

ENGINEERS CLUB OF THE WEST VALLEY

DECEMBER 2009 NEWSLETTER

www.engineersaz.com

The Engineers Club is a social organization which meets regularly for lunch with a speaker on a technical topic. Spouses are invited and many attend regularly. Short field trips are occasionally scheduled. Membership is open to anyone who has worked in or had close ties to the engineering or scientific fields. Meetings are held at 11:30am on the first Friday of each month, October through June, at Briarwood Country Club, 135th and Meeker in Sun City West, Arizona.

Visitors are always welcome -- Reservations are required -- Just call (623)544-0942 to let us know you are coming.



MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR



DECEMBER 4 PROGRAM

The Worlds Largest Optical Telescope

Dr. John M. Hill
University of Arizona



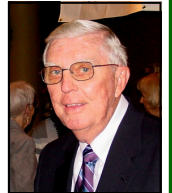
The worlds Largest Binocular Telescope (LBT) Observatory is located on Mt. Graham in southeastern Arizona. A unique feature of the LBT is that light from two primary mirrors can be combined in such a manner so as to produce a resolution ten times sharper than the Hubble Space Telescope. Dr. Hill will describe the technology behind this unique engineering achievement.

Dr. Hill received his B.S. in physics and chemistry from Geneva College in 1979 and his Ph.D. in astronomy from the University of Arizona in 1984. His major research activities include multi-object spectroscopy of clusters of galaxies and the production of borosilicate honeycomb mirrors.

Recent years have been devoted to the design, construction and commissioning of the Large Binocular Telescope on Mt. Graham. He is currently the technical director of the Large Binocular Telescope Observatory in Tucson.

NOTES FROM...

President Fred Scheske



The year 2009 is fast drawing to a close. Is it just my imagination or does time go by much more quickly as we age?

We have seen many spectacular and many heart-rending events in the world this year. However, our Engineers Club this year has again provided an outlet to come together and enjoy fellowship with other engineers and scientists, to hear meaningful and thought-inspiring presentations and to share excellent food in pleasant surroundings. To my knowledge, our club is the only organization in the valley to provide this type of venue. We changed our name last year to enlarge our area of representation, but it is still the same organization.

Next year the West Valley Engineers Club will be 35 years old! It has a proud history and members can share that pride knowing that this club has been successful in bringing a significant culture to the West Valley.

Any organization needs support from its members to be a success. It needs officers to lead, take care of everyday issues and plan for the future. The WVEC cannot continue to be successful unless members come forth to help lead. No one should expect former officers to remain in position. The time required to serve as an officer is not great. The Club's need is much the same as Uncle Sam's in that famous WWII poster pointing his finger.

I Need You!

JANUARY 8 PROGRAM

The Oil Industry in Alaska

Howard F. Poch, Jr

Howard Poch served in the United States Air Force and the Alaska Air National Guard for 22 years. He received a B.A. degree in Management Science and Human Resource Development and a Masters degree in Adult Education from the Alaska Pacific University in Anchorage, Alaska. Howard worked for 25 years in the oil fields which included 14 years in Alaska and 11 years in Houston, Texas and Calgary, Alberta. He has served throughout the world as a Drilling Fluids Engineer and has worked as Manager of Training for the M-I Swaco Company with global responsibility in 57 nations.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

John Bauer, Maurice Hoyt, Samuel Reipas
and Don Roy

Club Membership is 153

PLEASE HELP!!!

Volunteers needed to serve on
The Engineers Club Board

2009 OFFICERS

President	Fred Scheske	556-2892
Vice President	Larry Pensiero	546-1703
Secretary	Jodie Lawrosky	238-5256
Treasurer	Don Block	546-0557

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Programs	Larry Pensiero	546-1703
Membership	Bob Latvalla	546-7801
Membership	Bill Lee	977-1818
Reservations	Dave Whitehouse	544-0942
Luncheons	Hal Clemett	546-4941
Scholarship	Geraldine Montag	546-7963
Scholarship	Fred Berkenkamp	214-7757
Scholarship	Rutheloise Borchardt	933-2307
Reception	Bob Kessler	910-7054
Newsletter	Bill Harrison	546-4943
Web Site	Jim & Pat Ardis	362-1013
Publicity	Keith Morrow	546-3080
Field Trips	TBA	xxx-xxxx
Past President	Keith Morrow	546-3080

TREASURER'S REPORT 10-31-2009

General Fund Balance:	\$4,393.71
Scholarship Fund Balance:	\$1,178.95

LUNCHEON MENUS

December 4: Bistro Steak with Burgundy Sauce, Au Jus Mashed Potatoes, Steamed Asparagus and Spumoni Ice Cream with Cookie.
(Entrée Option: Fruit Plate)

January 8: American Beef Stew with Beef Braised Vegetables, Corn Bread with Butter and Apple Turnover with Vanilla Ice Cream.
(Entrée Option: Fruit Plate)

NOTICE

LUNCHEON PRICE CHANGE

Beginning January 2010, the cost of the monthly luncheon will be increased 50 cents to \$17.00 per person.

The reservation deadline is 6PM Monday before the meeting. Late reservations cannot be guaranteed the regular meal. Call Dave Whitehouse if you cannot keep your reservation.

A fee of \$10 will be charged for "no-shows."

Please have cash or make out your check in advance.

RESERVATIONS Dave Whitehouse (623)544-0942



SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM UPDATE

Geraldine Montag, Fred Berkenkamp, Rutheloise Borchardt

Our most recent awardee, John Buchanan, is still doing very well in his Software Engineering studies at ASU and is exploring possible internships following graduation.

The Scholarship Committee has completed the evaluation of candidates for next year. Three top candidates submitted by Glendale Community College were interviewed, and the \$2000 scholarship has been awarded to Martin Solis, a resident of Surprise.

In pre-Engineering studies, Martin has earned a 3.5 GPA at Estrella Community College and a perfect 4.0 as he continued his studies at Glendale Community College. His professors are very high on Martin both as a student and as a future engineer.

He has not achieved his current success without difficulties. He first attended trade school and became an auto technician. He soon realized that this was too narrow a future, and began his studies to prepare for Engineering School.

Martin is the first in his family to attend college. His father works as a landscaper and cannot provide much help financially. Martin is a very bright, engaging, well balanced young man, a doer, a problem-solver, and a "make it happen" person. He can be expected to make a fine engineer.

Martin will be starting at ASU in Electrical Engineering (Power) this coming fall. The Scholarship Committee will offer him mentoring support as he moves forward at ASU.

We hope that Martin will be able to attend the January luncheon meeting to share his future plans with all of us.



Dr. Phillip Pinto from the University of Arizona receives a certificate of appreciation from Fred Scheske for his presentation on the Large Synoptic Telescope at the October Luncheon.