



May Meeting of the Rocky Mountain Section

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THE MATHEMATICAL ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Official Reports and Communications

SPRING MEETING OF THE MARYLAND-DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA-VIRGINIA SECTION

The spring meeting of the Maryland-District of Columbia-Virginia Section of MAA was held on Saturday, April 11, 1981 at the College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia. Eighty-two registrants attended the meeting. *Marcia Sward*, Associate Executive Director of the MAA, gave the invited address. Her topic was "Death on the Highways: Can Mathematics Help?"

Section Chairman *John Smith* presided at the business meeting. *Ernest Mabrey* (Department of Energy) was elected Vice-Chairman for Membership. Other section officers for the coming year are: Chairman, *John Schmeelk* (Virginia Commonwealth University); Immediate Past Chairman, *John Smith* (George Mason University); Vice-Chairman for Programs, *Patrick Hayes* (Federal Reserve); Treasurer, *Arthur Charlesworth* (University of Richmond); AHSME Exam Coordinator, *Edward Bender* (J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College); Newsletter Editor, *Howard Penn* (U. S. Naval Academy); Governor, *Ronald Davis* (Northern Virginia Community College); and Secretary, *Robert Hanson* (James Madison University). Reports on the Annual High School Mathematics Contest, the national newsletter, summer workshops, and future meetings were given. Hearty thanks were expressed to *John Smith* for his leadership as section chairman for the past several years.

The following talks were presented: "Teaching Technical Mathematics," *Ronald Davis*, Northern Virginia Community College; "Computer Use in the Classroom," *James Newsom*, Tidewater Community College; "Teaching Remedial Mathematics," *Betty Weissbecker*, J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College; "Computer Assisted Instruction," *Edward Huff*, Northern Virginia Community College; "Math Labs in Two Year Colleges: An Informal Discussion," *John Massey*, Tidewater Community College; "Least-Cost Livestock Feeding Using Ethanol Byproducts," *Christopher Reed*, TRW, Inc., and *Douglas Samuelson*, Federal Aviation Administration; "An Algorithm to Route Jets for Transporting Checks Among Federal Reserve Banks," *David McCarthy*, Bureau of Labor Statistics and *Y. C. Park*, Naval Sealift Command; "A Model for Scheduling the Production of Currency," *Hosain Ali Mahan*, The George Washington University; "The Applied Mathematics Laboratory at Towson State University," *John Morrison* and *Martha Siegel*, Towson State University; "Recommendations of the CUPM Subpanel on Computing," *George Engel*, Christopher Newport College; "Recommendations of the CUPM Subpanel on Modeling," *Ralph Disney*, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University; "Teaching Computer Graphics," *Caren Diefenderfer*, Hollins College; "A Solution for Rubik's Cube," *Howard Penn*, U.S. Naval Academy; "Group Norms and the Grading of Chronologies," *William Wardlow*, U.S. Naval Academy; "On Sets with Distinct Subset Sums," *Paul Stookmeyer*, College of William and Mary; "Discrete Optimization Using Incremental Analysis," *John Drew* and *Margaret Schaefer*, College of William and Mary; "MAA Placement Testing," *George Lowerre*, Northern Virginia Community College (Woodbridge); "Current and Future MAA Activities: An Informal Discussion," *Marcia Sward*, MAA; "Findings of the MAA Committee on Improving Remediation Efforts in the Colleges," *Eleanor Green Jones*, Norfolk State University; "Production and Use of Video Tapes in Developmental Mathematics," *Calude Moore*, Danville Community College.

APRIL MEETING OF THE INDIANA SECTION

The spring meeting of the Indiana Section of the MAA was held at Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis on Saturday, April 11, 1981, with 59 members present. The Indiana Small College Math Competition was held in conjunction with the meeting.

The following papers were presented at the meeting: "Girard Triangles," *Rodney T. Hood*, Franklin College; "A tiling of the Plane with Triangles," *Paul T. Mielke*, Wabash College; "Counting Matrices of Given Rank," *Ralph P. Grimaldi*, Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology; "Let Us Teach Concepts," *Herman Rubin*, Purdue University; "Differential Games," *Leonard D. Berkovitz*, Purdue University; "Computer Graphics in Teaching Mathematics," *Gerald J. Porter*, University of Pennsylvania; "The Mathematics Curriculum in the 80's," *William A. Marion*, Valparaiso University.

At the business meeting led by Chairman *Duane Deal*, the chairman of the nominating committee *Paul Mielke* presented the following slate of officers for 1981-82, which was unanimously approved: Chairman, *M. Mundt*, Valparaiso University; Vice-Chairman, *C. Cowen*, Purdue University; Secretary-Treasurer, *R. Patterson*, Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis. *Meyer Jerison* of Purdue University was elected Governor. Memberships in the MAA were awarded to *Michael Call*, Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, and *David Dwyer*, Purdue University, in recognition of their performance on the Putnam examination.

MAY MEETING OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN SECTION

The sixty-fourth annual meeting of the Rocky Mountain Section of MAA was held on May 1-2, 1981 on the campus of Colorado College, Colorado Springs, Colorado, with 120 members in attendance. Professor *Leonard Gillman*, Treasurer of the MAA, gave the annual banquet address, "We Can't Teach Our Way out of a Paper Bag," and the invited address, "Optimal Strategies in Sports."

The program included three panel discussions: "Employment Opportunities for Students," moderated by Professor *John Hodges* of the University of Colorado; speakers were *Robert Frost*, NOAA; Professor *Kent Goodrich*, University of Colorado; Professor *John Sopka*, Ft. Lewis College; and Professor *S.W. Wilson*, University of Colorado. "How Do You Start a Computer Science Program?" moderated by *W.S. Dorn* of Denver University. The speakers included Professor *James Davis* of Mesa College; Professor *Charlotte Murphy*, Metro State College; and Professor *Ron Prather* of Denver University. "How Do We Encourage the Exceptional Student?" moderated by Professor *David Ballew* of South Dakota School of Mines and Technology. The participants were Professor *Stephen Brown*, University of Southern Colorado and Professor *Paul Perlmutter* of Colorado College.

Twenty-three papers were contributed, eight of them by undergraduate students. "Some Unorthodox Thoughts About Quantum Mechanics," by *Jan Mycielski*, University of Colorado, Boulder; "Can a Mathematician Find Happiness in the Computing Field?" by *William Marion*, Valparaiso University; "Eigenvalues

of Tridiagonal Matrices," by *Dale M. Rognlie*, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology; "A Critique of Axiomatic Systems," by *George S. Donovan*, Metro State College; "Unsolved Mathematical Problems Arising from Spectrum Management Issues," by *William K. Hale*, US Department of Commerce, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, Institute for Telecommunications Sciences, Boulder; "A Recent Result in Continued Fraction Theory," by *John P. Gill*, University of Southern Colorado; "Some Elementary Models in Business and Economics Part I," by *C. G. Mendez*, Metro State College; "It's not What You Say, It's What They Do (A Brief Report on a Modularized Approach to Calculus)," by *William R. Astle* and *Thomas E. Kelley*, Colorado School of Mines; "Extremals of $\int f(x) dx$ and of $\int F(x) dx$," by *Roger Opp* and *Ron Weger*, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology; "An Elementary Proof That $(1 + 1/n)^n$ Tends to e ," by *Lee Badger*, Ft. Lewis College; "The Evolution of Calculus Teaching and Texts," by *Wolfgang Thron*, University of Colorado, Boulder; "Pancakes and Permutations," by *Leslie E. Shader*, University of Wyoming; "The Evolution of a Generalization," by *Richard Gibbs*, Ft. Lewis College; "The Pi Theorem of Buckingham-Dimensional Analysis and Some Examples," by *Robert S. Fisk*, Colorado School of Mines; "How to Cut a Triangle," by *Alexander Soifer*, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs.

Papers presented by undergraduate students: "Analysis of a Trisection of the Angle Algorithm" by *Leon Nelson*, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology; "Robots--Are They Here to Stay?" by *Janet Potts*, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology; "The Fibonacci Sequence and Evolution," by *Terri Bush*, Ft. Lewis College; "An Application of Game Theory in Taking Tests," by *Dean Mogek*, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology; "The Theory of Evolution Applied to Programming Language," by *Colleen Quatier*, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology; "Computer Graphics of Parametric Equations," by *Gary Ricard*, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology; "Monte Carlo Methods for Testing Large Primes," by *Anthony Wakely*, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology; "The Relations of Differentiable Functions and the Power Series," by *Brian Bunsness*, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology.

Professor *William Ramaley* of Ft. Lewis College, Chairperson of the Section, presided at the annual business meeting. The new officers elected for 1981-82 are as follows: Chairperson, Prof. *John Gill*, University of Southern Colorado; Chairperson-elect, Prof. *George Donovan*, Metro State College; Vice-Chairperson, Prof. *Aubrey Owen*, Community College of Denver; Program Chairman, Prof. *Gale Nash*, Western State College; Secretary-Treasurer, Prof. *David Ballew*, SD School of Mines and Technology. The section heard the minutes, treasurer's report, Prof. *Duane Porter's* Governor's report, and a report from Professor *Gillman* on "super-section" meetings. The section recognized Prof. *Dean C. Benson* of SD School of Mines and Technology and Prof. *Ray Harna* of the University of Wyoming on the occasion of their retirement and commended them for their long service to the Section.

SPRING 1981 MEETING OF THE NORTH CENTRAL SECTION

The spring meeting of the North Central Section was held at Mankato State University, Mankato, Minnesota, on May 1 and 2. Section President, *Stephen Hilding* of Gustavus Adolphus College, presided at the business meeting. Items of business included the presentation of a citation by Governor *Dale Varbert* to *A. Wayne Roberts* of Macalester College and to *John Sitscomb* of the University of North Dakota for their long service as coordinators of the MAA high school exams in Minnesota and North Dakota. The 21 students from the North Central Section scoring in the top 500 on the 1980 Putnam Exam were also honored. New officers elected were: *Sabra Anderson*, University of Minnesota, Duluth, Chairperson-elect; *Alan Kirch*, Macalester College, Secretary-treasurer; and *James Rue*, University of North Dakota, member-at-large.

Invited addresses were given by *Steve Galovich* of Carleton College, "Arithmetic in Characteristic p " and by Chairman-elect of the MAA, *R. D. Anderson*, who spoke on "Algorithmically Defined Functions."

Contributed papers were: "The Arithmetic of Convex Polytopes" by *Walter Sizer* of Moorhead State University; "Probability Distribution Fitting for Large Loss Insurance Data" by *Bruce Binzel*, *Kari Johnson*, *Jennifer Smith*, *Karen Thompson*, *Carol Veum*, St. Olaf College (students); "Parameter Estimation in Linear Combinations of Exponentials" by *Dale Larson*, *Kathryn Lens*, *Barry Mason*, *Richard Selby*, St. Olaf College (students); "A Note on Factoring Differential Equations" by *Clayton Knoshaug*, Bemidji State University; "Field Structures on the Natural Numbers" by *Jon Shreve*, Carleton College (student); "An Interdisciplinary Course Based on Godel, Escher, Bach" by *H. B. Coonce*, Mankato State University; "Squares and Non-Squares in Finite Fields" by *Roger Avelsgaard*, Bemidji State University; "Graphing Non-Real Branches of Garden Variety Equations" by *Ron Rietz*, Gustavus Adolphus College.

ALLEGHENY MOUNTAIN SECTION MEETING

The Allegheny Mountain Section of MAA met May 15-16, 1981 at Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA. Invited lectures were given by *George E. Andrews* of Penn State University, "More on Ramanujan's Lost Notebook," and by *Alfred B. Willcox*, Executive Director, MAA, "Some Bridges to and From Mathematics or There is a Mathematician Loose in the Supermarket."

There was a panel discussion of "Job Opportunities in Mathematics." Another panel consisting of *Donald Platte*, Mercyhurst College, Coordinator; *James E. Allison*, Bethany College; *Charles Cable*, Allegheny College; and *Richard MacCamy*, Carnegie-Mellon University, discussed "Trends in College Mathematics Curricula."

Four undergraduate students gave talks: *Dave Plottell* of Allegheny College on "Desarguesian and Non-Desarguesian Projective Planes;" *Don Kochoer* of Allegheny College on "The Projective Plane and Incidence Matrices" *Theresa Presecan McChesney* of Westminster College on "Optimal Control;" and *Dan Duh* of Allegheny College on "Optimal Harvesting and Dynamic Programming."

Contributed papers by faculty members were "Micro-computers as an Instructional Aid in Mathematics," *Roy Meyers* and *Richard Reynolds*, Penn State University at New Kensington and McKeesport; "Improving the Learning Strategies of the Non-Major," *Mary Kay Hudspeth*, Penn State University at University Park; "Perturbation Solutions of Non-Linear Difference Equations," *Richard F. Melka*, University of Pittsburgh at Bradford; "On the Asymptotic Behavior of Solutions of Ordinary Differential Equations," *M. M. Subramaniam*, Penn State University, Delaware County Campus.