

STEM Society Meeting, June 8, 2010

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Contents

1	The Meeting Location, Time, and Topics	1
2	About the STEM Society and the STEM Society Website	1
3	Meeting Notes	2
4	Palaeobotany, <i>Cecil Lagrande</i>	2
5	Linear Algebra, <i>Jim Emery</i>	3

1 The Meeting Location, Time, and Topics

The June meeting of the STEM Society took place on the second Tuesday of the month, June 8, 2010, at the Trailside Center at 99th and Holmes in Kansas City, Missouri. The starting time was 6PM.

Topics included *Palaeobotany* and *Linear Algebra and Its Applications*.

The Stem Society WEB link is:

<http://stem2.org/>

2 About the STEM Society and the STEM Society Website

STEM is an abbreviation for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. There are about 60 people on the mailing list, although usually a

much smaller group attends any one meeting. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month at the Trailside Center at 99th and Holmes in Kansas City, Missouri. The meetings are open to all. We make presentations, have discussions, and sometimes have scientific demonstrations. The topics range from General Relativity to scientific experiments for kids.

The set of meeting notes may be viewed by going down the list of notes appearing on the front page of the site. These notes contains links to documents, which may be viewed or downloaded by clicking the link. Other documents can be reached by clicking the heading "Documents and Downloads" that appears on the left side of the front page. Then click on "documents." The meeting notes may also be viewed in an archive file in the list of documents. Most of the documents are PDF files. They may be viewed or downloaded to the computer by clicking, provided Adobe Reader is present, or another program capable of reading PDF files. There are often more documents available at the site than are listed under "Documents" because they may not have been added to the documents.htm file yet. The web site is at <http://stem2.org/>

To go directly to the "Documents" list:

<http://stem2.org/je/documents.htm>

3 Meeting Notes

Severe weather perhaps limited attendance.

Cecil Lagrande gave a talk on Palaeobotany. See below for her Excel files.

Jim Emery gave a talk on Linear Algebra. This proved to be much too big a subject for a succinct and transparent summary. We should present little topics in Linear Algebra rather than attempt a complete summary.

4 Palaeobotany, *Cecil Lagrande*

Palaeobotany deals with the recovery and identification of plant remains in fossils: it allows the reconstitution of the evolutionary history of plants and the reconstruction of ancient ecological systems and climate.

Cecil's Excel file is located at

<http://stem2.org/je/paleobotany.xls>

Older versions of Excel may have trouble with this file.

5 Linear Algebra, *Jim Emery*

<http://stem2.org/je/lineara.pdf>