



American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics

St. Louis Section

Thursday, February 18, 2021

ZOOM Video Conferencing
Link will be sent prior to event

Flying Cannonballs: How NASA Uses Blunt Bodies to Explore the Solar System

With Mark Schoenenberger, LaRC Entry Capsule Lead Aerodynamicist

This talk will review a number of robotic planetary missions that have explored the solar system with an emphasis on the entry capsules that safely delivered probes and rovers to their destinations. A history of entry capsule design will provide background to understand how data from past missions are used with new computational predictions and focused experiments to properly characterize the aerodynamic performance of new vehicles when project budgets are limited.

Mark Schoenenberger obtained his undergraduate degree in aerospace engineering and masters in fluid & thermal sciences at Case Western Reserve University in 1996 and 1998 respectively. Mark has worked at NASA Langley Research Center since then, starting as a contractor and becoming a civil servant in 1999. He has served as lead aerodynamicist for the entry capsules of several Mars missions including the Mars Exploration Rovers (2004), Mars Science Laboratory (2012) and now Mars 2020. He is also working on the next Mars mission that will bring samples collected by Mars 2020 back to Earth.



Schedule

- 7:00 – 7:10 CT Welcome and Introductions
- 7:10 – 8:10 Presentation
- 8:10 – 8:30 Q&A
- 8:30 Closing & Attendance Prize

Tickets

FREE



Reservation by 12 Noon, Thursday, February 18

RSVP using the link or by scanning QR code

<https://form.jotform.com/210256350523142>

For questions, contact [Abby Sevier](#)

