



The WV STEM Club is a social organization which meets monthly for lunch with a speaker on a topic of interest. 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 Grandview Terrace, in the fourth-floor ballroom, at 14515 W. Granite Valley Drive, Sun City West, AZ. **Guests and visitors are always welcome.** Contact Phil Main: maintwin3@gmail.com, 623-826-0101 (cell).

APRIL 4 PROGRAM

Current Status of the Colorado River Basin James Heffner, Senior Hydrologist Colorado River Management Arizona Department of Water Resources



James Heffner is a Senior Hydrologist in the Colorado River Management Section at the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR). At ADWR, James serves as the primary contact for Colorado River system modeling as well as providing technical analysis for projects and operations on-river and in Central Arizona. Prior to joining

ADWR, James was a Hydrologist in the Water Management Bureau for the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation where he worked on statewide water use and technical support for compact negotiations. He holds an M.S. in Hydrology from the University of Idaho, an M.S. in Agricultural and Resource Economics from Oregon State University, and a B.S. in Mathematics and Economics (dual major) from Willamette University.

Abstract: The situation in the Colorado River Basin continues to be featured prominently in the media. While the near-term situation has improved through recent conservation actions and the relatively wet hydrologic conditions seen in water year 2023; considerable uncertainty remains regarding future hydrologic conditions and reservoir operations. Against this backdrop, the presentation will discuss the current status of the system and near-term impacts to Arizona and the Central Arizona Project, a discussion of the difficulties and uncertainty facing the basin in the long-term, and models and tools used by the Bureau of Reclamation and stakeholders to address these issues.

2025 MEMBERSHIP DUES

Dues for 2025 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 West Valley STEM to: Philip Main 17604 N Buntline Drive, Sun City West, AZ 85375-5148 maintwin3@gmail.com , 623-748-8222 (Home), 623-826-0101 (Cell)

SPEAKERS NEEDED

If you or someone you know will provide a STEM presentation for a future meeting, please contact Jim at js3820@msn.com.

VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Gary Graunke

Spring is a busy time for all of us, and our club is no exception.

We are awarding three scholarships this year, and we will be introducing them at the April and May meetings. Thank you to all of you have contributed, and especially to Lou Baird for her matching contribution challenge. It is our pleasure to assist those who are training to meet the opportunities and challenges of our ever changing world--providing a better standard of living to all of us.



The field trip to the ASU Biodesign Institute was amazing--so much that we are planning a follow-on trip in May to provide more time to absorb more of their activities.

We strongly encourage members to get involved in your club. The easiest way to do this is to join our board as a member-at-large. Our next monthly board meetings will be April 21 and May 19 downstairs in the Grandview Terrace cafeteria meeting room at 9:30. We have many dedicated board members and officers that keep our organization providing value to our members. Many hands make light work.

ASU BIODESIGN FIELD TRIP Jim Schlenvogt

On March 12, 2025, fifteen WV STEM Club members participated in a tour and lunch at the ASI Biodesign Institute. Our two ASU tour guides are shown, too.



WEST VALLEY STEM April 2025

2025 OFFICERS

President	Open
Vice President	Gary Graunke
Secretary	Betty Goldberg
Treasurer	Carol Mungas
Asst. Treas.	Dave Campbell

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Programs	Peter Rauen/Rick Cecil
Membership	Steve Sumner
Reservations	Philip Main
Luncheons	Jim Schlenvogt
Scholarship	Jim Schlenvogt
Member at Large	Don Zoss
Newsletter	Dave and Karen Campbell
Website	Gary Graunke
Event Audio	Paul Scherer
Event Computer	Paul Scherer
Publicity	Lance Berglund
Field Trips	George Zieglgansberger
Past President	Jim Schlenvogt

Email the Board at: js3820@msn.com

Scholarship Committee Report

Committee Chair, Jim Schlenvogt

On March 3, 2025 the Scholarship Committee of Karen Campbell, David Campbell, Steve Sumner, George Zieglgansberger, and Jim Schlenvogt interviewed five graduating Sophomore Glendale Community College STEM Students. After the interviews, the Scholarship Committee recommended the following three STEM students to receive scholarships. All three STEM Students have been accepted for the Fall, 2025 semester at ASU. All three will be attending a future Club meeting to speak to the Group.



Ariel Antonini
Mechanical
Engineering
\$2,000



Abigail Benitez
Biological Science
(Wildlife)
\$2,000



**Emmanuel
Zelaya-Amenta**
Computer Science
\$2,000

TREASURER'S REPORT MARCH 2025

Gross General Fund Balance	\$12,244.40
Net Fund Balance (after payment of obligations)	\$10,483.94
Membership	109

The February 50/50 winner was Margaret Victor, who donated her \$86 winnings to the Club. Thank You for Your Support!

2025 MEETING DATES

The Club's **REVISED** meeting dates for 2025:

04/04/2025 (First Friday of the Month)

05/09/2025 (SECOND Friday of the Month)

06/06/2025 (First Friday of the Month)

MAY 9 PROGRAM

**Mike Malek-Ahmadi, PhD,
GStat Bioinformatics Scientist
Banner Alzheimer's Institute**



Dr. Malek-Ahmadi earned a BS from the University of Arizona, a MS from the University of South Florida, and a PhD from the University of Westminster. He has worked in the field of Alzheimer's disease research since 2003 and is an author on over 60 peer-reviewed journal articles in the areas of Alzheimer's disease, mild cognitive impairment, and normal aging.

Can scientists find a way to stop Alzheimer's disease before it ever affects your memory and thinking? Research efforts to prevent the disease are now focused on individuals who may be at risk for Alzheimer's but do not show any symptoms. This fascinating presentation will provide an overview of how Alzheimer's disease is defined before symptoms appear and how it is being used to develop preventative therapies.

MARCH 7 PROGRAM

**NASA Europa Clipper: Exploring an
Ocean World**

**Dr. David A. Williams, Research Professor, School
of Earth and Space Exploration, ASU**

