The MATHEMATICAL ASSOCIATION of AMERICA

1529 Eighteenth Street, N.W. • Washington, D.C. 20036 • (202) 387-5200

Edgar H. Vaughn Building Dolciani Mathematical Center April 29, 1981

TO: Arnold Adelberg

A.M. Fink

Edward Hill

Robert V. Hogg

James Peake William Waltmann

I enjoyed your hospitality on the occasion of my visit to your section and applaud your efforts to make the section more active as well as more interesting and attractive to the membership. It is clear your section is making good progress in revitalizing itself. There was good verve at the meeting.

In thinking over the issues relevant to your next meeting, I suggest you consider inviting two or three of the Iowa NCTM leaders like Marilyn Zweng who are also MAA members to organize some special panels, talks and other activities for your next spring meeting. They can be at the interface of high schools and colleges, for example. The meeting probably should be at least two weeks away from the national NCTM meeting, April 14-16, and also from the Iowa NCTM meeting in February. You should consider publicizing it on math and math education departmental bulletin boards throughout the state. You should feel free to ask the national MAA office for additional funds (up to \$300) if you can use them. For example, you might use such funds to pay expenses for Shirley Hill of the University of Missouri at Kansas City, the immediate past president of NCTM to talk at the meeting. She is also an MAA member. Probably member and non-member registration fees should be the same (perhaps they already are).

Most other sections I have visited that have a Friday afternoon-Saturday morning schedule also have a social event (e.g., a beer party) Friday evening. It may be Dutch treat or financed from dues or partially from MAA funds or by local organizers or a combination. It is something which helps make Friday-Saturday attendance attractive to some people. It can be announced or prearranged to be in a Pizza Hut or some such place and can be quite informal.

We at the national office will be glad to help in any way we can and, of course, will try to provide an officer as a speaker. I had the impression that most of the invited talks this year were too mathematical for the usual NCTM types who are more interested in educational issues. The Saturday afternoon Panel on Curricular Matters was first rate.

Please understand these comments are suggestions and offers only. We're trying to be helpful, not prescriptive.

Good luck.

R.D. Anderson President, MAA

RDA/nw

CC: David P. Roselle