



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 9 PROGRAM

Future Exploration: Artemis, Lunar Bases, and On To Mars

David A. Williams, Ph.D.

Research Professor

**School of Earth and Space Exploration
Arizona State University**



Dr. David A. Williams is a Research Professor in the School of Earth and Space Exploration at Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona. Dr. Williams is the Director of the Ronald Greeley Center for Planetary Studies, a NASA-supported planetary data center at ASU. David is currently performing research in volcanology and planetary geology, with a focus on planetary mapping, geochemical, and remote sensing studies.

His research has included computer modeling of seismic wave propagation through planetary interiors, visible and near-infrared spectroscopy of the lunar surface, planetary geologic mapping of the satellites of Jupiter and Saturn, the planet Mars, the asteroid Vesta and the dwarf planets Ceres and Pluto, computer modeling of the physical and geochemical evolution of lava flows in a variety of planetary environments, and petrologic study of lava samples from Mount St Helens. He was involved with NASA's Magellan Mission to Venus, Galileo Mission to Jupiter, the European Space Agency's (ESA's) Mars Express orbiter mission, and the NASA Dawn Mission to asteroid Vesta and dwarf planet Ceres. He is currently a Co-Investigator and Deputy Lead for the multispectral imager on NASA's Psyche Mission, which launched on October 13, 2023. He is also a member of the Italian JANUS camera team of the ESA Jupiter Icy Moons Explorer (JUICE) mission that launched on April 14, 2023. In 2014 David was elected a Fellow of the Geological Society of America, and asteroid 10,46Dawilliams was named in his honor. He was the Secretary of the Planetary Sciences Section of the American Geophysical Union in 2019-2020.

Abstract: The future of space exploration is currently in a high-velocity phase. With the successful splashdown of Artemis II during April 2026, the roadmap from the Moon to Mars has shifted from theoretical planning into active infrastructure development. NASA and its international partners are no longer just looking to "visit" the Moon; they are treating it as a literal and metaphorical launchpad for the Red Planet.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Gary Graunke

We are happy to welcome many of our members as they return for our fall meetings, and hope that the summer recess has been good to you!

The board expected to make difficult decisions driven by inflationary pressures, but we were still surprised by their magnitude. We are asking for your input and patience as we sort through our options going forward to adjust to the ordering protocols and costs related to our venue and meal choices. We are thankful to Jesse at Grandview Terrace for obtaining management permission to postpone some cost increases to give us more time to adjust, and Betty Goldberg for her willingness to sponsor our meetings and possibly reduce our venue costs, and her helping us better understand our options and processes. We have also been busy exploring other venue and meal options, but we find our changes here reflect the same rising costs of other providers.

Despite these adjustments, we will continue to enjoy the fellowship of fellow technical professionals and becoming better informed regarding our changing world and the problems and opportunities that it presents. Space exploration has provided many such challenges and solutions that have given us technologies that allow more people to live better on the same size planet. Today we thank Dr. Williams for bringing us up-to-date on Artemis.

2027 MEMBERSHIP DUES

Dues for 2027 are \$25.00 of which half goes to the Scholarship Fund. Dues are due before January 2027. **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)

WEST VALLEY STEM October 2026

2026 OFFICERS

President	Gary Graunke
Vice President	Bob Parizek
Secretary	Marilyn Dumond
Treasurer	Carol Mungus
Asst. Treas.	Dave Campbell

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Programs	Jim Schlenvogt/ Peter Rauen/ Rick Cecil
Membership	Steve Sumner
Reservations	Philip Main/ Maggie Williamson
Luncheons	Jim Schlenvogt
Scholarship	Jim Schlenvogt
Member at Large	Betty Goldberg
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

FUTURE MEETING DATES

October 9, 2nd Friday
November 5, 1st Thursday
December 4, 1st Friday

FIELD TRIPS

ASU Space and Science Open House
November 6, 6-9PM

If you are interested in attending, contact Gary Graunke: gary@whitecape.org

Ottawa University
Surprise SciTech Festival

November 21, 10AM-2PM

We need volunteers to staff our exhibit.
Please sign up! For more information
contact Gary Graunke:
gary@whitecape.org

TREASURER'S REPORT MAY 2026

Gross General Fund Balance	\$15,592
Net Fund Balance (after payment of obligations)	\$7,136
Membership	99

The 50/50 was won by Tom Francis who donated back to the scholarship fund. Thank you for your support!

JUNE 5 PROGRAM

Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport current Capital Improvement

Jason Gitkin

Community Outreach and Events Manager
City of Phoenix Aviation



SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Daniel Badiu attended the June meeting. Daniel graduated from GCC with a degree in Engineering and will be attending ASU in the fall to complete a degree in Electrical Engineering. Daniel is a \$1500 scholarship recipient.