



## October 2025 Newsletter

[www.engineersaz.com](http://www.engineersaz.com)

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).

### OCTOBER 3 PROGRAM

#### **Making Strides Against Parkinson's Disease Through Clinical Trials**

**Dr. David R. Shprecher, DO MSCI, FAAN**  
**Movement Disorders Director**  
**Banner Sun Health Research Institute**



Dr. David R. Shprecher is a neurologist in Sun City, Arizona and is affiliated with Banner Boswell Medical Center. He received his medical degree from Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine - Seton Hill and has been in practice for more than 20 years.

**Abstract:** Parkinson's disease is a brain condition that tends to affect people as they get older, causing problems with movement and other functions. Thanks to the dedication of thousands of research volunteers, about ten new medicines have been approved in the last ten years to help manage its symptoms. In this talk, Dr. Shprecher will share the latest updates from Parkinson's research—including exciting progress toward treatments that could slow the disease down or even stop it before it starts for future generations

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

#### **Gary Graunke**

Upon returning from my travels to prepare for our October meeting, I discovered that my internet service was intermittent. No problem, I thought, I'll just use my phone hotspot. This worked well until I exhausted my data allotment. Now I have no internet access at all. We are reminded that we are dependent on water and electricity to keep us and our food, but lack of internet access sets us back a few decades.

Our club is also at a point where we need more volunteers to keep us going. We need help for various committees and at-large board members. Like my home internet, some redundancy and depth-on-the-bench helps to keep things going. Please consider joining the board in some capacity—more hands make light work!

### WEST VALLEY STEM CLUB

#### **President & VP Elections**

#### **Grandview Terrace/ Sun City West, AZ**

**Business Meeting Call to Order at 11:30 am**

**by Jim Schlenvogt, Past President**

Elections for President and Vice President were announced at the June 6, 2025 general meeting.

Nominated for President: Gary Graunke

Nominated for VP: Bob Parizek

Hearing no other nominations from the membership, the nominees were unanimously approved by the general membership. Both nominees will assume office June 6, 2025. In November, 2025, new 2026 officers elections will take place.

David Campbell moved and Bill Wagner seconded to adjourn the meeting at 11:35 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Goldberg, Secretary

### FIELD TRIPS

#### **Surprise SciTech Festival**

Scheduled for November 22, 2025

Location: Surprise/ Ottawa University City Center

#### **Earth and Space Exploration Evening and Open House**

DATE: TBD

Location: ISTB 4 (Interdisciplinary Science and Technology Building 4) 781 East Terrace, Tempe - Rural Road between Terrace and Lemon

# WEST VALLEY STEM October 2025

## 2025 OFFICERS

President	Gary Graunke
Vice President	Bob Parizek
Secretary	Betty Goldberg
Treasurer	Carol Mungus
Asst. Treas.	Dave Campbell

## COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Programs	Jim Schlenvogt/ 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/Computer	Paul Scherer
Publicity	Lance Berglund
Field Trips	Bob Parizek
Past President	Jim Schlenvogt

Email the Board at: [js3820@msn.com](mailto:js3820@msn.com)

## Scholarship Committee Report

### Committee Chair Jim Schlenvogt

In June, we welcomed Abigail Benitez, a recipient of a \$2,000 scholarship. Abby graduated from GCC in May and will be entering ASU this fall as a Biological Science major with an emphasis on wild life conservation.



## NOVEMBER 7 PROGRAM

### Farmers are 40 years Ahead of Oncologists ASU Biodesign Institute's Cancer Research Carlo Maley, PhD

Professor Carlo Maley is a biologist who specializes in cancer, evolution and computational biology. He works at the intersection of these fields. His team uses genomic data mining, phylogenetics, computational modeling and wet lab techniques to solve these problems. **Abstract:** Farmers and oncologists have similar problems. When a farmer sprays a field with pesticides, they kill most of the pests, but some pests carry mutations that make them able to tolerate the pesticide. That mutant pest population can then regrow and destroy the crops. The same thing happens in oncology. Chemotherapies tend to kill most of the cells in a cancer, but leave behind mutant cancer cells that are able to tolerate the cancer drug. I will tell you about the innovations in pest management and how we are translating them to oncology.

## TREASURER'S REPORT JUNE 2025

Gross General Fund Balance	\$8,613
Net Fund Balance (after payment of obligations)	\$5,013
Membership	113

The June 50/50 winner was The June 50/50 winner was Phil Main. Thank You for Your Support!

## JUNE 6 PROGRAM

### ADOT Five-Year Capital Construction Projects

Iqbal Hossain, PE

Deputy Director, Multimodal Planning  
Arizona Department of Transportation



## 2025 MEETING DATES

The Club's meeting dates for 2025:

**10/03/2025 (First Friday of the Month)**

**11/07/2025 (First Friday of the Month)**

**12/05/2025 (First Friday of the Month)**

## 2026 MEMBERSHIP DUES

Dues for 2026 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)

## MARICOPA COUNTY STEM WEBSITE

Check it out at:

<https://www.maricopa.gov/5091/STEM-Curriculum>