



NEWSLETTER

ROCKY MOUNTAIN SECTION

Edited by:

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SECOND (AND LAST) CALL FOR PAPERS

The Annual Spring Meeting of the Rocky Mountain Section will be held at Mesa College in Grand Junction on April 25 and 26, 1985. This will be a Joint Meeting with the Intermountain Section; the first time we have met with them since the division of the Sections in the 1970's. This will be an occasion to meet old friends and new ones and to see what is happening out West.

The Program Co-Chairmen for our Section are Ed Hawkins and Carl Kerns of Mesa, so send your abstracts, ideas, audio-visual needs, etc. to them. Contributed papers are normally limited to fifteen minutes, but if you have special needs, you can negotiate with Carl and Ed. So that the program can be constructed and advertised to the membership, we have a firm deadline of April 1 for abstracts and submissions. Send your material now so that time will not pass you by.

Two Panel Discussion Sessions are planned, one on The Use Of Software And Micro-Computers In Mathematics Courses and a second one on Entrance And Exit Examinations And Their Effect On Mathematics Departments And Courses. The panels are not yet full, so if you are interested in serving or would like to recommend someone, contact Ed or Carl.

Professor Paul Halmos has been contacted and accepted the invitation to speak on Saturday at our Spring Meeting; because of scheduling difficulties, he cannot attend the Friday portion of the meeting. As anyone who has ever heard him will attest, Professor Halmos is a superb speaker whose topics are always interesting and timely. We look forward to hearing him.

STUDENT PAPERS

We will continue our tradition of having student papers presented at the Annual Meeting. Everyone that has been involved with these student papers will testify that it has been a very valuable experience for the students and the advisors. Because it has been difficult to get a student to stand before a group of unknown and frightening faculty members, it is important that you identify prospective students now, start encouraging them, and explain that this activity is important for their professional lives, whether that professional life is academic or industrial. Student presentations can be on research projects, problems that they have solved, reports that they have written or even summer employment; usually the student papers are as good or better than some of the professional papers. The National MAA thinks that this program is so important that they allow us to grant up to three memberships in the MAA or, if the student is already a member, an MAA book of their choice. The students' papers are always enjoyable. Make yourself and your institution stand out!

SPONSOR A STUDENT!

MEETING FOR DEPARTMENT CHAIRS

There have been requests for the opportunity for Department Chairs to get together at the Annual Spring Meeting to discuss current problems and (hopefully) solutions. There will be a luncheon on Friday, April 25, for Chairs preliminary to the beginning of the Spring Meeting. If you have any topics you would recommend be discussed, send them to me at SDSM&T. Nothing formal is planned and topics can be introduced at the luncheon.

SECTION OFFICERS

The Section Officers for the 1985-86 year are:

Chair -----	Stephen Bronn University of Southern Colorado
Chair-Elect-----	Freida Holley Metropolitan State
Program Co-Chairs-----	Ed Hawkins and Carl Kerns Mesa College
Vice-Chair For Two-Year Colleges-----	Marie Ritten National College
Governor-----	Gary Grefsrud Ft. Lewis College
Secretary-Treasurer-----	David Ballew South Dakota School of Mines and Technology

Contact any of these persons with any problems, concerns, complaints, suggestions or complements.

SCHEDULED FUTURE MEETINGS

1986 MEETING-----	MESA COLLEGE
1987 MEETING-----	UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN COLORADO
1988 MEETING-----	JOINT HOSTING BY METRO STATE AND UNIV OF COLO AT DENVER
1989 MEETING-----	FT. LEWIS

Does your institution want to host a meeting? Contact one of the officers.

Seen on a bumper sticker --> Illiterate? Write For Free Information

WORKSHOP ON LINEAR ALGEBRA ON THE PC

Professor Tom Kelley of Metro State is interested in giving a workshop on the teaching of linear algebra using the PC. There will be a slight charge which will cover the cost of the disk (which contains the programs) which you will be able to take home. Tom needs to know how many will be attending so that he can prepare the materials. The sign-up will be on the registration materials which will be sent to you at the end of March. Be thinking about it.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

This year we need to elect a Chair-Elect, Vice-Chair For Two Year Institutions (a two-year term) and a Program Chair. The Nominating Committee is Ed Hawkins (Chair) of Mesa College, Richard Gibbs of Ft. Lewis College and Janet Nichols of the University of Southern Colorado. They would appreciate hearing from those with suggestions or interested in an office for themselves.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS AT BERKELEY

Because the International Congress of Mathematicians will be meeting at Berkeley in early August, there will be no Summer Joint Mathematics Meetings for the MAA and AMS this summer. However, all mathematicians are encouraged to attend this Congress; it is a rare opportunity to host this event in the United States.

National MAA gives partial support to the Section Chair to attend the Summer Meeting so as to attend the Section Officers Meeting; this will also be true this summer. The Rocky Mountain Section Executive Committee has voted to give \$200 to help support the Chair-Elect to attend the International Congress.

SUMMER SHORT COURSE ON DISCRETE MATHEMATICS

Gary Grefsrud and Ft. Lewis College are working to try offering a Summer Short Course in Discrete Mathematics in Durango in late July, 1986. Plans are tentative but moving along. If you are interested in details, contact Gary. If everything fits together, we will have more information in the next Newsletter.

MORE HISTORY OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN SECTION -- MOSTLY STATISTICS

As I mentioned in the last Newsletter, I am trying to write a history of the Rocky Mountain Section in honor of its Seventieth year. The Section was founded in 1917. In my readings and brousing, I have discovered quite a few oddities and statistics that you might find interesting.

The Annual Banquet has long been a tradition as it started with the very first meeting at the University of Colorado in 1917. Until 1931, the host institution presented the banquet free of charge to the membership. At that time, there were formal toasts between the President of the University and the Chair of the Section (fruit juice during Prohibition?) with flowery phrases and wishes for good health and prosperity; perhaps we have lost something there and should consider reinstating this fine old protocol.

In 1920 at the Colorado College Meeting, hotels were advertised at "2 dollars with a bath at the end of the hall." This included breakfast. There are several references to "modern" hotels. Will the Program Chairs please try to find these hotels for our future meetings; travel budgets are getting tight!

The first registration fee was imposed at the 1926 Meeting after considerable debate in 1925 and again in 1926. It was "25 cents" and for the first few years was voluntary; once there was a request that "If you don't pay, don't use the refreshments."

In the sixty-nine years of our Section's existence, there have been 936 papers presented. I attempted to classify these by using their titles and the abstracts (which used to be published in the Monthly) to see what our interests have been; this was quite difficult in many instances and the following accounting should be considered as only approximate.

<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>
Education	199
Analysis	198
Algebra	194
Geometry	102
Applied Math	90
Statistics	66
Computers	36
Recreational Math	16
History	15
Topology	14
Logic	5

There were many more Applied Math papers during the wars than at any other time. Geometry was very popular in the first fifteen years, with Topology having most of its papers in the '50s and '60s. Of course there were very few papers on computers in the '20s and '30s, but it might surprise you to know there was one. Papers on Education, Analysis and Algebra have been fairly uniformly distributed over time.

Eighty-nine institutions, high schools, industries and private individuals have been involved with these papers. The top five institutions and their numbers of representatives are:

<u>INSTITUTION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>
University of Colorado	261
University of Wyoming	95
South Dakota School of Mines	86
Colorado State University	82
Colorado School of Mines	46

The top individual presentors have been:

<u>INDIVIDUAL</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>INDIVIDUAL</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>
Aubrey J. Kempner	31	Louis C. Barrett	17
F. Max Stein	16	Charles Hutchinson	13
Duane A. Porter	13	David Ballew	12
Andrew G. Clark	12	C. H. Sisam	12