

Meeting Minutes 2/15/19

- **ATOMM:** In Parker Library (across from N305) from 2-4pm. It's a great resource to use for the beginning of the semester!
- **TIMESTEP:** The next meeting will be at 5pm on Wednesday February 27th in N305 (Steward Observatory). There will be the Tech Company Internship Fair! Come hear from local Tucson tech companies to learn about summer internship opportunities. **Funding available for juniors!**
- **Meeting Dr. Jenny Green, Aaronson Prize Winner:** It will take place on Monday February 18th at 10am in N305 (Steward Observatory)
- **Don's Question of the Week:**
 - He submerged a ping pong ball (which has a hole in it) in liquid nitrogen and then placed it in warm water. What do you think would happen?
 - The sudden change in temperature caused the liquid nitrogen inside the ball to expel itself out quickly and it propelled the ball around the bowl super fast (water got everywhere oh boy)
 - Voyager 1 is almost 30 years old, Valentine's greetings!
 - Pioneer 10 & 11 Plaques (1972,1973) People figured that the probes leaving the solar system could be visited by alien civilizations so they included a map of our solar system with relative distances in binary!
- **Astronomy News of the Week:** Presented by Ruby Fulford! Here's the link -> <https://www.jpl.nasa.gov/news/news.php?feature=7334>
 - Mars Opportunity Rover was confirmed dead this week by NASA :(The mission was supposed to last 90 days, and it lasted for 15 years. The last message we received from it was "My battery is low and it's getting dark." (que uncontrollable sobbing)
- Don't forget to sign up for Astro News of the week this semester!
- **Constellation of the Week:** Presented by Sammie Mackie! This week she discussed the Celestial Sphere and took us on a journey to Orion and Cygnus showed us how the proper motions of the stars that make up the Big Dipper are tracked! The website she used is orbitsimulator.com
- **New Star Party Demonstration:** Looking for a team that can help bring a gravity well demonstration to life! Talk to David if you're interested in helping!

- **Star Parties:** We have ones on: March 1st at Rio Rico Elementary, March 12th at Sewell Elementary, and April 25th at Donaldson Elementary. Also, February is Love of Reading Month at Lynn-Urquides Elementary! Read a book to a class to get them pumped about science and reading!
- Sign Up sheets will be sent out for each party with more details on time/activities.
- **Volunteers for NOAO's walk-in camera:** This will be during the Tucson Festival of Books. Help out with hosting the camera obscura open house! It will be from 9:30am to 4:30pm on March 2nd or March 3rd. If you're interested contact Connie @ cwalker@noao.edu. This **will** count as doing a star party for the club trip!
- **Spring Trip!** We'll be going to the Very Large Array in Socorro, New Mexico! The potential date is March 29th - 31st. You can go if you are a club member who has 1) paid your dues and 2) volunteered at a star party! The activities we might do include a VLA tour, White Sands National Park, Magdalena Ridge Observatory, Star Party, and a Tour of the telescope museum.
- **Dancing Under the Stars:** Fun collab event with the Arizona Swing Cats! It will be on Saturday Feb. 16th from 6~8pm. There will be a basic swing dance lesson with star gazing! The first 45 minutes will be the lesson and the rest will be a dance social with an open floor! However, this may be rescheduled due to weather. Stay tuned!
- **Astronomers:** We protect, we attack, but most importantly, we snack. The Astro Club snack store is restocked every week. And it's open to everyone, including faculty. Honor system payment.
- **Astronomy Majors Lounge:** If you're an astronomy major, you can use this lounge for all your lounging and soup needs!
- **Pay your dues!** \$10 each semester, funds for trips, snacks, cool activities, shirts, etc. Due it.



