

STEM Society Meeting, July 10, 2012

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1 About the STEM Society and the STEM Society Website

STEM is an abbreviation for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. There are nearly 100 people on the mailing list, although 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. The start time is 6PM. 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:

<http://www.stem2.org/>

Direct to the documents list:

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

Direct to the archive file:

<http://www.stem2.org/je/archive.pdf>

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2 The July Meeting Announcement

The July meeting of the STEM Society will take place on the second Tuesday of the month, July 10, 2012, at the Trailside Center at 99th and Holmes in Kansas City, Missouri. The starting time is 6PM.

Possible Topics are:

(1) The Higgs Mechanism in the Standard Model of Particle Physics, and the Possible Discovery of the Higgs Boson." Because I just thought of this topic, I may not find time to make the kind of presentation I would like to make. But still we can have a discussion on it, and I encourage others to prepare something.

(2) Using MikTeX to Produce Scientific and Mathematical Documents.

(3) Book Reports by Members on Scientific, Mathematical, Technical, and Philosophical Works.

(4) An Update on Microcontroller projects.

(5) An Overview of the Maker Faire Held June 23 - 24 at Union Station.

(6) The Usual Invitation for Surprise Contributions by Members: Talks, Demonstrations, Apparatus, and so on.

3 Installing and Using MikTeX

<http://www.stem2.org/je/miktex.pdf>

4 Chris Sanderson: The Discovery of the Higgs Boson

Cris described the CERN LHC (Large Hadron Collider) and summarized the recent successful search for the Higgs boson.

5 Jim Emery: An Outline for the Study of Particle Physics

<http://www.stem2.org/je/particle.pdf>

<http://www.stem2.org/je/higgs.pdf>

6 Book Reports

Knocking on Heavens Door by Lisa Randall.

This book is an up-to-date book on Particle Physics written for the lay audience, but with some insider technical details and a very good introduction to what science is and is not. The book is available at Linda Hall Library.

7 2012 Maker Faire Projects

<http://www.stem2.org/je/makerfaire2012.pdf>