

## MAA Leadership from Indiana

Spring, 2020

A few months ago, Jim Daniel – the current Treasurer of the MAA - visited the Indiana Section. In our conversation, he revealed that he was born in Indianapolis and raised in South Bend. He earned his undergraduate degree in mathematics at Wabash College (1962). This got me to thinking about who else from Indiana might have had leadership roles in the Association. This story, really a list of people, is the result of asking that question. Even though it is a list, I think that there is an underlying point or two. First, mathematicians from Indiana Section of the MAA have played vital roles in the Association since its founding (in spite of the section's rocky start in 1915). Second, there are many roles and ways that current members of the section can aspire to which contribute to the larger organization.

As it turns out, Jim is the only Association Treasurer with connections to Indiana.

On the other hand, many MAA presidents have connections to the Hoosier state, and quite a few of them had connections with Purdue University. The MAA's very first president, Earle Raymond Hedrick was born in Union City Indiana. Although not raised in Indiana, he served as MAA president in 1916. R.D. Carmichael, president in 1923, taught at Indiana University from 1911 to 1915 before moving to the University of Illinois. Gail Young Jr., taught at Purdue from 1942 to 1947 after completing his PhD at the University of Texas and before moving to the University of Michigan and eventually on to five other universities. Young was president in 1969-70. Ivan Niven also joined the faculty at Purdue University in 1942 and then, like Young, left. He had accepted a post at the University of Oregon where he spent the rest of his career. He was the MAA's president in 1983-84. Leonard Gillman (no relation) spent 1952 and 1960 at Purdue University before moving to the University of Texas. He was the MAA president in 1987-88. Carl Cowen, president 2005-06, earned both his undergraduate and PhD from Indiana University and is currently on the faculty at IUPUI after a long career at Purdue University. Paul Zorn, president 2011-12, briefly taught at Purdue University before joining the faculty at St. Olaf College.

Two other presidents studied in Indiana at the beginning of their careers. Tom Banchoff, president 1999-2000, earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Notre Dame in 1960. Joe Gallian, president 2007-08, earned his PhD from the University of Notre Dame. He also taught at Notre Dame for a year.

Carmichael, Young, and Cowen also served terms as a First Vice-President, while Joe Gallian and Ed Dubinsky served terms as the Second Vice-President. Ed Dubinsky, who also served as a Second Vice-President, was on the faculty at Purdue University for more than a decade – yet another Purdue connection!

I have written other essays about Lowell Beineke, from Indiana-Purdue Fort Wayne, and Underwood Dudley, from DePauw University. They were both editors of the *College Mathematics Journal*. Lowell 2004-2009, and Underwood 1999-2003. Paul Zorn, mentioned already above, was editor of *Mathematics Magazine* 1996-2000.

Paul Halmos, who taught at Indiana University from 1969 to 1986, served as editor of the *American Mathematical Monthly* from 1982 to 1986. John Ewing, at Indiana University 1973-1995, was editor of the *Monthly* 1992-1996 and Harley Flanders, at Purdue in 1960, was editor of *Monthly* 1969-1973.

Lastly, Steve Carlson, who taught at Rose Hulman Institute of Technology, and I have served as chairs of the Committee on Sections.