

MINUTES FOR THE BUSINESS MEETING
OKLAHOMA-ARKANSAS SECTION
MAA
April 1, 2000
Arkansas Tech University

The meeting was called to order by Chair, **V. Lee Turner**, Southern Nazarene University, at 9:45 a. m. on Saturday morning April 1, 2000. There were approximately 40 members present.

The minutes of the business meeting for 1999 were approved. Secretary-Treasurer, **Robert McMillan**, Oklahoma Christian University, gave the treasurer's report covering the period from 3/17/99 to 3/18/00. He gave an up-to-date report of assets. They are:

Operational Account	\$5,951.46
N. A. Court Lecture Fund	\$4,702.55
CD@5.32% APY, (Maturity 2/01)	\$12,462.06
Faculty Workshop Savings	\$2,269.52
<u>Student Workshop Savings</u>	<u>\$623.10</u>
Total:	\$26,008.69

The Treasurer's Report shows an increase of \$659.74 from last year's report. This is after expenses for last year's meeting, expenses up to 3/18/00, and receipts and interest added in up to 3/18/00 for all accounts. Several expenses did not show up on this report such as printing and newsletter expenses because the Section had not been billed as of the above date. With those expenses added we would have shown a decrease in total assets. Expenses for last year totaled \$2,771.11. The Treasurer's Report was approved.

The Governor of our Section, **John Watson**, Arkansas Tech University, delivered his first report as our new governor. He attended both meetings of the governors. One in Providence RI during August 1999 and the other in Washington DC in January 2000. At the August meeting he reports the following:

1. Approval of Dr. Tina Straley to replace Marcia Sward as Executive Director of the MAA.
2. Financial status of MAA is good; \$374,455 surplus in 1998 fund.
3. Concern about decreasing membership; however the board of governors passed a budget for 2000 which included a dues increase of 4%.
4. Lengthy discussion about the MAA mission statement; no changes made; "to advance the mathematical sciences, especially at the collegiate level".
5. Approved the concept of SIGMAA – special interest groups in the MAA; during the fall the first SIGMAA was organized – ARUME – Association for Research in Undergraduate Mathematics".

6. Approval of **Stanley Eliason**, University of Oklahoma, for the OK-AR Section meritorious service award.

The following was reported at the January meeting:

1. He did not receive an agenda since there were not enough to go around. He has requested a copy but has not received it at this point.

2. A 4% dues increase for 2001, but you can anticipate a restructuring of the dues matrix. You may have seen an email from a committee studying dues and the decline in membership. He encouraged members to respond or pass any ideas on to him.

3. The 2000 MAA budget: \$4.7 million balanced.

4. Got a preview of the web site dedicated to math awareness; check this out on the display on this floor.

5. Encourage people to go to Mathfest this summer at UCLA, August 3-5; AMS meeting “Mathematical Challenges of the 21st Century” follow August 6 – 12, also at UCLA.

David Bridge, University of Central Oklahoma, gave the Chairs/Liaisons Report. There were approximately 35 members present at the luncheon, March 31, 2000. This meeting has over the preceding years given many benefits to the Oklahoma-Arkansas Section. This year the following recommendations were made.

1. Support was shown for Section NExT. This stands for New Experiences in Teaching and is designed for beginning college and university math teachers. The MAA had supported this project for several years now and the idea of moving it to the sections is proposed. A person is needed to coordinate activities for the section. No action was taken.

2. A proposal to drop the OK-AR High School Lecture Program. This program in the last few years has been viewed as a good idea that just didn’t work. Other ideas were suggested to replace this program. One was for individual departments and/or faculty to encourage contact between high school teachers/students and university teachers through student teachers, workshops, and state math meetings. It was also suggested that the Public Information Officer for the OK-AR Section could have some good input in this area. **David Boliver**, University of Central Oklahoma, agreed to work as PIF in the coming year

3. **Robert McMillan**, the current treasurer, suggested a need for a review of how funds are disbursed in the section. He pointed out that no one currently checks on the funds except by way of the treasurer’s report in the business meeting. With the growth of the funds in recent years we need a system of checks and balances to make sure funds are being disbursed in a correct and rightful manner as well as protecting the ones responsible for the funds. The matter was referred to the Executive Committee. Action is to be taken and recommendations to be made at next year’s meeting.

Mike Keisler, Arkansas Tech University, gave the Faculty Workshop report. He reported we had 28-faculty register for the workshop. Darrel H. Abney from Maysville Community College presented the workshop on, "*Calculator CAS (Computer Algebra Systems) from the Ground Floor Up*". It was well received by those attending and many useful ideas were presented.

Steve Hennigan, Quachita Baptist University, gave the Student Workshop report. He reported we had 13-students register for the workshop. Colm K. Mulcahy from Spelman College presented the workshop on, "*The Curves and Surfaces of the Digital Age*". The students even though they were few in numbers took home many good ideas.

Cassandra Cox, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, gave the student chapter coordinator report. There were nine people in attendance. They discussed how to get students involved with section activities. A chat room for students on the web page was suggested.

Andy Magid, University of Oklahoma, was elected to the N. A. Court Lecture Committee. The members of the 2000-01 committee are:

William Coberly, University of Tulsa, chair,
William Feldman, University of Arkansas, 2-year member,
Andy Magid, University of Oklahoma, 3-year member.

Allan Cochran, University of Arkansas, gave the report on the American High School Math Exams (AHSME) for Arkansas. He handed out a written report. There were 64 high schools participating this year with about 2900 students. This was the first year the test had two different categories, grades 10 and under and grades 11 and 12. Appreciation was extended to Allan for his work in this area.

Dennis Bertholf, Oklahoma State University, gave the report on the AHSME exam for Oklahoma. He also handed out a written report. There were 37 schools participating this year with over 1700 students. Appreciation was extended to Dennis for his work in this area.

Ken Harrelson, Westark College, gave the Newsletter report. He mailed out 525 copies at a cost of \$593.05. He encouraged faculty to get information to him. This year the newsletter had six ads from McGraw-Hill, Houghton-Mifflin, Oklahoma State University, The University of Oklahoma, The University of Tulsa, and The University of Arkansas. These ads contribute \$600 towards the cost of the newsletter. It is the first time in our history that the Newsletter has made money for the Section. Ken receives our accolades.

David Boliver gave the Oklahoma Mathematics Awareness Report. He stated that we are all in the public relations business as far as mathematics is concerned. He encouraged all of us to promote mathematics in every way we can. He gave examples of newspaper articles such as Oklahoma State's program in algebra, Northeastern Oklahoma State's mathematics Ice Cream Social, and the L. Wayne Johnson's Lecture at the University of Central Oklahoma. He thought it would be helpful to have the MAA material about mathematics awareness about a month earlier than we presently get it.

Donna Foss, University of Central Arkansas, gave the Arkansas Mathematics Awareness Report for **Linda Griffith**. She said that Linda was working on a brochure for the High Lecture Program for Arkansas.

The Distinguished Teacher Award for the Oklahoma-Arkansas Section for 2000 was presented at the Banquet to **John Watson**, Arkansas Tech University. **William Durand**, Henderson State University, presented the award. The other members of the selection committee were **Douglas Aichele**, chair, Oklahoma State University, **Walter Kelley**, University of Oklahoma, **Allan Cochran**, University of Arkansas, and **Jim Yates**, University of Central Oklahoma.

David Gardner, Henderson State University, gave the Arkansas Public School Awards report. He stated that there were 250 announcements sent out with 15 nominees for final selection. All of the nominees had excellent credentials for the three awards. The members of the selection committee consisted of **Ed Mosley**, Lyon College, **John Watson**, and chair **David Gardner**. The awards were presented at the Banquet with all Awardees present. They are as follows:

1. Rhonda Shannon, Valley View High School, Jonesboro Public Schools, High School Teacher of the Year, 1999-2000;
2. Beth Maurer, Southwest Middle School, Searcy Public Schools, Middle School Teacher of the Year, 1999-2000;
3. Tracy Keifer, Euper Lane Elementary School, Fort Smith Public Schools, Elementary School Teacher of the Year, 1999-2000.

Sandra Johnson, University of Oklahoma, gave the Oklahoma Public School Awards report. She sent out 175 flyers to math department chairs across the state. She got 39 nominations with 15 finalists. The selection committee consisted of **Gerard East**, Southwestern Oklahoma State University, **Nancy Warden**, University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma, and chair **Sandra Johnson**. The awards were presented at the Banquet with all Awardees present. They are as follows:

1. Alice Ward-Franey, Jenks High School, Jenks Public Schools, High School Teacher of the Year for 1999-2000;
2. Marilyn Howard, The University of Tulsa – University School, Tulsa, Oklahoma. Middle School Teacher of the Year for 1999-2000;
3. Ellen C. Bones, Roosevelt Elementary School, Norman Public Schools, Elementary Teacher of the Year for 1999-2000.

David Boliver and **Carolyn Eoff**, Henderson State University, gave the Department Liaisons Coordinators Report. They expressed appreciation for those serving in this important communication tool. They would like to have liaisons from each college/university in their respective states. Appreciation was also extended to them for serving in this capacity.

Meeting sites and dates for future meetings of the Section were approved. Sites for 2002 and 2003 were selected. The Site Selection Committee consisted of **Darryl Linde**, Northeastern Oklahoma State University, and **Charles Seifert**, University of Central Arkansas. They recommended Henderson State University for 2002 and The University of Tulsa for 2003. Members approved these sites and dates.

2001 Oklahoma Christian University
March 30-31, 2001, Oklahoma City, OK
Contact: Don Leftwich
e-mail: don.leftwich@oc.edu

2002 Henderson State University
April 5-6th, 2002, Arkadelphia, AR
Contact: Debra Coventry
e-mail: coventd@hsu.edu

2003 The University of Tulsa
March 28-29, 2003, Tulsa, OK
Contact: William Coberly
e-mail: coberly@utulsa.edu

The following officers were elected:

Past-Chair: **V. Lee Turner**, Southern Nazarene University
Chair: **Don Carnahan**, Arkansas Tech University
1st Vice-Chair: **Don Leftwich**, Oklahoma Christian University
2nd Vice-Chair: **Debra Coventry**, Henderson State University
Secretary-Treasurer: **Robert McMillan**, Oklahoma Christian University

The Chair asked if there was any new business.

1. Following the recommendation of the Chairs/Liaisons Committee a motion was made to develop a plan for an audit or review of funds. The Executive Committee is to study this matter and come up with a plan to be presented next year. The motion passed.
2. The chair announced the appointment of a Search Committee for a new secretary-treasurer of the section. **Stan Eliason** is to chair this committee with other members being **Ray Hamlett**, Southeastern Oklahoma State University, **David Bridge**, **William Feldman**, University of Arkansas, **Calvin Piston**, John Brown University, and **William Durand**.
3. In connection with the selection of a new secretary-treasurer the Executive Committee recommended looking into the possibility of dividing up some of the duties of the secretary-treasurer. **Robert McMillan** stated that a good division of duties might be one where we have a program director (That is, a person responsible for all the details of the program, coordination, abstracts, printing, etc.) and keep the other duties intact. Division of the secretarial duties from

the treasurer's duties was not thought to be a good idea. A motion was made and passed that the Search Committee above also considers the division of duties. It could be that no division is considered necessary depending on the recommendation of this committee.

4. A new Putnam Plaque was started this year, as the first one was full of names. A decision needed to be made about what to do with the old plaque. A motion was made and passed that we keep the two plaques together. **Robert McMillan** is going to check to see if it is possible to join the two plaques.

5. A question was asked about guidelines for the school awards. There isn't a clear set of guidelines used by both states. The chairs of the award committees, **Sandra Johnson** and **David Gardner**, agreed to draw up a set of common guidelines and report back next year. **Eileen Hargrove**, Oklahoma Baptist University, gave the resolutions committee report:

Be it resolved that the Oklahoma-Arkansas Section of the MAA expresses its thanks to the faculty, staff and administration of Arkansas Tech University for their courteous hospitality in hosting the 62nd annual meeting of the association. Special thanks go to **Don Carnahan** and our banquet chef.

Be it resolved that the Section expresses its appreciation to **John Watson** for his outstanding service in representing the Section as its Governor for the past year. Thanks also to Section officers, Chair, **V. Lee Turner**, 1st Vice-Chair, **Don Carnahan**, and **Robert McMillan**, Secretary-Treasurer of the Section for carrying out the mission of the Section during 1999-2000.

Be it resolved that the Section expresses its gratitude to Colm K. Mulcahy of Spelman College for presenting the interesting and stimulating student workshop on "*Curves and Surfaces of the Digital Age*". Additional appreciation is extended to the Student Workshop Committee for organizing the workshop.

Be it resolved that the Section expresses its gratitude to the Faculty Workshop Committee for organizing the workshop on "*Calculator CAS from the Ground Floor Up*" and to Darrel H. Abney of Maysville Community College for his excellent presentation in the workshop.

Be it resolved that the Section conveys its sincere appreciation to our invited speaker Paul Zorn, for his colorful and stimulating presentation on "*Math Mag Morsels*" and to Michael Aschbacher for his beautiful and inspiring N. A. Court Lecture titled "*Finite Simple Groups*".

Be it resolved that the Section expresses thanks to **David Boliver** and **Linda Griffith** for coordinating math awareness in both states, and to **Allan Cochran** and **Dennis Bertholf** for administering the AHSME exams in Arkansas and Oklahoma. Thanks also to Newsletter editor **Ken Harrelson** for his service to the Section.

Be it resolved that the Section expresses its sincere thanks to the Teacher Award Committees for their selection of outstanding mathematics teachers for the Section to honor. Appreciation is also extended to Department Liaison Coordinators, **David Boliver** and **Carolyn Eoff**, for their help in strengthening lines of communication within the Section.

Be it resolved that the Section expresses thanks to everyone who served the Section on a committee or participated in planning the Annual Meeting.

John Watson gave a summary report on the meeting. There were 155 registered for the meeting, with 5 vendors, and 164 attending the banquet. A drawing was held for two calculators furnished by Texas Instruments. The winners were ***Donna Farrior*** and ***Edith Stillsmoking***.

The meeting adjourned at 11:05 a. m.