



## December 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](mailto:maintwin3@gmail.com), 623-826-0101 (cell).

### DECEMBER 5 PROGRAM

#### The Science of Food Irradiation

Joe Butterweck, DVM Retired

Director of Preventive Medicine Programs Aerospace and Environmental Medicine Group, Inc., Fresno, California.

Dr Joseph. Butterweck started his veterinary career as a student in Penn state and advanced to treating all creatures in 67 countries. He was in the USAF retired as a colonel , and worked for General Atomics and Merck. Most of his career as is now is a clinical veterinary practitioner and prefers agriculture. He has a business in Siberia working in alternatives to antimicrobial therapy with antibiotics.

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Gary Graunke

Today we live on a planet that supports over 8 billion people, and many of us have a quality of life that is better than that of the wealthiest not so long ago. Both the quality and quantity improvements have been the result understanding the world we live in and more efficiently utilize its resources locally and world-wide.

In this season of thankfulness we consider not only our material wealth but the blessings of living in our country and community. We are thankful for those that put themselves at risk for the defense of our country, the first responders that make our communities safer, and, especially since the recent pandemic, the medical professionals that sometimes risk their own health to keep us healthy. But we should also thank and support the mathematicians, scientists, inventors, and engineers worldwide who improve our everyday lives as well as our ability to effectively respond in times of crisis. Supporting our universities and students is one way in which this happens. We can't predict just how this will happen, but we know that they will be the ones that enable better and longer lives for our growing population.

Edward Deming put it this way: "The source of innovation is freedom. All we have - new knowledge, invention - comes from freedom. Discoveries and new knowledge come from freedom. When somebody is responsible only to himself, [has] only himself to satisfy, then you'll have invention, new thought, new product, new design, new ideas."

### Scholarship Donations

The West Valley STEM Club is continuing our Annual Scholarship Fund Donation Event at our December and January meetings. Please consider contributing!

### NOVEMBER 22 SURPRISE SCITECH FESTIVAL

The WV STEM Club had a table at the recent Surprise Scitech Festival. More information at:

<https://surpriseaz.gov/497/SciTech-Festival>



### SPEAKERS NEEDED

If you or someone you know will provide a STEM presentation for a future meeting, please contact

Jim at [js3820@msn.com](mailto:js3820@msn.com).

# WEST VALLEY STEM December 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)

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

**January 2** Gary Graunke Member, President

Communications Security

**February 6** Gautam Dasarathy, ASU Electrical Engineering, Artificial Intelligence

**March 6** Thomas Maynard, Greater Phoenix Economic Council, Arizona's Semiconductor Industry

## ASU EARTH AND SPACE EXPLORATION EVENING AND OPEN HOUSE

On October 24, Jim Schlenvogt and 3 other WV STEM Club members attended.



## TREASURER'S REPORT NOVEMBER 2025

Gross General Fund Balance	\$10,831
Net Fund Balance (after payment of obligations)	\$5,871
Membership	117

The 50/50 was won by Jim Burch who donated it to the Scholarship Fund. Thank you for your support!

## NOVEMBER 7 PROGRAM

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



*Happy Holidays*

## 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:

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17604 N Buntline Drive  
Sun City West, AZ 85375-5148  
[maintwin3@gmail.com](mailto:maintwin3@gmail.com) ,  
623-748-8222 (Home)  
623-826-0101 (Cell)