

Minutes of the Section Officers Meeting
August 9, 1983. 2:30 p.m.
SUNY at Albany

A meeting of the MAA Section officers was held at 2:30 p.m. on August 9, 1983, in the Squire Room of the Ramada Inn in Albany, New York. Representatives of 27 Sections attended this meeting. Professor S. Will Hahn, Chairman of the Association's Committee on Sections, presided.

Present at the meeting to bring greetings from the Association were MAA President Ivan Niven, MAA Secretary-elect Kenneth Ross, and Executive Director Alfred B. Willcox.

Prof. Hahn reported that in 1982 the MAA National Office's subsidy to the Section officers meeting represented approximately \$5,645.

Professor Niven reported briefly on the new Certificate for Meritorious Service which is to be presented by MAA Sections in recognition of service to the Sections. In 1984 the following five Sections will be authorized to award this Certificate: Indiana, Louisiana-Mississippi, Nebraska, Ohio, and Southeastern. Professor Niven reminded the officers that the awards must be approved by a vote of the Board of Governors during the annual meeting preceding the bestowing of the certificate at a summer meeting. If a winner cannot attend a summer meeting of the Association, however, a Certificate may be awarded at the next Section meeting following approval by the Board. The Washington office will make available information concerning the Certificates in a mailing to Section Chairmen and Secretaries.

Dr. Willcox reminded the officers of the Fund for Aid to Sections and invited them to solicit funds for worthy Sectional projects.

The MAA Secretary-elect, Professor Kenneth Ross, as well as the following members of the Committee on Sections were introduced: Yousef Alavi, Barbara Faires, David Ballew, and Glenn Johnston. Maureen Callanan, Dr. Willcox's secretary, was also introduced.

The Annual Section Reports were discussed by Professor Ballew who made the following observations: Many of the Sections sponsored student paper sessions and all of those Sections considered the sessions a success. A list of recommended speakers is available from Professor Ballew for Section officers planning meeting programs. Several Sections reported breakfast gatherings at meetings which were enjoyable and productive, particularly among institutional representatives. Many Sections reported under-utilization of secondary school lecturer programs, and once again, the Section reports revealed a lack of support by Ph.D. granting institutions for MAA activities.

Professor Donald Robinson reported on his experience in organizing an initial student paper session. The organizer contacted math club advisors to solicit papers. All of the 7 university and 1 high school student papers were considered of good quality. Three of the papers were awarded prizes. Prof. Robinson noted that the criteria for prizes were not publicized to the students and noted that a Section may decide not to inform the students that they are being considered for awards. Professor Hahn recommended that Sections provide incentives for student attendance in the form of free housing or picnics. Perhaps Sections should consider joint meetings with college mathematics clubs to ensure good student attendance.

Professor John Tilley reported on the secondary lectureship program in the Louisiana-Mississippi Section. First a questionnaire to all high school chairmen in the two-state area was mailed. The questionnaire asked how many secondary lectureship program brochures the high school wanted, and the questionnaire also specified that at least a \$20 contribution to the program would be necessary if the program were to be used by a high school. Prof. Tilley pointed out that the brochures were "piggyback" mailed with High School Contest materials to schools in order to save postage. Professor Tilley expressed disappointment in the lack of response to the program but hopes that there may be more interest next year.

Professor Richard Little reported on the very successful "long short course" of the Ohio Section. He acknowledged the help of GTE's \$5,000 grant to the project and noted that industry participants could have been charged much more than the \$30 fee with no ill effect on participation.

Professor Douglas Nance discussed the difficulties involved in sponsoring short courses. Although the Michigan Section has sponsored four successful short courses, Prof. Nance pointed out that host institutions must bear costs oftentimes in the neighborhood of \$2,000-\$4,000, and that obtaining the required number of personnel to run a short course is difficult.

Professor Enneking was not present to report on the Pacific Northwest's pre-meeting short course, but several officers had heard that it was quite successful. Officers from large Sections pointed out the advantage of pre-meeting short courses which reduce long distance traveling for members.

The Northeastern Section reported that microcomputers are of great interest at meetings and that workshops on microcomputers may be expanded to MAA mini-courses.

Professor Donald Hill of the Florida Section reported on the Remedial/Developmental Mathematics Conference which was held prior to a Florida Section meeting. The results of this conference were published by the Section, and the Section considers it a very successful project.

Professor Ross noted in reference to enlisting the help of recommended professors to assist in Section activities and short courses that a letter from either the President or the Secretary of the Association to a professor's chairman might be of value in obtaining home institution support for participating department members.

The possibility of Section newsletters as vehicles for would-be donors and receivers of MAA and other mathematical journal collections was discussed at large. Many agreed that the listing of donors' names and addresses would be a service to the Section and would involve no extra work for the newsletter editor. Representatives were asked to discuss this with their newsletter editors.

It was agreed that another "informal" January meeting of Section officers would be welcomed.

Professor Hahn closed the meeting by asking that advice, criticism, and/or praise was always welcomed by the Committee on Sections on all aspects of MAA Section life as well as on the programs for Section Officer Meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:30 p.m.

Distribution List: Official Section Reps, Committee on Sections, Professors Niven, Ross, Hill, Drs. Roselle, Sward, and Willcox.
CC: Section Chairmen and Secretaries

Official Representatives to Section Officers' Meeting
 Albany -- August 9, 1983

<u>Section</u>	<u>Name and Address</u>	<u>Sect. Office</u>
Allegheny Mtn.	Barbara Faires Westminster College, New Wilmington PA 16142	Chairman-Elect
E. Pa./Del.	Bing Wong Wilkes College, Wilkes-Barre PA 18766	President
Florida	David L. Sherry Univ. of West Florida, Pensacola FL 32504	Pres.-Elect
Illinois	Ronald Shelton Millikin Univ., Decatur IL 62522	Chairman
Indiana	Paul M. Harms Taylor Univ., Upland IN 46989	Chairman
Intermountain	Donald W. Robinson Brigham Young Univ., Provo UT 84602	Chairman
Iowa	(No Representative)	
Kansas	Richard S. Rempel Bethel College, North Newton KS 67117	Chmn.-Elect
Kentucky	Peter Moore No. Kentucky Univ., Highland Hgts. 41076	Chairman
La/Miss	John L. Tilley PO Drawer MA, Mississippi St. MS 39762	Sec/Treas
Md/DC/Va	Howard Penn U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis MD 21402	Chairman
Metro NY	Lily Christ 15 Tilton Dr., Freehold NJ 07728	Past Chmn.
Michigan	Douglas W. Nance Central Mich. Univ., Mt. Pleasant MI 48859	Sec/Treas
Missouri	Victor Gummertsheimer SE Missouri St. Univ., Cape Girardeau MO 63701	President
Nebraska	Gerald Johnson U. of Nebraska, Lincoln NE 68588	Governor
New Jersey	(No Representative)	
North Central	Sabra Anderson U. of Minn at Duluth, Duluth 55812	Past Pres.

Northeastern	James E. Ward Bowdoin College, Brunswick ME 04011	Chairman
No. Calif.	Michael Thibodeaux Menlo College, Menlo Park CA 94025	Chairman
Ohio	Richard Little Baldwin-Wallace College, Berea OH 44017	Chairman
Okla/Ark	Jeanne Agnew Okla. St. Univ., Stillwater OK 74078	(n)
Pacific NW	Marjorie Enneking Portland State Univ., Portland OR 97219	President
Rocky Mtn.	Carl Kerns Mesa College, Grand Junction CO 81501	Chairman
Seaway	Kenneth Wooster SUC at Cortland, Cortland NY 13045	First V-Ch.
Southeastern	Isaac S. Metts The Citadel, Charleston SC 29404	Chairman
So. Calif.	Michael Hoffman Cal. St. Univ. at LA, Los Angeles 90032	Past Chmn.
Southwestern	Elbert A. Walker New Mexico St. Univ., Las Cruces NM 88003	(?)
Texas	Glen Mattingly Sam Houston SU, Huntsville TX 77341	Sec/Treas
Wisconsin	Richard L. Poss St. Norbert Coll, West De Pere WI 54115	Chairman

(NOTE: This is the roster of those who actually attended the meeting.)