

AIAA GHS October Luncheon with Dr. Martin Weisskopf - **Great Science with a Great Observatory** – on October 23rd, 2019

By Nishanth Goli

The AIAA Greater Huntsville Section conducts monthly lunch and learn session for its members, their guests and non-members. The section invites accomplished individuals to speak on topics that cater to the interest of AIAA members and non-members.

For the October luncheon of the AIAA GHS, the section wanted to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Chandra X-ray. NASA's Chandra X-ray Observatory is the world's most powerful X-ray telescope and helps scientists understand the structure and evolution of the universe.

To facilitate this opportunity, we have invited Dr. Martic C. Weisskopf to give a lecture to our members. Dr. Weisskopf is a Project Scientist for NASA's Chandra X-ray Observatory and Chief Scientist for X-ray Astronomy in the Space Sciences Department at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama. Dr. Weisskopf began his lecture by discussing the beginning of X-ray Observatory's and how they evolved and the research efforts that began in the 1970's to launch the Chandra X-ray telescope in 1999. He showed many images captured from the Chandra X-ray telescope and vowed the audience multiple times. The audience asked him many questions on astronomy, federal funding, and the upcoming Lynx Observatory.

Kord Technologies of Huntsville, AL, graciously offered their meeting room as the venue for the luncheon. The luncheon was well attended with over 25 participants that included AIAA professional members, student members and non-members and Kord employees. Kathleen catering provided catering services for members who purchased lunch.



AIAA GHS Chair, Greg Simpson, presenting the section coin to Dr. Martin C. Weisskopf for his Lecture at the October Luncheon
(Pic Courtesy – Arloe Mayne)



Attendees at the October Luncheon chatting before the start of the lecture
(Pic Courtesy – Arloe Mayne)