MARYLAND-DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA VIRGINIA SECTION NEWSLETTER

MONTGOMERY COLLEGE MEETING

CALL FOR PAPERS

Once again it is time to invite proposals for the November 15-16 meeting of the MD-DC-VA section of the MAA to be held at Montgomery College (a suburb of Washington, DC). Papers on all aspects of mathematics, mathematics education, application of mathematics and the use of computers in mathematics are welcomed and encouraged.

Our banquet speaker is Dr. Harry McLaughlin whose special interest is computer graphics. The Saturday speaker will be Dr. Stephen Maurer whose interest lies in algorithms and discrete mathematics. We would like to run special sessions on computer graphics and on discrete mathematics to complement their talks. Those who have been working in these areas are encouraged to submit an abstract.

We would also like to run a special session of student papers. We urge faculty to encourage their students to attend the meeting and to offer a report, perhaps on some independent project or application of mathematics or computer science that the student has experienced. If you have honors students working with you or a mathematics seminar, this would be a good time for students to present their papers.

Presentation of papers is ordinarily limited to thirty minutes, but hour presentations can be easily arranged. Those interested in presenting papers are asked to send an abstract to:

Professor Elizabeth J. Teles
Vice-Chairperson for Programs
Department of Mathematics
Montgomery College
Takoma Park, Maryland 20912
(301) 587-4090 Ext. 283 or 305 (Office)
(301) 262-9586 (Home)

The deadline for submission of abstracts is September 27.

FRIDAY BANQUET AND SPEAKER

On Friday evening there will be a banquet at Montgomery College. From 6:30 - 7:30 there will be a "cocktail hour". Soft drinks and light food will be provided. There will be a cash bar for beer and wine. The specifics of the dinner will be announced in the next newsletter. The cost will be $14.00.

Dr. Harry W. McLaughlin will address the section at the banquet. He is a professor at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute where he has taught since 1967. His appointment is in the Center of Interactive Computer Graphics, the Department of Mathematical Sciences and the Department of Computer Science. He received his PhD from the University of Maryland in 1966 and taught one year at the University of California, Riverside, before joining the faculty at RPI. For the past four years he has been interested in geometric modeling motivated by his work in the Center for Interactive Computer Graphics. During the period May-December, 1984, he visited l'École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne where he lectured on geometric modeling. He has since lectured in Germany, England and France on this topic. He is also very active in SIAM and did much work for a SIAM conference on geometric modeling and robotics.

An abstract of his talk follows:

Applied Mathematics in Design: the role of Graphics
The computer is currently changing the role of the Applied Mathematics Community. The applications of some topics in applied mathematics to design problems and how the use of Computer Graphics enters into the design procedure will be discussed and demonstrated.

SATURDAY PROGRAM SPEAKER

Dr. Stephen B. Maurer will address the section on Saturday, November 16. He is an Associate Professor of Mathematics at Swarthmore College, where he has taught since 1979. He grew up in Silver Spring, Maryland. He received a B. A. from Swarthmore in 1967 and a Ph. D. at Princeton in 1972. His previous teaching positions were at Princeton, the University of Waterloo, Hampshire College and the Phillips Exeter Academy. Although his major scholarly interest has been research and curricular development in discrete mathematics, he has also made forays (sometimes continuous) into mathematical biology, economics and anthropology. He is an MAA Visiting Lecturer, Chairman of the MAA Committee on High School Contests and a member of the CUPM. During 1982-84 Professor Maurer was a consultant to the Alfred P. Sloan Foundations where he promoted curricular projects.

The following is an abstract of Dr. Maurer's talk.

WHAT IS DISCRETE ALGORITHMIC MATHEMATICS?
What is discrete mathematics? -- most mathematicians now have a pretty good idea of the answer to that. But what does the addition of the word "algorithmic" mean? -- that's not so clear. I will attempt to make it clear by asking a few typical discrete problems and contrasting algorithmic and nonalgorithmic ("classical") solutions to each one.

DISCRETE MATHEMATICS MINICOURSE

A three hour minicourse in discrete mathematics will be given by Dr. Walter Meyer on Friday afternoon November 15 from 3:30 - 6:30. Selected examples will be presented to illustrate some reasonable objectives of a discrete mathematics course. A general "road map" of the territory will be presented in which a variety of potential topics in such a course will be mentioned. A bibliography and some handouts will be available. Preregistration is mandatory. Participation is limited to 30, so register early. The cost will be $10. Additional information may be obtained by calling or writing Elizabeth J. Teles.

Dr. Walter Meyer is a Professor of mathematics at Adelphi University in New York. He is currently taking a leave of absence from Adelphi to serve as a Senior Systems Designer for Grumman Data Systems. He received a Ph. D. in mathematics from the University of Wisconsin in 1969. He is the author of two textbooks and a variety of expository and research articles as well as being a script consultant for a TV series in mathematics. He was the professor for the Discrete Mathematics course at the AMATYC Summer Institute at Rick's College during August 1985. This institute was funded by the Sloan Foundation as part of their continued interest in mathematics.

HOTEL/MOTEL RESERVATIONS

You should make your own reservations. We have the following special arrangements. When calling for reservations, be sure to mention that you are part of the MAA group meeting at Montgomery College.
Colonial Manor Inn (approximately fifteen minute drive to campus)
11410 Rockville Pike
Rockville, Md. 20852
Toll free: 800-752-3800
Maryland : 301-881-5200

A special rate of $43 + 10% tax includes one room with two double beds and a maximum of four people. We need 10 or more rooms for this special rate.

Days Inn (approximately five to ten minute drive to campus)
16001 Shady Grove Road
Rockville, Md. 20850
Toll free: 800-325-2525 (not for special rates)
            301-948-4300

Group rate of $41 + 10% tax per room will apply if we reserve five or more rooms by November 8. Contact Pamela Kane.

Town Centre Inn (approximately five minutes to campus)
254 N. Washington St.
Rockville, Md. 20850-1796
Phone: 301-424-0100

If there are ten or more registrations, there are group rates available of $40 + tax (single) and $44 + tax (double or king).

Ramada Hotel (approximately 10 minutes to campus)
1251 W. Montgomery Ave.
Rockville, Md. 20850
Toll free: 800-228-2828 (not for group rate)
          301-424-4940

Group rate of $48 + tax if there are at least ten rooms reserved.

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

As you are aware, the presence of vendors at our meetings significantly contributes to the low registration fees. For the Fall meeting we have invited thity-nine vendors, representing both the publishing and computing industries. We do not know yet how many will accept the invitation. It is hoped, however, that you will take the time to visit the displays and thereby encourage the representatives to continue attending our meetings.

If you can think of an organization that may wish to set up a display at one of our meetings, please contact Bob Lewand (Department of Mathematics, Goucher College, Towson, Maryland 21204, phone: 301-337-6239) with this information.

On June 30, 1985, Ed Bender resigned from his position as Regional Exams Coordinator of the American High School Mathematics Examination and the American Invitational Mathematics Examination for D. C., Maryland and Virginia. Although this position is ordinarily for a three year term, Ed has been at it for a full ten years, not only handling the nuts and bolts of running the contests, but also drumming up scholarships for outstanding participants in the competition, leading workshops for other Regional Exams Coordinators and otherwise proudly representing our section. We congratulate Ed on a job well done, thank him for his most generous ten years of service and wish him well in his own professional development activities.

Replacing Ed in this position for the next three years will be Sally Garber of Hollins College. Sally is enthusiastic about the job but admits that because of Ed's super organization and track record as Regional Exams Coordinator, his will be both an easy and a hard act to follow.

· Best of luck to both Ed and Sally.

GOVERNOR'S REPORT OF THE LARAMIE MEETING

The Association is beginning to form a long range plan and attempting to set goals and objectives. There were several lengthy discussions of this matter. If you have any ideas, please send them to John Smith (1837 Nigel Court, Vienna, Virginia 22180, 703-281-3247).

The Board of Governors appointed Herbert Wilf to the position of Editor of the Monthly. Professor Wilf will take over from the current editor, Professor Halmos, at the end of next year. The Board also recommended several changes in the by-laws, which will be voted on at the business meeting in New Orleans in January. Although most of the changes

are minor, one will change the mannner of electing the President. Professor Smith will give a full report later which will include the details of the proposed changes.

NOTES FROM THE SUMMER COURSE COORDINATOR

Ben Fusaro reports that Collin's course Program Design & Pascal and Wilf's course D. E. were both oversubscribed. As for a Weekend with Mandelbrot, the organizers were totally inundated with requests and feel as bad as do the Section members who were closed out. One of the advantages our Section has is that members who attend the Section meetings receive word of the coming topics before any information is sent out to the general membership.

The MAA-SSC June 1986 summer workshops will likely be the first two weeks in June. Speakers and topics have not yet been chosen. The Weekender will almost surely be Math & the Microcomputer, with several speakers and peer sessions.

The Pergamon journal Math Modeling will publish the six "winning" papers from the Mathematical Competition in Modeling in November. Copies will be available for about $7.50. Three of the winners were from small colleges, including Mount St. Mary's.

RANDOM THOUGHTS

Did you catch the plane embarassment in Discover, The Newsmagazine of Science, April 1985, pp.7-8?

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Fairfax, VA 22030	Salisbury, MD 21801	Hollins College, VA 24020

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Preregistration Form

Registration for the Fall Meeting |_| @ $2.00 each $_____

Dinner reservations |_| @ $14.00   h   _____

Workshop |_| @ 10.0   a   _____

Person or persons to be credited by the Treasurer

_____Name

_____Address

_____State_____Zipcode_____

Send your reservations to: Dr. Ray Hancock
                                  Box Y
                                  Emory and Henry College
                                  Emory, VA 24327

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