

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

We are looking forward to the Missouri Section Meeting of the MAA on Friday and Saturday, April 4th and 5th, at Washington University in St. Louis. Information and registration forms are available at the meeting web page located at <http://math.wustl.edu/~feres/maa.html> or at the section web page <http://momaa.math.umr.edu>. Maps, tours, directions, and parking information are located at http://math.wustl.edu/~feres/maa_directions.html.

Ronald L. Graham, President of the MAA, will be the featured MAA speaker on April 4th, and he will be speaking on "Searching for the Shortest Network." **Edward Burger** of Williams College and the Stanislaw M. Ulam Visiting Professor, University of Colorado at Boulder, will be our featured speaker on April 5th discussing "How to Always Win at Limbo." **Robert Sheets**, the 2002 recipient of the MAA Missouri Section Distinguished Teaching Award, will deliver the banquet address, on April 4th.

Students are not required to pay a registration fee for the meeting and pay a reduced fee for the banquet. Students are encouraged, however, to submit registration forms to help in planning for the meeting. We hope to see many students be able to attend.

Spring Meeting of the Missouri Section of the MAA Washington University

Thursday, April 3, 2003

7:30 - 10:00 PM Collegiate Mathematics Competition

Friday, April 4, 2003

8:30 - 11:00 AM Collegiate Mathematics Competition
 11:00 - 4:00 PM Registration
 1:00 - 2:50 PM Displays, Exhibits, MAA book sale
 1:00 - 2:35 PM Concurrent Sessions
 2:35 - 3:00 PM Break
 3:00 - 3:10 PM Welcome, Edward S. Macias, Executive Vice-Chancellor and Dean of Arts and Sciences
 3:10 - 4:10 PM Invited Address, Ronald L. Graham
 4:20 - 5:15 PM Concurrent Sessions
 6:30 - 8:30 PM Banquet, Speaker, Dr. Robert Sheets, Southeast Missouri State University
 8:30 - 9:30 PM Executive Committee Meeting

Saturday, April 5, 2003

6:15 - 7:00 AM 5k Run/Walk
 7:30 - 8:30 AM Breakfast meetings of Department Chairs and MAA Liaisons
 8:40 - 10:00 AM Registration, Displays, Exhibits, MAA book sale
 8:40 - 9:35 AM Concurrent Sessions
 9:35 - 10:00 AM Break

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10:00 - 11:00 AM MAA Invited Address, Edward Burger
11:00 - 12:00 PM Business Meeting

From the Governor

Vic Gummersheimer, S.E.Mo.St.U.

The Board of Governors met on January 14, 2003, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Baltimore Convention Center. This was the last Board of Governors meeting chaired by president of the MAA, **Ann Watkins**. The next Board meeting will be on July 30 before Mathfest 2003 in Boulder, CO and will be chaired by **Ronald Graham**, the new president of the MAA.

The **next six AMS-MAA Joint Meetings** will be held during January in Phoenix(2004), Atlanta(2005), San Antonio(2006), New Orleans(2007), San Diego(2008), and Washington DC (2009).

Arthur Benjamin and Jennifer Quinn were approved as Editors-elect of *Math Horizons* for a one-year term from January 1, 2003 followed by a five-year term as Editors beginning January 1, 2004. Lowell Beineke was approved as Editor-elect of the *College Mathematics Journal* for a one-year term from January 1, 2003 and as Editor for a five-year term beginning January 1, 2004.

A **new process for the election** of national officers was approved. Members will receive paper ballots with the option to return it by mail or to vote online. This voting method is intended to reduce paper and postage expenses and also to encourage more members to participate in the election. I encourage everyone to vote in the next nation election and to use the online method.

The Board approved the revised *Guidelines for Programs and Departments in Undergraduate Mathematical Sciences*.

To encourage members who are interested in serving on national committees, Governors have been requested to send the names, interests, and special abilities of **potential committee members** to the Secretary. To assist me and the next governor in this task I would ask each member to examine the committees listed on the website www.maa.org and submit their own name or the name of someone in the Missouri Section who would be able to work on a particular committee.

The **six SIGMAA's** of the MAA have proven to be very popular. I encourage you to join the special interest group of your choice.

- Philosophy of Mathematics
- Environmental Mathematics
- Research in Undergraduate Mathematics Education
- Statistics Education
- History of Mathematics
- Business, Industry, and Government

The Board of Governors was pleased to learn of the **\$3,000,000 donation by Paul and Virginia Halmos** for a Conference Center at the national headquarters. See the cover story of the February 2003 *Focus* for more details. The following four paragraphs from the agenda booklet describe the historic significance of the national headquarters buildings and the impact of the Halmos gift.

The Mathematical Association of America occupies three historic buildings in the DuPont Circle area of Washington, DC. The DuPont Circle area was primarily developed in the first quarter of the twentieth century with relatively large row houses, apartments and stately townhomes, many of which remain today. While the majority of the buildings are still in use as residences, the area is home to embassies, national associations, and museums and is well known for a concentration of restaurants of all descriptions. The two buildings which house the MAA offices are located at 1529

and 1527 18th Street. The Edgar H. Vaughn Building, built in 1903, is the former home of Charles Evans Hughes, who served as Secretary of State and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. The George Pfllya Building, built for Dr. Edward Minor Gallaudet, founder of Gallaudet University, was built in 1905. These buildings have been restored and renovated and currently serve as office space which beautifully preserves the historic context of the buildings. The third building in the complex is the Carriage House, built at the turn of the 20th century. Together they comprise the Dolciani Mathematical Center, named for Mary P. Dolciani.

The Carriage House is an historic two-story brick building with seven rooms. It fronts on Church Street, a street of elegant townhomes. The building is approximately 32' by 41', with a total area of 2,652 square feet. It has been used for storage, mail operations, and rental office space. This building requires extensive renovation but has been maintained so that its sturdy all-brick construction is in good condition. Original features, such as the swinging wooden carriage door, are still in evidence.

The MAA proposes to restore the exterior of the Carriage House to its former charm and to completely renovate the interior to serve as a modern conference center. The plan calls for a large meeting room to accommodate up to sixty people on one floor and small breakout, seminar rooms on the other. There will be elevator access to the second floor and handicap access to all rooms and facilities.

The MAA frequently holds mathematical meetings for MAA groups as well as meetings of other mathematical organizations. For meetings held in the present office space, facilities are often cramped and most use is limited to weekends. Many meetings and workshops held by the MAA in the DC area must be held at hotels. Each summer, the MAA holds faculty workshops at sites around the country. With a conference center the MAA can host many of these meetings comfortably at its headquarters location. The MAA will be able to sponsor colloquia and seminars and offer both facilities and small meetings planning for other mathematical programs. With the renovation of the Carriage House, the MAA can realize its dream to create a true mathematical center in the heart of the nation's capital.

Preparing Mathematicians to Educate Teachers, PMET, is a new MAA program to improve the preparation of the nation's mathematics teachers by mathematics faculty. For more details and the workshop schedule for this important program please go to <http://www.maa.org/pmet> .

Don Albers, the Associate Executive Director of the **Publications and Electronic Services Department**, reported that two dozen new books were published in 2002. Online sales through Amazon remain strong at about \$10,000 per month. BarnesandNoble.com has just agreed to carry MAA titles and the new MAA web site software will soon allow book sales directly from the MAA homepage at www.maa.org.

I encourage you to vote in the upcoming election for the next Governor of the Missouri section who will take office on July 1, 2003. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as Governor for these three years.

Missouri MAA Collegiate Mathematics Competition

The eighth Missouri MAA Collegiate Mathematics Competition will be held Thursday, April 3, 2003 and Friday, April 4, 2003 on the campus of the Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. Any college or university in the state of Missouri can send up to two official teams of 1-3 undergraduates each to compete in the competition. Unofficial teams will be allowed to compete, depending on the amount of available space, but will not be eligible for awards. They will also be charged the normal registration fee. A one-person team will only be allowed in the competition if this person is his or her college's only representative in the competition. A completed registration form for each team must be sent one week before the competition begins. Late registration will be accepted only if there is room for the team in the competition. The registration form can be found on the MAA Missouri Section web page at http://momaa.math.umn.edu/forms/contest_registration_form.html or at the URL <http://www.math-cs.cmsu.edu/~curtisc/contest.html>.

No calculators or computers or reference material can be used during the competition. The contest will consist of challenging mathematical problems, comparable but not quite as difficult as the Putnam Exam. The Putnam Exam is a national exam sponsored by the MAA and given to outstanding college mathematics students. Previous Putnam Exams can be found in past October issues of the American Mathematical Monthly.

The first session will begin on Thursday, April 3rd, at 7:30 pm and last until 10 pm and will consist of 5 problems for each team to solve. The second session will begin on Friday, April 4th, at 8:30 am and will end at 11 am. It will also contain an additional 5 problems. Each problem will be worth 10 points and will be scored by a committee of the MAA Missouri section. The committee consists of the following members: Mangho Ahuja (SEMSU), Jim Bruening (SEMSU), Hang Chen (CMSU), Curtis Cooper (CMSU), Joseph B. Dence (UMSL), Leon Hall (UMR), and Don Vestal (MWSC). Some partial credit may be earned for substantially correct work toward a solution to the problem.

There will be a registration fee of \$40 per team. A complementary continental breakfast will precede the Friday morning competition. Each team member and the faculty sponsor are invited to a Friday pizza party at 11:30 am. Each team member is also invited to be a guest at the MAA Missouri Section Banquet on Friday night. At that time, the results of the competition will be announced. A traveling trophy will be awarded to the first place team. In addition, each member of the first place team will receive a plaque. Certificates will also be given to each participant in the competition.

Any questions about the competition can be sent to

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Professional Enhancement Program (PREP)

The MAA's Professional Enhancement Program (PREP) will offer a wide variety of workshops during summer 2003. PREP workshops offer you the chance to spend a few days exploring topics of mutual interest with colleagues from other institutions, with experienced leaders to guide the group towards a deeper understanding and broader perspective. Most of the cost of attending a PREP workshop is covered by the program, so what are you waiting for? Visit the PREP web site, <http://www.maa.org/prep> to see this year's schedule and to obtain registration materials.

Lodging for the 2003 Spring Meeting of the Missouri Section of MAA

The following hotels will hold, for a limited time, rooms at a special rate for the participants of the MAA meeting.

- **Cheshire Lodge**

\$70.00 single occupancy, \$80.00 double, plus taxes.
Requires confirmation no later than March 3, 2003.

6300 Clayton Rd
St Louis, MO 63117
Daily 24 hours
Tel: (314) 647-7300
Fax: (314) 647-9819
Email: tony@cheshirelodge.com

- **Best Western Inn at the Park**

\$73.00 single occupancy, \$83.00 double, plus taxes.
Requires confirmation no later than March 15, 2003.

4630 Lindell Boulevard
St. Louis, Missouri 63108
314-367-7500
Toll Free Reservations: 1-800-373-7501
Fax: 314-367-9015

- **Red Roof Inn**

\$65.99, plus taxes.
Requires confirmation no later than March 4, 2003.

5823 Wilson Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63110
Inn Phone: (314) 645-0101
Inn Fax: (314) 645-0119

A sample of other hotels can be found at <http://www.wustl.edu/stlouis/lodging.html>.