

Meeting Minutes 8/31/18

- **Introductions!**
 - Mackenzie - President
 - Ryan - VP
 - Collin - Historian
 - Emily - Outreach Coordinator
 - Jimmy - Treasurer
 - Madison - Secretary
 - Sammie - Tech Officer
 - Dr. Yancy Shirley - Faculty Advisor
 - Dr. Don McCarthy - Astro Club Guest Speaker

- **What does Astro Club do?** Astro Club is a mix between a social club and an outreach club. We do star parties, we have astronomy question of the day/astronomy news of the week, ATOMM/TIMESTEP. We do activities such as the club picnic, movie/game nights, pumpkin carving, and telescope training. We also do research related activities such as AAS, the internal symposium, and we travel to observatories such as LBT and Kitt Peak. And of course, every spring semester we take a club trip!

- **ATOMM:** Astronomy Tutoring of Majors and Minors. A tutoring service where upperclassmen/grad students provide help for you astronomy/physics/math classes! This takes place everyday in the Parker Library (across from N305) from 2-4pm. Be sure to come if you need help with these subjects, want to study with friends, or meet people in your major!

- **TIMESTEP:** TIMESTEP is a discussion group about topics of professional development for undergraduates in STEM fields at U. Arizona with a specific focus on supporting students who are underrepresented minorities (URMs). The next meeting will be held on September 12th in PAS 218. The topic discussed will be Navigating the First Two Years of Physics/Astronomy. There will be pizza!!

- **Grad/Undergrad Mentor Program:** Juniors/Seniors in the astronomy major can get one on one help with applying to grad school, advice on how to navigate grad school, etc. Please let Astronomy Club officers know if you're interested!

- **Don's Question of the Week:**

- “Lighting up a snowy sky” What do you see?



- Long exposure of a volcano? We see the Large Magellanic Cloud (LMC)! So it is in the Southern Hemisphere. The lava lake is “lighting up a snowy sky”
 - The LMC is 163klyrs distant, where would you see it? Ra: 5h 23m Dec: -69 degrees LST: 14h 41m.
 - “Cool Shadow” Atacama Desert -> Claims that the shadow is created by Venus. Is this photo real? It is!
 - Iridium flare
 - “In the news” discussion group - Madelyn Huhta and Olivia Jones are leading the way! Possibilities for next week: Jupiter’s water content, new record for gravitational lensing, etc.
 - Possibly Thursday afternoon
 - Let Don, Madelyn, or Olivia know if you’re interested!
- **Astronomy News of the Week:** Presented by Steven Zhou-Wright! Here’s the link -> <http://www.sci-news.com/astronomy/water-jupiters-great-red-spot-06369.html>
 - Water was found in Jupiter’s Great Red Spot! This helps scientists figure out weather patterns on Jupiter, also speculation about life on Jupiter.
 - Be sure to sign up for astro news of the week! It’s super fun and we like to know space news!
 - **Astro Club Radio Project!** There was a research paper published this summer by Jenny Calahan (former Astro Club President) with the names of many Astro Club members on it! It was featured in a UA article written by Emily Walla! The project was also featured in a polish news article!!

- **Club Picnic!** Will take place on Saturday Sept. 29th at Windy Point on Mt. Lemmon. We will have our picnic and then do some stargazing! Please bring some food to share (nothing that is messy or needs to be frozen) or a \$5 food donation. We'll be leaving from the Steward parking lot at 4pm.
- **Telescope Training/Movie Night:** On September 14th we'll watch a movie right after club meeting. A poll will be sent out to vote for which movie we watch. Also, there will be free pizza! Come hang out! In addition, telescope training will take place on the mall afterwards (~7:30pm). It is highly recommended that members do this so you'll know how to run the telescopes for star parties!
- **Star Parties and how to do them:** We will send out a sign up sheet for them about a week in advance, basically we go to schools and talk to them about space stuff! We bring telescopes and we also do creative activities such as planet painting and crater making! Please volunteer when you can! Those who volunteer to drive will be reimbursed for gas.
- **Active Galactic Videos:** AGV is a student-run education group under Dr. Chris Impey and Dr. Matthew Wenger. They have a Youtube channel! <https://youtu.be/SjQM2wjlww> and they are looking for people who want to promote astronomy in videos! Talk to Sammie if you're interested!
- **Telescope Observing at Steward:** We have an actual observatory believe it or not! And you can come observe with it! Steward has a 21" telescope that will be open to observers starting September 17th! It will run Mondays-Thursdays from 7:30-10:30pm! Come look at stars, galaxies, nebula, and more!
- **Astronomers:** Hey buddy,,,,,,wanna get some snacks? There's an unofficial Astro club snack store on 3rd floor outside Parker on bookshelf on the opposite side from the elevator and bathrooms. It's restocked every week. And it's open to everyone, including faculty. Honor system payment.
- **Society of Physics Students:** UA has brand spankin new physics club! They meet every other Wednesday at 5pm in PAS 218. The next meeting will be Sep 19th. Go check them out if you like phun physics!
- **TIMESTEP Internships!**
 - Adriana Stohn is a senior in optical engineering. She worked on algorithm development and real-time software for GEOST (geostationary orbit)

which specializes in satellite-based sensing technology. Her key takeaway from her internship is that communication is important.

- Alexis Tinoco is a computer science and physics major. He worked at Madden Media, a digital marketing agency. His key takeaway from his internship is to try new things and ask questions.
 - Deandre Capati worked with latitude engineering (now L3 latitude). He worked with the software and hardware of drones like Can Spoofer, designed for autopilot assistance. His key takeaway from his internship is to make sure you keep yourself organized through planning, but be flexible with your plans in order to keep up with the pace of the workflow and the amount of time it takes to solve problems.
 - Miguel Osorio worked at AZTERA, a technology development firm that produces solid engineering designs, proof of concept prototypes, test equipment, and market ready products. His main takeaway from his internship is that hands-on experience is invaluable.
 - Some info from the Q and A:
 - Companies apply to TIMESTEP
 - Students are matched up with companies that may suit them
 - Students select company that suits them
 - All internships were paid for partially by TIMESTEP!
 - Issues can arise on the company's part though
 - Make sure to ask and research about salary
 - Don't downplay yourself
 - \$20/hr is a fair rate for internships like the ones found through TIMESTEP
- **Pay your dues!** \$10 each semester, funds for trips, snacks, cool activities, shirts, etc. (a shirt might be included) Due it.

