association maintains a list of flood-related meetings, conferences, and training at www.okflood.org

- May 8, 2001: OWRB Region 1 Floodplain Management Workshop, Norman, OK. Contact: OWRB, (405) 530-8800.
- May 20-23, 2001: Small Watershed Programs: Past, Present, and Future, Seventh National Watershed Conference, Richmond, VA. Sponsored by the National Watershed Coalition. Contact: John W. Peterson, National Watershed Coalition, 9304 Lundy Court, Burke, VA 22015-3431; (703) 455-6886; fax: (703) 455-6888; jwpeterson@erols.com
- Jun 3-8, 2001: Twenty-Fifth Annual Conference of the Association of State Floodplain Managers, Charlotte, NC. The ASFPM annual conferences cover a broad range of flood-related issues, including mitigation, legislation, structural and non-structural approaches, GIS, and much more. For more information, contact: Diane Brown Watson, ASFPM, 2809 Fish Hatchery Road, Ste. 204, Madison, WI 53713-3120; (608) 274-0123; fax: (608)274-0696; e-mail: asfpm@floods.org; website: www.floods.org
- Sep 23-27, 2001: Fall Annual Joint Conference, OFMA and Oklahoma Emergency Managers Association (OEMA), Southern Hills Hilton, Tulsa, OK. Cost: $130.00. Contact: OFMA, P.O. Box 8101, Tulsa, OK 74101-8101; http://www.okflood.org
- Jun 23-28, 2002: Twenty-Sixth Annual Conference of the Association of State Floodplain Managers, Phoenix, AZ. Contact: ASFPM Executive Office, 2809 Fish Hatchery Road, Ste. 204, Madison, WI 53713-3120; (608) 274-0123; fax: (608)274-0696; e-mail: asfpm@floods.org; website: www.floods.org
- Jun 3-8, 2003: Twenty-Seventh Annual Conference of the Association of State Floodplain Managers, St. Louis, MO. Contact: ASFPM Executive Office, 2809 Fish Hatchery Road, Ste. 204, Madison, WI 53713-3120; (608) 274-0123; fax: (608)274-0696; e-mail: asfpm@floods.org; website: www.floods.org

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OFMA recommends that all communities consider future upstream basin conditions when regulating their floodplains. FEMA’s SFHA is only a national minimum.
“NO ADVERSE IMPACT”
Policy is National Agenda

The nation’s professional floodplain managers have adopted a new program policy objective for the nation: "No Adverse Impact."

The country’s flood protection experts have been concerned about the nation’s needlessly rising flood damages. The Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) Chairman George Riedel states that annual national flood damages continue to increase, despite billions of dollars spent on structural projects and great advances made in non-structural floodplain management.

ASFPM and OFMA are promoting the "No Adverse Impact" strategy as the proper approach for floodplain management in the 2000s. The approach is based on balancing structural and non-structural flooding solutions in a manner that will not cause additional damages upstream or downstream. This means that no construction in the watershed would adversely impact other property by increasing flood depths or velocities.

Comprehensive local watershed plans should ensure that all potential adverse impacts would be properly planned for and mitigated to avoid increasing current and creating future flood damages. These concepts support sustainable community initiatives to reduce the devastation caused by natural disasters.

ASFPM has prepared a document that describes this No Adverse Impact approach and gives examples of its success in communities throughout the nation. For copies, contact ASFPM at (608) 274-0123 or www.floods.org.

OFMA is an organization of over 200 professional Oklahoma floodplain managers. The Association of State Floodplain Managers, ASFPM, OFMA’s national parent organization, represents 4,000 national floodplain managers and leading experts in flood hazard management throughout North America.

An Invitation to Join OFMA

The Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association is a non-profit organization primarily dedicated to providing information and education to the public about reduction of loss of life and property due to flooding.

OFMA Membership Application

Name: ________________________________
Title: ________________________________
Work Phone: ____________________________
Fax: _________________________________

Company/Organization: ________________________________
Address: ________________________________
City/Town: _______________ State: _______ Zip: _______
E-Mail: ________________________________

Detach and Mail to: OFMA
P.O. Box 8101
Tulsa, OK 74101-8101

New Member: □ Renewal: □
Region (see map): 1 2 3 4 5
Committees:
□ Mitigation □ Floodplain Regulations
□ Flood Insurance □ Mapping & Engineering
□ Flood Proofing □ Stormwater Management
□ Research

Dues Schedule:
First-Year dues are probated depending on the quarter during which you join. The fiscal year start October 1st and ends September 30th.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Oct-Dec</th>
<th>Jan-Mar</th>
<th>Apr-Jun</th>
<th>Jul-Sep</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full Membership</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Membership</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>7.50</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Membership</td>
<td>15.00</td>
<td>11.25</td>
<td>7.50</td>
<td>3.75</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agency Membership</td>
<td>50.00</td>
<td>37.50</td>
<td>25.00</td>
<td>12.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Plus $10.00 per employee designated by the Agency)
Corporate Sponsor
100.00
75.00
50.00
25.00
OFMA General Store

Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association gifts are now available. The attractive OFMA articles are of the highest quality. You will be proud to wear and display them.

To Order: OFMA
P.O. Box 8101
Tulsa, OK 74101

Or Call: Carolyn Schultz
(918) 669-4919

OFMA Shirt                           $ 35.00
Sizes (S, M, L, X-L)
Briefcase                                    25.00
Baseball Cap                              15.00
Size (One size fits all)
Insulated Mug                           10.00
Umbrella                                    20.00
Portfolio                                     25.00
Lapel Pin                                     3.00
CFM Lapel Pin                      $   5.00
Shipping and handling $4.95 per order.

Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association gifts are now available. The attractive OFMA articles are of the highest quality. You will be proud to wear and display them.

To Order: OFMA
P.O. Box 8101
Tulsa, OK 74101

Or Call: Carolyn Schultz
(918) 669-4919

Certified Floodplain Managers Lapel Pin
(Only Available to CFM’s)

Technical Advisory - Regular Program of the NFIP

NFIP: National Flood Insurance Program
SFHA: Special Flood Hazard Area
FEMA: Federal Emergency Management Agency

After entry into the Emergency Program of the NFIP (BFE, April 2001), the community is eligible to convert to the NFIP’s Regular Program.

1. FEMA authorizes the sale of additional flood insurance in the community up to the Regular Program limits:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Insurance</th>
<th>Building</th>
<th>Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residential</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Residential</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Community implements adopted flood plan management measures.

3. FEMA arranges for periodic community assistance visits (CAV’s) with local officials to provide technical assistance regarding complying with NFIP flood plain management requirements.

4. Local offices may request flood map updates as needed. FEMA evaluates requests, encourages cost sharing, and issues revised maps as priorities dictate.

OFMA’s Agency Partners

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Nancy Wade, CFM
401 S. Johnston
Bartlesville, OK 74003
(918) 338-4243

Broken Arrow, City of
Justin Cook, City Engineer
P.O. Box 610
Broken Arrow, OK 74013
(918) 259-8414

Canadian County Commissioners
P.O. Box 458
El Reno, OK 73036
(405) 262-1070

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2600 S. Main, Ste. C
Stillwater, OK 74074
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Profile: 2000-2001 OFMA Vice-Chair

Walter Stout, CFM

Floodplain Manager, Pryor

Walter Stout, CFM, is like most of Oklahoma’s small community Floodplain Managers: He wears many hats

Walter Stout, CFM, joined the City of Pryor in 1987 as an inspector with the Water and Sewer Department. In 1991 he was appointed Floodplain Administrator; Building Official; Electrical, Mechanical and Plumbing Inspector; and Zoning Officer. He fully understands the problems of the small community official, for whom floodplain management is just one of many duties.

A Tulsa native, Walter moved to Choteau in the eighth grade, and graduated from Choteau High School in 1971. He served in the U.S. Army in Korea from 1971 to 1974.

Mr. Stout has been an OFMA member since 1992. He has attended all annual conferences and annual OWRB workshops. Walter served on OFMA’s original Professional Development and Certification Committee that developed the Certified Floodplain Manager’s Exam.

Walter has his Inspector’s License, is a member of BOCA and the Oklahoma Fire Marshall’s Association.

Walter’s primary goal is to provide education and training for floodplain administrators and the public. “We must find more effective ways of delivering training to small town officials,” Stout says. “Maybe we have to take the training out to them. Most small town officials don’t know what floodplain management is all about.”

Mr. Stout is married and lives with his wife and sons, Cole 11, and Ryan 20, in Pryor.
The B.F.E.

May 2001

Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association 2000-2001

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