

WEST VALLEY STEM CLUB

April 2021 NEWSLETTER

www.engineersaz.com

The Engineers Club is a social organization which meets monthly for lunch with a speaker on a topic of interest. Spouses and guests are invited and many attend regularly. Short field trips are occasionally scheduled. Membership is open to anyone who has worked in or has an interest in Engineering, Science or Technology. Meetings are held at 11:30am on the first Friday of each month (unless otherwise noted), October through June, at Briarwood Country Club, 135th and Meeker in Sun City West, AZ. Currently we are not meeting in person, but are continuing monthly programs by Zoom.

APRIL 2 PROGRAM



TGen: Scientific divisions, Primary Research and Virtual Tour

Kristen Kaus
Manager, Education and Outreach
Translational Genomics Research Institute
(TGen)

Kristen Kaus will be providing us an overview of the different scientific divisions as well as the primary research that is happening within TGen. As well, Kristen will be providing a virtual tour of the labs located in downtown Phoenix at their headquarters. TGen, the Translational Genomics Research Institute, is an affiliate of City of Hope. TGen is an Arizona-based, non-profit medical research institute dedicated to conducting groundbreaking research with life-changing results. TGen works to unravel the genetic components of common and complex diseases, including cancer, neurological disorders, infectious disease, and rare childhood disorders. By identifying treatment options in this manner, TGen believes medicine becomes more rational, more precise, and, well, more personal.

Kristen Kaus serves as TGen's Manager of Education and Outreach. In this role, she is the institute lead for education and community outreach initiatives, she oversees TGen's internship and training programs, most notably its flagship summer program Helios Scholars at TGen. Additional educational efforts include TGen Bioscience Leadership Academy (for high school students), academic year internships, public tours, and numerous events supporting STEM education. Alongside her education efforts, she also stewards TGen's emerging partnerships within the education community to increase the working knowledge of genomics and educate, train and inspire the next generation of researchers and physicians. In this role, she seeks and establishes productive partnerships with

local academic institutions and businesses with a goal of creating novel and innovative programs and joint ventures. Kristen holds a BS in Elementary Education (with a minor in biology) from State University of New York College at Fredonia; and an MS in Curriculum and Instruction (with a focus in Biology) from State University of New York College at Fredonia. She is an 18-year veteran educator of both high school sciences and college level biology courses, having spent the majority of her career teaching various levels of Biology, including AP.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Steve Sumner

It has been a rough thirteen months for your Club since we determined not to have "In-Person" meetings at Briarwood Country Club. This was a result of trying to stay safe during the COVID 19 Pandemic. It appears we may have turned the corner in some aspects, such as more people in the most vulnerable age category of 65 plus years of age are now vaccinated. We discussed the possibility to hold an "In Person" meeting at Briarwood for our May 7, 2021, meeting but decided to delay until October 1st. Also at this time, we are still negotiating with Briarwood as to menu and associated costs. Briarwood has informed us that both wages and food prices have increased significantly. We will attempt to keep prices as reasonable as possible but we are subject to Briarwood's pricing. Our membership is down significantly since the start of the pandemic. Maybe this is due to the fact that we could not meet in person and had to resort to Virtual meetings by ZOOM. We had some very good presentations that I think people who did not join the virtual meetings would have enjoyed. Please consider joining us at our upcoming April meeting.

We will keep you advised.

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2021 OFFICERS

President	Steve Sumner
Vice President	Jim Schlenvogt
Secretary	Marilyn Dumond
Treasurer	Carol Mungas
Asst. Treas.	Dave Campbell

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Programs	Peter Rauen & Jim Schlenvogt
Membership	Philip Main
Reservations	Philip Main
Luncheons	Peter Rauen
Scholarship	Jim Schlenvogt
Member at Large	Peter Rauen
Member at Large	George Zieglsangberger
Newsletter / Website	Dave Campbell
Event Audio	Hal Lind/Doug Totel
Event Computer	Paul Scherer
Publicity	Lance Berglund
Field Trips	Open
Hospitality	Open

Email the Board at: board@engineersaz.com

assessment and reliability prediction. He leads a combined group of reliability engineers and technicians working in the areas of experimental mechanics, finite element modeling, and product reliability demonstration. The team employs a wide range of techniques to evaluate and improve the reliability of electronic assemblies used in implantable medical devices.

Mark Porter has a solid background in statistical analysis, Design of Experiments, Statistical Process Control, and exploratory data analysis. He has developed a number of applications using Spotfire as the visualization framework, including wafer-mapping, test program regression analysis, and time-to-failure data analysis.

FROM THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

By Jim Schlenvogt

West Valley STEM Club
(2021-2022) \$3,000 Scholarship Winner
Julian Najera-Amarillas



Julian Najera-Amarillas will graduate from Glendale Community College in May, 2021 with an Associate Degree in Computer Science. Julian will continue his education this Fall at ASU in Computer Science. He has a 4.0 GPA and in the Fall of 2016, he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology with an Emphasis in Pre-Physician Assistant from Grand Canyon University. Julian is the first in his family to attend college. He is a U.S. and Arizona Citizen, having graduated from Apollo High School in Glendale, AZ.

TREASURER'S REPORT FEB 2021

General Fund Balance: \$ 7,967.87
Membership Total: 89

Don't forget to renew your membership for 2021. Mail \$25 checks to Phil Main at 17604 N Buntline Dr Sun City West, AZ 85375

2021 VEST MEETING DATES

April 2, May 7, June 4, October 1,
November 5, December 3

MAY 7 PROGRAM

Bioelectronic Devices in the Medical Field

Mark Porter

Sr. Engineering Manager

Technical Fellow at Medtronic

Education: University of New Hampshire, BS Physics



An experienced engineer in semiconductor manufacturing and process integration, including wafer fab, assembly, and test. In the medical device field, Mark Porter has specialized in reliability statistics and data analysis, including risk as-

2021 MEMBERSHIP DUES

Dues for 2021 are \$25.00 of which half goes to the Scholarship Fund. **Please consider making an additional donation to the Scholarship Fund** (put scholarship in the memo line). Please mail your check(s), made out to VEST, to: Philip Main, 17604 N Buntline Drive, Sun City West, AZ 85375-5148, main-twin3@gmail.com,