



MARYLAND - DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

VIRGINIA SECTION

# NEWSLETTER

Vol. 5, No. 2

August 1983

## NOTE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

As I start my two years as chairman, I wish to commend John Schmeelk for the fine job he has done running the section the past two years. I also wish to commend the other officers and chairmen for their fine jobs. I will be representing the section at the section officers meeting in Albany. I will have a report at the fall meeting. I would appreciate any comments that you have on our meetings. Should they be one or two days? Should there be one or two a year? How can we improve participation? Where should they be held? I would be interested in any suggestions that you may have for activities that the section could conduct. I am looking forward to a good year. The meetings should be good ones.

See you at U. D. C.

Howard Penn

## CALL FOR PAPERS

Papers on topics in mathematics, computer science, history, and pedagogy are currently being solicited for the November 18-19 sectional meeting of the MAA at the University of the District of Columbia. Also welcome are proposals for panel discussions or "birds of a feather" sessions on topics of interest to the membership.

Presentation of papers is ordinarily limited to 30 minutes (including a question-answer period). Panel discussions may last up to one hour. Exceptions to these time limits can be arranged.

Teachers, researchers, applied mathematicians and students (undergraduate and graduate) are invited to submit abstracts.

Send abstracts of talks or panel discussions to:

Robert Lewand,  
Vice-Chairman for Programs  
Department of Mathematics  
and Computer Science  
Goucher College  
Towson, MD 21204  
(301) 337-6239

Faculty members are strongly urged to encourage their students to participate actively in the meeting by giving a paper.

Because of the time required to organize, publish and distribute the program, a deadline of October 8, 1983, has been set for receipt of abstracts.

## 1983 SHORT COURSES

Again this past summer, Ben Fusaro's program at Salisbury State College proved to be a smashing success. The two principal investigators, Gareth Williams of Stetson University and G. J. Porter of the University of Pennsylvania, lived up to their advance notices and delivered most appropriate and timely materials to the participants.

Attend our fall meeting at U. D. C. and obtain from Dr. Fusaro in person his report to the section on this activity which we sponsor.

Read F O C U S. Check the calendar for scheduled meetings of MAA.

Mark November 18-19 for our U. D. C. meeting.

## MEMBERSHIP

At the Albany meeting it was revealed that our section - MD/DC/VA - has the largest membership in the twenty-nine sections. We are just barely ahead of the Northeast Section. There is no intention of getting into recruiting just simply to recruit; however, each person who has an abiding interest in mathematics should be viewed as a likely member. If you have a new colleague or associate who would benefit from becoming a member of MAA then, by all means, encourage this person to apply for membership in the Mathematical Association of America.

## JMU HOSTS NEAR RING CONFERENCE

The Seventh International Conference on Near Rings and Near Fields was held at James Madison University August 1-5, 1983.

Dr. C. G. Lyons organized and hosted this conference which was attended by thirty-seven mathematicians (Near ringers) from around the world. Principal addresses were given by Carl Maxon, Texas A&M; by Helmut Karzel from Wessling, West Germany; by Howard Bell from Ontario; and by John Meldrum from Edinburgh, Scotland.

It is realized that prior notice of such events is preferred to reporting their occurrence after the fact. If you are planning any conference which should be included as an announcement in this NEWSLETTER, then please write the editor (see the list below).

## APPOINTED

B. A. Fusaro, Department of Mathematical Sciences, Salisbury State College, has been appointed chairman of SIAM's Education Committee and will also serve as Education Editor of the SIAM News. He is off to a good start having appointed several subcommittees including one for microcomputers, one for the environment, and one for workshops and/or minicourses. Naturally, the major thrust of his endeavors will be concentrated in curriculum development.

David P. Roselle has resigned from being Secretary of the Mathematical Association of America and has accepted the position of Provost, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. We will miss his unique contribution to the Association but are honored to share him with the larger academic community.

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## SECTION OFFICERS AND CHAIRMEN

### Chairman:

Howard Penn  
United States Naval Academy

### Immediate Past Chairman:

John Schmeelk  
Virginia Commonwealth University

### Governor:

John Smith  
George Mason University

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Goucher College

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Emory and Henry College

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Edward Bender  
J. Sargeant Reynolds College

### Chairman of Summer Workshop:

Ben Fusaro  
Salisbury State College

## SPRING MEETING

The spring meeting of the MD/DC/VA Section of MAA will be held April 13-14, 1984, at Virginia Commonwealth University. This meeting will be a joint meeting with the Southeastern Section of the American Mathematical Society.

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS

At the spring meeting there will be an election to fill the positions of Chairman-elect and Vice Chairman for Programs. A nominating committee will be announced at the fall meeting at U. D. C. Meanwhile, if you would like to place a name of someone to be considered for either of these positions, then contact Chairman Penn who will forward the information to the committee.

## OF POSSIBLE INTEREST

Nov. 4-5, 1983. Twenty-First Annual State Mathematics Conference. Roanoke, Virginia.

Mar. 23-24, 1984. Virginia Council of Teachers of Mathematics Annual Meeting. Richmond, Virginia.