the
two-year college mathematics journal

Dear Section Officers and Governors:

Let me introduce myself, I am Calvin Lathan, Editor of the TWO-YEAR COLLEGE MATHEMATICS JOURNAL.

I would like to make you more aware of the JOURNAL and in turn, I hope you will make your section members more aware of the TYCMJ.

Beginning in January 1976, the TWO-YEAR COLLEGE MATHEMATICS JOURNAL will become an "official journal" of the MAA, along with the MONTHLY, containing essential official news and notices about MAA affairs. Members may choose either the TYCMJ OR MONTHLY or both. Many of your potentially new members should be more aware of this new option.

At the present time, this quarterly magazine is available to MAA members for $5.00 per year and it is available to "new" community members at NO additional cost.

Let me commence to introduce you to the TWO-YEAR COLLEGE MATHEMATICS JOURNAL by quoting from the inside cover of the TYCMJ:

> "The TWO-YEAR COLLEGE MATHEMATICS JOURNAL has been created to provide a communication forum for mathematicians interested and involved in the curricular and pedagogical problems of two-year colleges. They will contribute most of the articles. It is our hope, however, that all mathematicians interested in such problems, whether they teach at secondary, two or four year institutions, will use the JOURNAL to communicate their ideas.
>
> The JOURNAL'S policy is to publish articles that relate to curriculum and teaching as outlined in the Table of Contents. This Table of Contents has been designed specifically to encourage the broadest possible participation and representation. The editorial board is solely responsible for the selection of articles."

I would urge each of you to invite members of your section to write an article for the Journal. Even though they may never have submitted an article to a journal, they should not be hesitant.

"Articles by all interested persons are welcomed. Manuscripts must be legibly typewritten, double-spaced, with wide margins. The original and three copies should be submitted, along with the author's full address to:

Professor Calvin A. Lathan
Department of Mathematics
Monroe Community College
Rochester, New York 14623

Every article received will be acknowleged immediately and the editorial board will notify the author of its decision soon after."

May I add that you may not be interested in every article that is published in each issue of the JOURNAL. Few people are. The point is that we try to feature articles that may be of interest to diverse groups, and we hope that you will enjoy one or two of them. For instance, in the most recent issue there is a most interesting article about Fibonacci which can be read and enjoyed by anyone. We also try to feature one or two mathematical articles which take some effort on your part to read.

In an attempt to satisfy the diverse interests that exist at most two-year colleges, the JOURNAL contains the following special sections:

1. PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS: Readers are urged to participate actively in this section by submitting problems believed to be new and which may arise in connection with the various mathematics courses offered in the two-year colleges. Since there exists a large variety of such courses, a wide latitude in the types of problems and their degrees of difficulty can be expected.
   All proposed problems and solutions should be typed or printed neatly on separate signed sheets of paper and mailed to:

   Professor Erwin Just
   Department of Mathematics
   Bronx Community College
   181st Street and University Avenue
   Bronx, New York 10453

   The Associate Editor of this section is Professor Samuel Greenspan of Bronx Community College.

2. NEWS AND NOTICES: In this section, we report projects, experiments and surveys, as well as other professional activities (awards, appointments, promotions) of interest to the two-year college mathematics community.

   The activities may either be completed ones - in which case we would report its accomplishments and shortcomings - or projected studies - in which case we would publish news of its purpose and design.

   The column itself is written by the editors, and the information need not be submitted in a form ready for publication. Be sure to include your name and address so that we can adequately credit our sources. Send information for the column to:

   Professor William Chinn
   City College of San Francisco
   539-29th Avenue
   San Francisco, California 94121

3. <u>REVIEWS</u>: Our readers are sincerely invited to submit reviews of two-year college level mathematics textbooks. We especially welcome reviews that are based on classroom use and that reflects student reaction to the text. Reviews of supplementary texts and materials for individual study are also welcome. Send reviews to:

Professor June P. Wood, Editor
Professor Betty J. Hinman, Associate Editor
Book Review Editor
Downtown College, University of Houston
No. 1 Main Street
Houston, Texas 77002

The following guidelines are suggested so that reviews will cover the points of information most frequently requested by and most useful to our readers. The list is not intended to be all-inclusive nor should the items given necessarily be covered in the order listed. Each review should be headed by title of book, edition, authors, publisher, and date of publication.

1. General scope of text, including brief summary of topics covered.
2. Level of background required for students using the text.
3. Course or courses for which the text is useful.
4. Statement of the reviewer's use (or non-use) of the text in the classroom.
5. Outstanding features, pedagogical or mathematical.
6. Deficiencies, if any.
7. Student reaction.

4. <u>CLASSROOM NOTES</u>: An illuminating comment, a perceptive analogy, an intriguing pendant inquiry, a focal statement by a student or teacher, are cardinal examples of classroom notes. These should be nurtured, cultivated, discussed and presented to your colleagues in the two-year colleges.

Notes should convey their messages effectively with minimal exposition and, when needed, suitable illustrations. Faculty and students are invited to submit classroom notes for editorial consideration to:
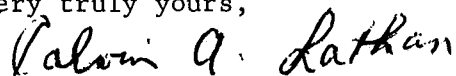
Professor Ralph Mansfield
The Loop College
10226 S. Hoyne Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60643

5. <u>COMPUTER CORNER</u>: The purpose of the "Computer Corner" is to provide readers an opportunity to share mathematically-related problems which can be demonstrated or solved using a computer. The computer programs accompanying the problem should be short and as simple as possible. Be sure to include with your problem a <u>listing of the computer program</u> and a <u>successful computer run</u> and output. All problems and computer solutions should be sent to:

Professor Gary Bitter
Arizona State University
Tempe, Arizona 85281

Thank you for the opportunity to acquaint you with the JOURNAL.

Very truly yours,

Calvin A. Lathan

Calvin A. Lathan, Editor-in-Chief
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