



NEWSLETTER

Dates to Remember:

October 4, 2003
Fall Meeting at Cal Poly Pomona
Pre-registration deadline Friday, Sept. 26, 2003

January 7-10, 2004
Joint Mathematics Meetings in Phoenix, AZ

March 6, 2004
Spring Meeting at Univ. of San Diego

August 12-14, 2004
Mathfest at Providence, RI

2004 Fall Meeting in Las Vegas!

It's Official: We Have a New Name— Southern California-Nevada Section

Claudia Pinter-Lucke, Section Chair

I have a double honor this fall. I begin my term as the first Section Chair of the **Southern California-Nevada Section**, and my institution, Cal Poly Pomona, will host the fall meeting.

Yes, it is now official. San Luis Obispo has departed for the Northern California Section and Las Vegas has joined our section. The possible field trips to experience "real world math" are already dancing in your mind. Admit it. You will have that opportunity next year when the fall 2004 meeting moves across the border to Las Vegas. Thank you to Art Benjamin who put in many hours negotiating with the national MAA officials, and modifying our constitution to effect the change in our section boundaries.

This fall, the section meeting will be held in the newly remodeled Student Center at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, on Saturday, October 4, 2003.

I hope you will attend, and I encourage you to invite at least one colleague to join you. The section meetings are a wonderful opportunity to listen to interesting presentations, and to visit with colleagues from campuses across the section. If you are a department chair, please encourage your students to attend. Perhaps you might want to host a "lunch table" and pay that portion of the students' fees. Past student attendees have had fun at the meetings, have picked up some new morsels of mathematics, and have enjoyed seeing professors in a non-classroom setting. Michael Frantz has put together an excellent program with something special for every group.

Our local Section NEXt chapter, led by Florence Newberger of Cal State

Long Beach, welcomes its second group this year. The chapter owes much to its founder, Magnhild Lien of Cal State Northridge. Section NEXt fellows have their own program at the local meetings, and other benefits similar to national fellows. One important difference is that community college faculty are welcome to join our local section. Department chairs: if you have a new faculty member who would benefit from this experience, please encourage him or her to apply. For more information, click on the Section NEXt link at our section website at www.maa.org/socal.

Hellos and good-byes: With this issue of the newsletter, we say thank you to Lars Kjeseth for his hard work, and welcome Janet Beery of Redlands as the new editor. Cindy Wyels of Cal Lutheran is our new student liaison, replacing Janet Beery. See the Student's Column on page 2 for information about past and future student poster sessions. Ken Millett from UC Santa Barbara has been elected as the new section vice-chair and Shawnee McMurrin from Cal State San Bernardino as the new program vice-chair. Michelle Schultz from UNLV has agreed to serve as the Nevada representative on the board to facilitate the new interaction between our states. Finally, thank you to Magnhild Lien for a wonderful job as section chair and to Mario Martelli for his outstanding selection of speakers as the program chair.

Inside this issue:

The Student's Column	2
News from Mathfest	3
Call for Papers for Fall Meeting	4
Fall Meeting Program	4-5
Map and Directions	5
Remembering Barbara Beechler	6-7
Fall Meeting Registration Information	7
News of the Section	8

Finkelstein Wins 2003 Section Distinguished Teaching Award

*Claudia Pinter-Lucke, Chair
2003 Section Teaching Award Committee*

In March, the MAA Southern California Section honored Mark Finkelstein of UC Irvine with its Distinguished Teaching Award. Mark now becomes our section's nominee for the Deborah and Franklin Tepper Haimo Distinguished Teaching Award, the MAA's national teaching award. Mark will present an invited address, "Estimating the Frequency Distribution of the Numbers Bet on the California Lottery," at the fall section meeting Saturday, Oct. 4, 2003, at Cal Poly Pomona.

Mark has challenged, encouraged, and motivated students at the University of California, Irvine since 1966. He has won numerous awards at Irvine, including the Department of Mathematics Outstanding Teaching Award, the School of Physical Sciences Outstanding Teaching Award, and the campus-wide Lauds and Laurels Teaching Award. Mark's interest in teaching extends beyond Irvine. Recently he served as Director of the Irvine California Mathematics Project. Please come to the meeting at Cal Poly Pomona on October 4 to congratulate Mark and to hear his talk.



The Student's Column

Attend the Fall 2003 Meeting at Cal Poly Pomona!

The Fall Meeting Saturday, October 4, 2003, at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, will include several talks of interest to students, including lively presentations by mathematicians Cynthia Wyels on pebble graphs, Daryl Cooper on orbifolds and symmetry, and Mark Finkelstein on the California lottery.

Student registration for the Fall Meeting is only \$10, and lunch for students is only \$8. (See the registration form on page 7.) Organize a group of students from your school to attend the Fall Meeting, and encourage your Mathematics Department Chair to pay for your registration and lunch!

January 2004 Student Poster Session in Phoenix, Arizona

Students from across the United States will present posters describing their mathematical research projects during the Undergraduate Student Poster Session at the American Mathematical Society-Mathematical Association of America Joint Meetings, to be held January 7-10, 2004, in Phoenix, Arizona. The poster session will be on Friday, January 9, from 4 to 7 p.m. Judges will award prizes to the best posters.

Professor Mario Martelli of Claremont McKenna College is the organizer for the poster session. To apply to present a poster, send a title and a one half page (or shorter) abstract to Prof. Mario Martelli, Mathematics Department, Claremont McKenna College, 850 Columbia Ave., Claremont, CA 91711, or to Prof. Martelli at mario.martelli@claremontmckenna.edu as soon as possible and no later than December 5, 2003. Students are urged to submit titles and abstracts much earlier than the December 5 deadline. For more information, visit the Phoenix Undergraduate Student Poster Session website at faculty.mckenna.edu/math/phoenix.htm

Spring 2004 Meeting Student Poster Session at University of San Diego

Begin preparing a poster NOW for the Southern California-Nevada Section Spring Meeting, to be held at the University of San Diego, Saturday, March 6, 2004! If you don't already have a project in mind, ask one of your professors for a project to present. For more information, contact Prof. Cynthia Wyels, Dept. of Mathematics, California Lutheran Univ., 60 West Olsen Rd., Thousand Oaks, CA 91360-2787, PHONE: (805)493-3992, E-MAIL: wyels@clunet.edu The deadline for submitting a title and brief abstract to Prof. Wyels is Wednesday, Feb. 25, 2004.

Spring 2003 Student Poster Session Is Largest Ever!

Forty-five college students and one high school student presented 40 posters during the Student Poster Session at the Spring 2003 Section Meeting Saturday, March 8, at Harvey Mudd College. Meeting attendees kept student poster presenters busy answering questions about their posters throughout the one-hour session. A team of judges, headed by Professor Claudia Pinter-Lucke of Cal Poly Pomona, awarded Best Project, Best Poster, and Honorable Mention prizes as follows.

Best Project

First Prize (tie): Matthew Holden, Pomona College, The Full Elasticity Property in Atomic Monoids (advisor: Scott Chapman, Trinity University) **and** James M. Wrkich, California State University, Fullerton, Quaternionic Analysis and the Twistor Equation (advisor: Alfonso Agnew, CSU Fullerton)
Second Prize: Christopher Pries, Harvey Mudd College, Constructing Lattice Periodic Cayley Manifolds (advisor: Weiqing Gu, Harvey Mudd College)

Best Poster

First Prize (tie): David Uminsky, Harvey Mudd College, Detecting Coalitions Among Subsets of Voters (advisor: Michael Orrison, Harvey Mudd College) **and** Eric Harley and Chris Moore, Harvey Mudd College, ODEToolkit (advisors: Robert Borrelli, Courtney Coleman, and Michael Raugh, HMC)
Second Prize: Ross Richardson, Harvey Mudd College, Designing Rigid Motions: Computing Curves in Lie Groups (advisor: Weiqing Gu, Harvey Mudd College)

Honorable Mention

Leighton Cowart, Pepperdine University, Rational Points of Order 4 on Elliptic Curves (advisor: Kevin Iga, Pepperdine)
Gina Frye, Point Loma Nazarene University, An Analysis of Vector Spaces of Functions Using Linear Algebra and Real Analysis (advisor: Sheldon Sickler, Point Loma Nazarene)
Khudija S. Jamil, California State University, Northridge, Unconnected Magic Graphs (advisor: Bernardo Abrego, CSUN)

Top prize winners received a TI-89 graphing calculator or software from Wolfram Research. Other prize winners received a book or T-shirt, donated by one of the following publishers: Houghton Mifflin; Books Cole, Harcourt, and Thomson Learning; Addison Wesley/Benjamin Cummings; John Wiley and Sons. All poster presenters received a free one-year MAA membership, including a subscription to one of the MAA journals, or, for those who already were MAA members, a free MAA book.

Scot Childress and Stephanie Proctor of Cal State Fullerton and Jeremy Rouse of Harvey Mudd College, who won top prizes at the Undergraduate Student Poster Session held at the national AMS-MAA meetings in Baltimore, Maryland, on January 17, 2003, presented excellent posters but were not eligible for prizes. R. J. Liljestrom of Woodbridge High School, Irvine, was the lone high school student poster presenter, presenting a project he had completed under the direction of Professor Richard Zucker of Irvine Valley College. Harvey Mudd College had the largest number of student poster presenters, with 14 students presenting 13 posters. Seven students from Cal State Fullerton presented five posters.

All 40 posters were of very high quality, making the judges' task of selecting prize winners extremely difficult. Thank you to all student poster presenters and to their faculty advisors for working so hard on their projects and posters. Thank you also to the faculty members who judged the Student Poster Session and to the book and software companies that donated prizes. Professor Janet Beery of the University of Redlands organized the Student Poster Session.



Four Section Members Speak, One Cartoons at Boulder Mathfest

Art Benjamin, Section Secretary-Treasurer

Over 1100 mathematicians attended MAA's MathFest 2003, where it was practically impossible to avoid seeing some of our members giving talks before large audiences, signing books, or receiving awards. Of the 9 invited speakers, 4 of them came from our section this year.

Among the MAA invited addresses, Donald Saari of UC Irvine spoke on "Geometry of Departmental Discussions" and Jennifer Quinn of Occidental College presented "Proofs That Really Count," based on her brand new MAA book of the same name. (Because of her pregnancy, Jenny presented half of the talk on videotape, leaving the other half to her co-author, Art Benjamin.) Kathy Layton, a Presidential Teaching Award winner from Beverly Hills High School, gave the AWM-MAA Invited Address on "What I Learned in Forty Years in Beverly Hills 90212." Art Benjamin of Harvey Mudd College presented "The Art of Mental Calculation" as the MAA Student Lecture.

John de Pillis of UC Riverside proved that he could draw more than just a crowd as he signed his extremely popular MAA book, *777 Mathematical Conversation Starters*. People who purchased the book received a free, high quality caricature by the author/cartoonist.

MAA President Ron Graham (UCSD) ran many of the meetings and prize sessions with Past President Ann Watkins (CSU Northridge) in attendance. Speaking of prizes, Harvey Mudd College sophomore Robin Baur finished second in the National Problem Solving Competition, earning a paid internship at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories next summer.

MathFest was held July 31-Aug. 2, 2003, in Boulder, Colorado. To see photos of participants from our section, visit the section website at www.maa.org/socal.

Don't miss the joint meetings, Jan. 7-10, 2004, in Phoenix, or next year's MathFest in Providence, R.I., Aug. 12-14, 2004.

Section Officers, Board of Governors Meet at Boulder Mathfest

Mario Martelli, Section Governor

Section Officers Meeting, Thurs., July 31, 2003, 2:30-5 p.m., Benson Earth Science Center, University of Colorado, Boulder

A good part of the meeting was dedicated to the problem of attracting graduate students to the MAA. It was reported that their membership in the MAA is not even close to half of the corresponding figure for the AMS. Part of the problem derives from the limited participation in MAA activities of professors at research institutions. However, graduate students can benefit considerably from being members of the MAA and we should make them aware of our goals with local and national initiatives. One possible way to accomplish this goal would be to use the activities of the Project NExT fellows at the national and section level to attract graduate students to our regional or national meetings.

All members of the section should visit www.ams.org/cml-update to review for accuracy the information about them in the Combined Membership List. After making changes, please press the button that allows the MAA to update the data. If the button is not pressed, the MAA will not receive the changes and will continue your membership with the old information. Most likely this is the reason the section newsletter sometimes fails to reach certain members.

Members also are encouraged to renew their memberships on time. The MAA is losing money sending multiple invitations for renewal, and then calling individuals when the renewal notices do not achieve the desired effect. Within a year we should be able to renew memberships online. It may even be possible for members to give the MAA permission to renew their memberships automatically.

MAA Director of Publications Don Albers recommended some of the books published recently by the MAA, including *Proofs that Really Count*, by our section's Arthur Benjamin and Jennifer Quinn.

Board of Governors Meeting, Wed., July 30, 2003, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Millennium Hotel Ballroom, Boulder, Colorado

Besides myself, our section was represented by Ron Graham, the new President of the MAA, and by Ann Watkins, Past President of the MAA.

Of particular interest to our members are the dates and locations of the winter and summer meetings for the next five years. Please save these dates!

Winter 2004	Phoenix AZ, Wed.-Sat., January 7-10
Summer 2004	Providence RI, Thurs.-Sat., August 12-14
Winter 2005	Atlanta GA, Wed.-Sat., January 5-8
Summer 2005	Albuquerque NM, Thurs.-Sat., August 4-6
Winter 2006	San Antonio TX, Thurs.-Sun., Jan. 12-15
Summer 2006	Knoxville TN, Thurs.-Sat., August 10-12
Winter 2007	New Orleans LA, Thurs.-Sun, Jan. 4-7
Summer 2007	San Jose CA, Fri.-Sun., August 3-5
Winter 2008	San Diego CA, Sun.-Wed., January 6-9
Summer 2008	Madison WI, Thurs.-Sat., July 31-Aug. 2

Free workshops available for our section meetings include:

- Mathematics for Business Decisions, a new interdisciplinary course with real world applications, by Richard Thompson and Christopher Lamoureux, Univ. of Arizona
- Preparing Mathematicians to Educate Teachers (PMET)

Funding for conferences in which undergraduates present their work is available from the MAA Undergraduate Mathematics Conferences program. We could schedule a session for undergraduates at our Las Vegas meeting and obtain funding to cover the cost of bringing the students to the meeting.

The report on MAA finances stressed that the Association has a balanced budget and is in good shape. The only goal we have failed to achieve so far is to have an endowment capable of cushioning at least our most important programs from the inevitable ups and downs of the economy.



Southern California-Nevada Section of the Mathematical Association of America

Fall 2003 Meeting

Saturday, October 4, at Cal Poly Pomona

Tentative Schedule

- 8:30 - noon **Registration**—Bronco Student Center Second Floor Rotunda
- 8:30 - 4:30 **Book Sale**—Bronco Student Center Second Floor Rotunda
- 9:00 - 9:50 **Invited Address by Cynthia Wyels**, California Lutheran University
Bronco Student Center Second Floor Multipurpose Room 2611AB

Pebbling and Optimally Pebbling Graphs

Distribute pebbles onto the vertices of a graph G . Once the pebbles are placed, we can only move a pebble to vertex v if we throw away two pebbles from a vertex adjacent to v . If, following this rule, it is possible to move a pebble to any vertex of G , then we say the initial distribution is *solvable on G* . We ask for the least number of pebbles necessary to ensure that all distributions with that many pebbles are solvable on G . Similarly, we may ask for the minimum number of pebbles for which there exists a solvable distribution on G .

This talk will provide a hands-on introduction to pebbling. We'll discuss the number-theoretic origins of this concept as well as addressing answers to the questions above and others. Open research questions – most accessible to undergraduates – will be reviewed, and a prize will be offered for success in constructing a special graph.

10:00-11:20 **Contributed Paper Sessions**

Mathematics Across the Curriculum

Bronco Student Center Room 2611A

Undergraduate Research

Bronco Student Center Room 2611B

Classroom Capsules

Bronco Student Center Room 2611C

11:30-12:20 **Invited Address by Mark Finkelstein**,

University of California, Irvine
Bronco Student Center Room 2611AB

Estimating the Frequency Distribution of the Numbers Bet on the California Lottery

Had I entitled the talk, "A Winning Strategy for Betting on the California Lottery," would you be more intrigued? We'll discuss the estimation problem of the title. Those patient enough to stick to the end of the talk will be rewarded with a "Winning Strategy". Don't be too disappointed, though, when I tell you it will "take some time before the strategy works."

Tentative Schedule continued on page 5

Register!

Complete the registration form on page 7 and send it with payment to:

Ernie Solheid
Dept. of Mathematics
CSU Fullerton
800 N. State College Blvd.
Fullerton, CA 92834

Registration deadline is
Friday, Sept. 26, 2003.

Call for Contributed Papers

Individuals are invited to submit abstracts for 15-20 minute talks at the Fall Meeting in one of three contributed paper sessions.

Undergraduate Research. Presentation of results by or in collaboration with undergraduates, or experiences with facilitating undergraduate research programs and advice for those initiating such programs.

Classroom Capsules. Results that convey new mathematical insights and/or make use of effective teaching strategies for the college mathematics classroom.

Mathematics Across the Curriculum. Presentation of mathematical results which synthesize concepts across interdisciplinary boundaries, particularly with respect to art and/or music, or dissemination of information about courses which construct bridges between mathematics and other disciplines.

Proposals for contributed papers must contain a title, an abstract (not to exceed one-half page and suitable for inclusion in the conference program), the desirable mathematical background of the audience, and any special presentation display needs other than an overhead projector. Electronic submission (PDF, DVI, LaTeX, TeX, MS Word) is preferred. Please send all proposals to:

fbonahon@math.usc.edu
or Francis Bonahon
USC Department of Mathematics
1042 W. 36th Place, DRB 141
Los Angeles, CA 90089-1113
tel. (213) 740-1717

**Deadline for receipt of submissions:
Monday, September 15, 2003.**

**Tentative Schedule for 2003 Fall Meeting, continued**

12:30-1:45 **Lunch**—Bronco Student Center Room 2611C

2:00 - 2:50 **Invited Address by Daryl Cooper**, University of California, Santa Barbara
Bronco Student Center Room 2611C

Orbifolds and Symmetry

This will be an introductory talk about symmetry and a concise method of describing it called an orbifold. Examples include the 17 wallpaper patterns, the five regular solids, Escher's print "Angels and Devils" (a hyperbolic orbifold), the modular surface as used in number theory, and the 230 crystal structures known to chemists.

Question (Blake, c. 1800): Tyger! Tyger! burning bright / In the forest of the night / What immortal hand or eye / Could frame thy fearful symmetry? Answer (Thurston, c. 1981): An orbifold.

3:00 - 4:30 **Panel Discussion on K-12 Teacher Preparation**

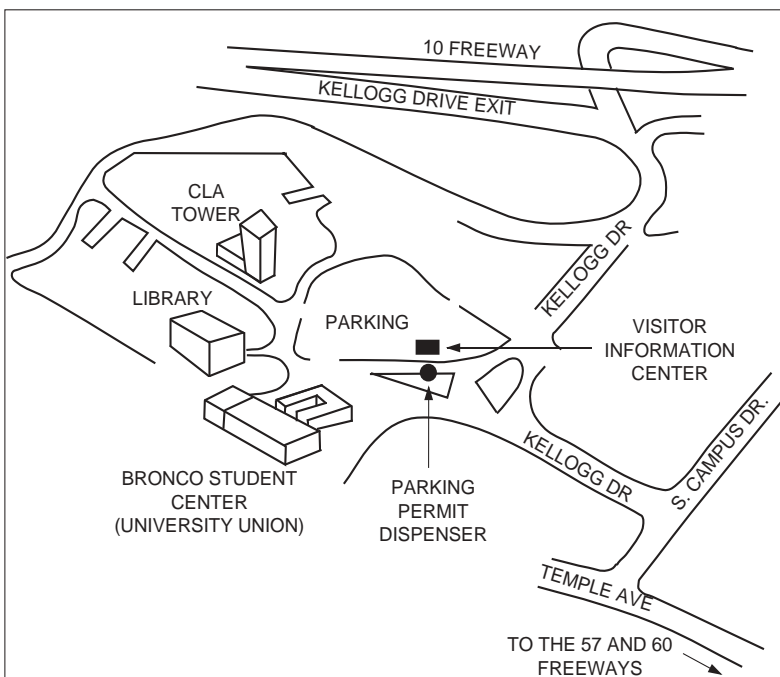
Organized by Kenneth Millett, University of California, Santa Barbara
Bronco Student Center Room 2611AB

Directions to Cal Poly Pomona:

From Interstate 10, take the Kellogg Drive Exit and follow Kellogg Drive south to the California Polytechnic University campus. From the 57 Freeway, exit at Temple Avenue and follow Temple Avenue west. Turn right on South Campus Drive, then left on Kellogg Drive.

On campus, stop at the parking permit dispenser and purchase a \$4 Visitor Parking Permit.

The meeting will take place on the second floor of the Bronco Student Center (University Union). Take the stairs on the south side of the building near Round Table Pizza to the second floor. Registration tables will be located in the rotunda outside Multipurpose Room 2611, as will the Book Sale. All talks will be in Multipurpose Room 2611.



CAL POLY POMONA

Call for Nominations for Section Distinguished Teaching Award

Kenneth Millett, Chair
2004 Section Teaching Award Committee

The Distinguished Teaching Award Committee of the MAA Southern California-Nevada Section seeks nominations for the 2004 Distinguished Teaching Award. To be eligible, nominees must be current MAA members who teach mathematical science courses at least half time during the academic year and have at least five years experience teaching at the college or university level. Successful nominees are individuals who are widely recognized for their extraordinarily successful teaching effectiveness and whose teaching has had influence beyond their own institutions. The winner of the award will be recognized at the Spring Meeting of the MAA on March 6, 2004 at the University of San Diego. The awardee will become the Section's official nominee for the Deborah and Franklin Tepper Haimo Distinguished Teaching Award, the national MAA teaching award. Nominations are effective for two years.

Nomination forms are available on-line at www.maa.org/Awards/Haimo_NF.pdf or from Art Benjamin, Section Secretary-Treasurer, who can provide you with all the details needed to submit a nomination. He can be reached by phone at (909) 621-8688 or by email at benjamin@math.hmc.edu. The 2004 Selection Committee Chair, Kenneth C. Millett, can be reached at (805) 893-3894 or by email at millett@math.ucsb.edu. Completed nomination forms should be sent to Art Benjamin, Mathematics Dept., Harvey Mudd College, Claremont, CA 91711.

Application deadline is December 5, 2003.



Remembering Barbara Beechler

Barbara Beechler, Professor Emerita at Pitzer College and former Governor of the MAA Southern California Section, died on March 18, 2003, at age 74 of complications due to cancer. Professor Judith Grabiner of Pitzer College delivered the following remarks about Barbara's mathematical career at a memorial service held at Pitzer College on April 13, 2003.

Barbara Beechler earned her B.A. in physics in 1949 and her Ph.D. in mathematics in 1955, both from the University of Iowa. Although her first mathematical love was topology, she wrote her Ph.D. thesis on commutative rings with the late Paul Muhly, Sr.

Barbara taught for two years at Smith College in Massachusetts (while finishing her doctorate), and then served for five years as Associate Professor and Chair of the Department at Wilson College in Pennsylvania. From 1960 to 1967 she taught at Wheaton College in Massachusetts. All this experience was valuable: she always used to make comparisons between us at Pitzer and these schools, telling us that things really could successfully be done differently.

Barbara came to Pitzer as the founder of the mathematics program here in 1967 and really never left. She was the first female faculty member tenured at Pitzer in any discipline. She invented the requirements for the Pitzer math major (which were for many years also the requirements for the Scripps math major). Barbara also designed the placement tests which we at Pitzer, and also Scripps and Pomona, are still using. They're done without pedagogical theory, maybe, but over many years they have had excellent predictive value. She once said to me, "I don't know what they measure, but they sure work!"

Barbara was the mother of the Claremont Mathematics Colloquium. Besides being a key organizer at the beginning of the Colloquium, she supported it financially throughout her career and remembered it generously in her will. Many colloquium parties took place at Barbara's house on Ninth Street, bringing people together---mathematicians from all the Claremont colleges, including students. More than any other individual, Barbara saw to it that we at the six Claremont colleges acted like one mathematical community, rather than six separate bodies.

Barbara worked with all the Pitzer math students, and mentored many. She was a precise professor, sending students to the blackboard, making them learn by doing, and making sure that, if they were going on in mathematics, they were *prepared*. She knew the Claremont program inside out and was a wonderful advisor for mathematics students here, at all levels. She designed our math classroom, Scott Hall 230, still the only room at Pitzer with adequate blackboards.

Barbara got Pitzer to hire me in 1985 after my 14 years in the Cal State system. She was my mentor, helping me figure out Pitzer. I'm 64 years old, but she still called me "kid". "Hey, kid," she'd greet me. Although sometimes her idea of mentoring was to say, "That was so stupid!" it was always because she cared about mathematics and cared about the college and wanted things run correctly and humanely---always *both*.

After she retired in 1989, Barbara continued to teach classes for us for a number of years. She also taught beyond Pitzer. She taught hand-held calculator workshops, taught calculus using *Mathematica* with Mel Henriksen at Harvey Mudd, and taught a mathematics course to women employees of banks. The latter was part of her feminism, a feminism which was not ideological, but which was deeply felt and strongly committed.

Barbara always kept up with what was going on in mathematics, and not only in algebra. Once, she described an about-to-happen conference to me. I said something complimentary about her explanation and she said, as though I'd complimented her on knowing something trivial, "I'm supposed to know what's going on in mathematics."

Barbara's biography, based on extensive interviews with her, can be extracted from Margaret Murray's recent book, *Women Becoming Mathematicians* (MIT Press, 2000). The book is based on interviews with 36 women mathematicians of Barbara's generation. Barbara is in good company, with Evelyn Boyd Granville, Cathleen Morawetz, Alice Schafer, and Lida Barrett. Last year one of my History of Mathematics students did a report based on that book, and expressed her delight that Pitzer College had a woman on our faculty who had played such an important part in the history of American mathematics. I read this quotation from the student to Barbara over the phone and had the rare pleasure of having her acknowledge that she was touched.

Barbara was a mainstay of the Mathematical Association of America, both nationally and locally. After retiring from Pitzer in 1989, she served for a number of years as Secretary-Treasurer of the Southern California Section of the MAA, handling its finances, communicating with the national office, coordinating its twice-yearly meetings, and editing its newsletter. (Barbara's position became *three* positions after she completed her term!) Barbara was effective in this position because she knew what needed to be done and would do all the scutwork necessary to make it happen and didn't want any glory.

The Mathematical Association of America recognized Barbara's dedication, expertise, and hard work by awarding her its Certificate of Meritorious Service in 1995. At the time, she had served on the MAA Committee on the Centennial of the *Monthly*, was serving a four-year term on the MAA Development Committee, and was about to begin a six-year term on the MAA Committee on Sections.

Barbara served as Governor of the Southern California Section of the MAA from 1998 to 2001, and in that capacity represented us at the Association's national meetings. Here, her deep knowledge of mathematics and the mathematical com-

Continued on page 7



Remembering Barbara Beechler, continued from page 6

munity made her a valuable member of the Board of Governors, one who had vision without being unrealistically visionary, and one who knew the kind and amount of work needed to make things happen. Even after her health started to deteriorate, Barbara continued her full participation in the MAA.

On a more personal note, I should mention that Barbara prepared the extensive dossier nominating me for a national teaching award, gathering the evidence and writing the rationale. When I accepted the award in Baltimore in January, I said in my speech that I deeply regretted that she couldn't be there to hear me express my appreciation. I emailed her a copy of the speech and she thanked me. It is a source of satisfaction to me that she knew that I had thanked her for all her work in front of the entire American mathematical community.

I wish she could hear us all now.

News of the Section ...

... will appear in the January Newsletter. (It also appears on page 8 of this Newsletter, online version only.)

Please send news from your institution to:
Janet_Beery@redlands.edu

Section NExT Mentors New Faculty Members

Designed for new college and university faculty holding a masters or doctorate



in the mathematical sciences, Section NExT is a year-long professional

development program that addresses the full range of faculty responsibilities including teaching, scholarly activities, and service. Section NExT Fellows participate in special activities at the Fall and Spring MAA Section Meetings. Click on our link at www.maa.org/socal for more information!

REGISTER FOR THE FALL MEETING!

Complete the form below and send it with payment to:

Ernie Solheid
Department of Mathematics
California State University, Fullerton
800 N. State College Blvd.
Fullerton, CA 92834

Registration deadline is Friday, Sept. 26, 2003.

Pre-Registration/Luncheon Reservation Form

Fall Meeting at Cal Poly Pomona

Saturday, October 4, 2003

Enter the number of registrations of each type in the appropriate blank in the table below. Make checks payable to **Southern California-Nevada MAA**. (Attach a separate page for multiple registration information.)

Name _____

Affiliation _____

Address _____

E-mail address _____

Attention new members of the MAA: You are eligible for free registration at your first section meeting.

	Nonmember	MAA Member	New MAA Member First Meeting	Student
Registration Only	_____ @ \$22	_____ @ \$20	_____ @ FREE	_____ @ \$10
Registration and Luncheon	_____ @ \$37	_____ @ \$35	_____ @ \$15	_____ @ \$18
Registration and Vegetarian Lunch	_____ @ \$37	_____ @ \$35	_____ @ \$15	_____ @ \$18

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Questions or problems? Contact Ernie Solheid, Meeting Coordinator
Email: esolheid@fullerton.edu, phone: (714) 278-7023



News of the Section

New faculty at **Cal Poly Pomona** this fall include **Amber Rosin**, **Berit Nilsen**, **Karen Linton**, and **Greisy Winicki Landman**. **Martin Nakashima** was promoted to full professor, and **James McKinney** received the 30 Year Service Award. Retiring faculty include **Bernard Banks**, **Simon Bernau**, and **Henryka Maslowski**.

Cal State Dominguez Hills welcomed four new faculty in fall of 2002, **Matthew Jones** (mathematics education, computational algebraic geometry), **Wai Yan Pong** (logic), **Serban Rainu** (Hopf algebras), and **Stan Yoshinobu** (mathematics education, analysis). The department also reports the semi-retirement (to half-time) of three colleagues, **Chi-lung Chang** (number theory), **Jackson Henry** (analysis, administration), and **Frank Miles** (analysis).

Cal State Fullerton welcomes two new faculty members, **Margaret Kidd** and **Gerald Lege**, both in mathematics education and both from Columbia University. This past spring, **David Pagni** was named as one of the 2003 recipients of the prestigious California State University Wang Family Excellence Award. The award is designed to "celebrate those CSU faculty and administrators who through extraordinary commitment and dedication have distinguished themselves by exemplary contributions and achievements in their academic disciplines and areas of assignment."

Caltech welcomes **Jason Manning**, 2003 Ph.D. graduate of UC Santa Barbara, as an NSF Postdoctoral Fellow.

Gregory Stein joins the **Claremont McKenna College** faculty as a visiting professor this year.

Don Goldberg is the new Dean of Mathematical Sciences at **El Camino College**.

At **Harvey Mudd College** in 2002, **Francis Su** and **Weiqing Gu** were promoted to Associate Professor with tenure, and **Andrew Bernoff** was promoted to Full Professor. In 2003, **Lesley Ward** was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure, and the department hired **Jon Jacobsen** as an Assistant Professor. This year, HMC welcomes Assistant Professor **Darryl Yong**, formerly of Caltech, and Professor **Alfonso Castro**, formerly of the University of Texas at San Antonio. **Art Benjamin** is the department chair, replacing Professor **Michael Moody**, who is now Dean of Faculty at Olin College in Boston.

Naiomi Cameron is a new assistant professor at **Occidental College**.

Be a judge!

Planning to attend the 2004 Winter Meetings in Phoenix, AZ? Volunteer to judge the Undergraduate Student Poster Session by contacting the session organizer, Mario Martelli, at mario.martelli@claremontmckenna.edu. Please tell him your mathematical specialties. The poster session will be held Friday, Jan. 9, 2004, from 4 to 7 p.m. For more information, visit faculty.mckenna.edu/math/phoenix.htm.

At **UC Santa Barbara**, **Ozlem Imamoglu** has been promoted from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor. New faculty members include assistant professors **Denis Labutin** (Analysis, PDE) and **Milen Yakimov** (Algebra), and visiting assistant professors **Stephen Garcia** and **Alexander Roma**.

At the **University of Nevada, Las Vegas**, **Arthur Baragar**, **Sandra Catlin**, and **Hossein Tehrani** were granted tenure and promoted from assistant professor to associate professor. In July of 2002, **Dieudonne D. Phanord** was appointed Professor and Head of the Department of Mathematical Sciences Department, while Mathematics Professor **Satish C. Bhatnagar** was appointed Associate Dean of the College of Sciences. Two awards for undergraduate mathematics majors were endowed in Prof. Bhatnagar's honor in 2002.

The **University of Redlands** welcomes Lecturer **Deon Garcia**, and congratulates **Tamara Veenstra** on her promotion to Associate Professor.

Please send news from your institution to:

Janet_Beery@redlands.edu
or Janet Beery, Newsletter Editor
Department of Mathematics
University of Redlands
Redlands, CA 92373

Treasurer's Report

August 9, 2003

Balance on August 7, 2002	17464.56
PFF Money Market	4768.20
PFF Spring CD	1093.50
PFF Fall CD	11602.86
Expenditures	8996.39
Cerritos College Meeting	3808.12
Harvey Mudd College Meeting	4535.27
Newsletter	577.22
Teaching Award	43.08
Miscellaneous	32.70
Income	11998.88
2003-2004 Subvention	2000.00
Cerritos College Meeting	4182.00
Harvey Mudd College Meeting	4836.00
Book Sales	146.03
Interest	384.85
Donation	450.00
Balance on August 9, 2003	20467.05
PFF Money Market	7433.24
PFF Spring CD	1122.95
PFF Fall CD	11910.86

Respectfully submitted,

Art Benjamin, Secretary-Treasurer