



April Meeting of the Metropolitan New York Section

Source: *The American Mathematical Monthly*, Vol. 70, No. 10, (Dec., 1963), pp. 1120-1121

Published by: Mathematical Association of America

Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/2312871>

Accessed: 10/04/2008 10:04

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Mr. Edward Rayher, Central High School, Paterson, New Jersey, has been appointed Assistant Professor at Hartwick College.

Assistant Professor R. J. Roth, University of Kentucky, has been appointed Professor at the University of South Florida.

Lt. Col. W. G. Saunders, Virginia Military Institute, has been promoted to Colonel and Professor of Mathematics.

Mr. C. P. Seguin, Beloit College, has been promoted to Assistant Professor.

Mr. H. K. Stumpff, University of New Mexico, has been appointed Assistant Professor at Central Missouri State College.

Dr. D. H. Trahan, University of Pittsburgh, will be a Lecturer in Mathematics under a Fulbright award at University College, Galway, Ireland during the academic year 1963-64.

Dr. D. R. Traylor, Auburn University, has been appointed Assistant Professor at the University of Houston.

Assistant Professor R. G. Van Meter, Geneva College, has been appointed Associate Professor at Allegheny College.

Assistant Professor Eugene Wermer, Radford College, has been appointed Assistant Professor at Norwich University.

Sister Mariola Dobbin, Professor Emerita of Rosary College, died on August 12, 1963. She was a charter member of the Association.

PRELIMINARY ACTUARIAL EXAMINATIONS PRIZE AWARDS

The winners of the prize awards offered by the Society of Actuaries to the five undergraduates ranking highest on the score of the General Mathematics Examination of the May 1963 Preliminary Actuarial Examinations are as follows: The first prize of \$200 was awarded to Ralph E. Walde of the University of Minnesota. Additional prizes of \$100 each went to Beverly D. Causey of Princeton University; James H. Foster of the University of Notre Dame; Michael J. Razar of Harvard University; and Mark G. Tanenbaum of Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Information concerning the Preliminary Actuarial Examinations can be obtained from the Society of Actuaries, 208 South LaSalle Street, Chicago 4, Illinois.

THE MATHEMATICAL ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Official Reports and Communications

APRIL MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN NEW YORK SECTION

The twenty-second annual meeting of the Metropolitan New York Section of the Mathematical Association of America was held at Brooklyn College on April 27, 1963. Dr. Francis P. Kilcoyne, Dean of Administration, Brooklyn College, welcomed the gathering. Professor Abraham Schwartz, Collegiate Vice-Chairman of the Section, presided at the morning session and Mr. Lester Schlumpf, High School Vice-Chairman, presided at the afternoon session. One hundred eighteen persons, including fifty-nine members of the Association, attended the meeting.

Professor Jules P. Russell, Chairman of the Section, presided at the business meeting. Professor Charles T. Salkind announced the names of the local winners in the mathematics contest sponsored by the Mathematical Association of America and the Society of Actuaries. Several of these winners were present and were introduced to the gathering.

Professor Salkind then gave reports as Chairman of the Contest Committee and as Governor of the Section. Reports were also presented by the Treasurer, Mr. Aaron Shapiro, and by Professor James N. Eastham, Chairman of the Speakers' Bureau. The following officers were elected: Chairman, Professor Abraham Schwartz, The City College; Vice-Chairmen, Professor Walter Cassidy, St. John's University and Rev. Timothy Reardon, S. J., Fordham Preparatory School; Secretary, Professor Mary P. Dolciani, Hunter College; Treasurer, Mr. Aaron Shapiro, Midwood High School.

The following papers were presented at the meeting:

1. *Affine Geometry via Parallel Projections*, by Professor Howard Levi, Hunter College.

Plane affine geometry over an arbitrary field (not necessarily commutative) is derived from a system of four axioms. Using the first three, parallel projection from a line to a line is defined, and it is proved that if A, B, A' , and B' are points with $A \neq B$ and $A' \neq B'$ then there is a composition of parallel projections which sends A to A' and B to B' . The fourth axiom asserts that this transformation is unique. Appropriate modifications of these axioms, using perspectivities rather than parallel projections, yield a system from which projective plane geometry can be derived. In this case the fourth axiom becomes the fundamental theorem of projective geometry and the field obtained is necessarily commutative.

2. *Unreal Mathematics in the Real World*, by Dr. Harold N. Shapiro, Systems Research Group, Inc.

3. *Mathematicians in the Peace Corps*, by Mr. Samuel F. Babbitt, Director, University Division, Office of Public Affairs of the Peace Corps.

MARY P. DOLCIANI, *Secretary*

JUNE MEETING OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST SECTION

The Annual Meeting of the Pacific Northwest Section of the Mathematical Association of America was held at Western Washington State College, Bellingham, Washington, on June 21, 1963. It was attended by 78 persons. The program was divided into four sessions, two in the morning and two in the afternoon. These were moderated, respectively, by the following session chairmen: Professor Joseph Hashisaki, Western State College; Professor R. E. Gaskell, Oregon State University; Professor R. H. Bing, University of Wisconsin; and Professor J. R. Byrne, Portland State College. Luncheon was held in the Commons and was followed by a brief business meeting under the chairmanship of President Gaskell. The following officers were elected for the following year: President, Professor K. S. Ghent, University of Oregon; Vice-President, Professor H. E. Chrestenson, Reed College; Secretary-Treasurer, Professor L. H. McFarlan, University of Washington.

Professor Hans Samelson of Stanford University was the guest speaker. The title of his speech was "Vector Fields on Spheres."

The following papers were presented at the meeting:

1. *On the approximation of the value of the elliptic integral*, by Mr. Terry Warren, Queen Anne High School, Seattle, Washington.

An elliptic integral of the first kind $F(k, \phi)$ can be transformed into a similar integral $F(k_1, \phi)$ where k_1 exceeds k and is still less than 1. It was proven that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} k_n = 1$. The integral with modulus 1 is easily evaluated. The original integral can be transformed iteratively to yield a modulus near 1 and then evaluated approximately by using $k = 1$.

2. *Fibonacci Nim*, by Mr. Michael Whinihen, Medford High School, Medford, Oregon.

A form of Nim for which the strategy was dependent on the Fibonacci number system was proposed by Dr. R. E. Gaskell. As a consequence, the strategy for the determination of safe and unsafe positions became quite simple. Proofs of the strategy consisted in showing that safe positions can only be made unsafe and that unsafe positions could always be made safe.

3. *The pre-graduate training program, CUPM*, by Professor Ivan Niven, University of Oregon.