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The Newsletter is published in April and November each year. The deadlines for items to be included in each issue are March 15 and October 15 respectively. Departmental News appears in the November newsletter only and is solicited from department liaisons. Full page ads are available for graduate programs and for corporate ads. Quarter page ads are available for position advertisements. Contact the advertising manager for details.

Material may be submitted to the editor on paper, by email, or on 3.5" diskette, electronic forms are preferred. Currently the newsletter is produced using Microsoft Publisher, which can import plain text files or files produced by most word-processing software.

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Advertising Manager: Same as editor.

Section Calendar

August 12-14, 2004	MathFest, Providence, RI
November 18-21, 2004	AMATYC Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL
January 5-8, 2005	MAA/AMS Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA
March 11-12, 2005	Southeastern Section MAA, Raleigh, NC
April 6-9, 2005	NCTM Annual Meeting, Anaheim, CA
August 4-6, 2005	MathFest, Albuquerque, NM
November 10-13, 2005	AMATYC Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA
January 12-15, 2006	MAA/AMS Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX
March 24-25, 2006 (tentative)	Southeastern Section MAA, Auburn, AL
April 26-29, 2006	NCTM Annual Meeting, Kansas City, MO
August 10-12, 2006	MathFest, Knoxville, TN
November 2-5, 2006	AMATYC Annual Meeting, Cincinnati, OH
January 2, 2007	MAA/AMS Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA
March 21-24, 2007	NCTM Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA
August 3-5, 2007	MathFest, San Jose, CA
November 15-18, 2007	AMATYC Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA
January 4, 2008	MAA/AMS Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA
April 9-12, 2008	NCTM Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City, UT
July 31-August 2, 2008	MathFest, Madison, WI
November 20-23, 2008	AMATYC Annual Meeting, Washington, DC
January 5, 2009	MAA/AMS Annual Meeting, Washington, DC



From the Chair

As always, it was great to see so many of you at our annual spring Section meeting. The folks at Austin Peay State University were outstanding hosts, starting with Jim Vandergriff's leadership of the local arrangements committee, and including a wide swathe of the APSU community, from their fine and accommodating student volunteers to APSU

President Sherry Hoppe, who opened her house to the section for a Friday pre-dinner reception. This was Joe Wimbish's swan song as Program Chair for the section, and he and Jim Vandergriff put together an outstanding program. Headliners included Math Horizon's editor, MAA author, and banquet mathematician Art Benjamin, 2003 Section Teaching Award recipient Sue Goodman, Section Lecturer (and our 2004 Teaching Award recipient) Jeff Knisley, and MAA Monthly editor Bruce Palka. It was a meeting of many highlights, including our second annual undergraduate Math Jeopardy competition. Teams from 12 schools in the section participated, culminating in a thrilling final (before a full auditorium early on Saturday morning) in which Furman edged past Davidson on the final Jeopardy question. Thank you to Michael Berry of SIAM and UT-Knoxville's Computer Science Department for supplying the software and buzzer system, and for returning as emcee. The section plans to continue this new-found tradition. We would also like to be able to provide awards for the winning teams as well as for outstanding papers and posters presented by students. This is an item which hasn't been in our budget, so I encourage you to consider a targeted donation to the section to support student activities. (*Ed: see page 12 for details.*)

A fuller report of the many other highlights of the meeting is elsewhere in this newsletter. Read it to reminisce or to see what you missed, then mark your calendar for the March 11-12, 2005, section meeting at Meredith College in Raleigh, NC. APSU continued the high standard of section meeting host institutions; the team at Meredith, headed by site coordinator Jennifer Hontz, and your Executive Committee, particularly new Program Chair Tom Barr, are already hard at work to meet that standard.

A lot of other mathematical activity is going on in the section. Each of the five state directors has organized a state MAA dinner this spring, and Section Lecturers John Baxley and Jeff Knisley have been talking throughout the section; new Section Lecturer Bob Fray joins the circuit in the fall. Keep these folks in mind as you plan events on your campus.

Finally, let me encourage you to nominate your outstanding teaching colleagues for the annual Section Teaching Award. We have lots of excellent

(Continued on page 15)

LOOKING FOR A GREAT MATHEMATICS SPEAKER?

Invite a Southeastern Section Lecturer to your campus!

Many think the Section Lecturer only delivers an address at the Annual Meeting of the Section, but this person also visits individual institutions within the Section.

Bob Fray is the 2004-2005 Section Lecturer. He is available for the next two academic years. Contact him at bob.fray@furman.edu. Possible talks include:

- Raymond Pearl and the Logistic Curve (I*)
- Vito Volterra and the Selachians (I)
- Modeling Epidemics (A)
- Mathematics and Wildlife Protection (A)

Jeff Knisley of East Tennessee State University was the 2003-2004 Section Lecturer. He is still available for the 2004-2005 academic year. Contact him at knisleyj@etsu.edu.

***E is for Elementary:** intended for college students who are interested in mathematics, and for educated laymen in the general public. No college level training in mathematics is assumed.

I is for Intermediate: intended for students who have completed a year of calculus or other mathematics at a similar level.

A is for Advanced: intended for junior and senior mathematics majors.

Make your arrangements today!



From the Governor

Having only recently returned from the Section meeting at Austin Peay State University, it will be hard for me not to use all of my “column inches” to say good things about that meeting. However, other columns in this Newsletter will fill you in on what happened in Clarksville, and I need to focus here on what I learned at the Board of Governors’ meeting during the Winter Meetings in Phoenix way back in January.

So, I am going to restrain myself from going on at length about all the good things that happened at Austin Peay, but I do need to thank all the people there for all the hard work and good planning they did. The meeting was a resounding success, and, while it would be hard to pick out a single highlight, the Student Jeopardy contest was certainly a big hit. Consensus has it that Student Jeopardy ought to be an annual event at our spring meetings from now on.

Turning to the Board of Governors Meeting in Phoenix, my high opinion of the national MAA President, Ron Graham, was reinforced. Just listening to the list of things Ron did for the MAA during the previous six months was exhausting. Towards the end of his remarks, Ron suggested that professional societies, including the MAA, may be forced to take over the publication of some of the journals that are now published by various commercial firms since the prices charged by these firms are becoming ever more exorbitant.

On another financial note, Jim Daniel, on behalf of the Budget Committee, proposed to the Board of Governors that dues for 2005 be increased by 3% on average. After some debate and adjusting the dues suggested for students, the Board passed the committee’s recommendation. Thus, you should expect to see what is essentially an adjustment for inflation when your dues statement arrives later this year. You may also be able to pay your dues on-line if the testing now underway goes well. In part, the modest increase in dues reflects the stability of the membership of the MAA and its encouraging financial status. This last is, in no small measure, a consequence of the efforts of John Kenelly, the MAA Treasurer.

Scheduling meetings is a recurring item on the Board of Governor’s agenda, and if you are a person who plans ahead, let me remind you that the next Winter Meetings will be held in Atlanta and the 2006 MathFest will be held in Knoxville. I hope you will be able to make both of these meetings. If you are a person who really plans ahead, you will want to know that the Board of Governors has scheduled the 2010 and 2011 Winter Meetings for San Francisco and New Orleans, respectively. The 2007 meetings will also be held

in New Orleans. Incidentally, plans are well underway to bring the administration (registration, etc.) for MathFest back from the AMS to the MAA. This will bring with it considerable cost savings and perhaps hold down increases in the registration fee for future MathFests.

The officers of the Section realize that we need to store our records in an archive, one that is managed by a professional archivist. I learned at the Board of Governors meeting that the University of Texas is anxious to set up an archive for each of the sections of the MAA. The Executive Committee of the Section is debating whether Texas is the best place for our permanent records, even though we do not have an alternative at this point. I expect we will make a decision within the next twelve months.

Moving on down the agenda of the Board of Governor's meeting, Don Albers, who runs the publication program of the MAA, reported that the association had published twenty new books during 2003 and that sales of MAA books would again this year top the one million dollar mark. The Board of Governors then learned from Executive Director Tina Straley that the MAA has engaged a professional lobbying firm. I will close out this report with two other items from the meeting that I thought were interesting.

First, MAA has created an entity that is the rough equivalent of Project NExT but aimed at two-year college faculty. The acronym chosen for this endeavor is Project ACCCESS; note that, my spell checker to the contrary, this spelling is correct. You can go to the project's website, to discover the full name of the project. (<http://www.maa.org/projectaccess/>) Funding for this initiative comes from the ExxonMobil Foundation, the same organization that has been instrumental in funding Project NExT. The first ACCCESS class will be assembled for the 2004-05 academic year. You need to know that the Section's Executive Committee is planning to set up a Section ACCCESS as well.

Second, the Board of Governors discussed, at length, a "position paper on calculus in the secondary schools." The issue seemed simple enough at first; i.e., high school calculus should be the equivalent of college calculus, and Advanced Placement Calculus was a good model for what high schools should offer. As the debate went on, it became clear that the issue was not so simple and the proposal was sent back to committee for further study. I imagine that the issue will reappear at the Board Meeting in Providence this summer.

Finally, I want to thank each of you for allowing me to serve as your Governor and want you to know that I take the responsibility of representing you seriously. To this end, if you have questions or concerns about what is, or is not, going on at the national MAA, please let me know.

Ben Klein



Spring Executive Committee Meeting

The spring meeting of the Southeastern Section Executive Committee was held Thursday evening, March 25, 2004 at the Riverview Inn following a reception and dinner with MAA-SE Project NExT participants. First on the agenda was our conference organizer, Jim Vandergriff, who welcomed us to

Austin Peay State University and went through the program. He pointed out that we had around 200 people pre-registered for the conference and predicted that another 100 participants would register on-site. In all, there were 83 talks or posters and 109 presenters. The Committee expressed appreciation for the outstanding work done by the faculty and staff at Austin Peay in arranging the meeting.

After covering the meeting itinerary, Section Chair Stephen Davis moved to the rest of the agenda by calling on our Section's Past Chair, Ray Collings, who said a few words about the Section Officer's Meeting at the January national MAA meeting in Phoenix. He discussed his participation on the Service Award and Nominations Committees and encouraged us to continue using the Math Jeopardy competition at our section meetings to encourage student participation. Virginia Parks, our Section Vice Chair for Two Year Colleges, discussed her role in the Awards Ceremony during the second General Session on Friday as well as her efforts on Project ACCCESS. Martha Abell, the Section's Secretary-Treasurer, gave the financial report. Some Executive Committee members asked if we could cut printing costs by placing our meeting programs and newsletters on the web. Stephen Davis thought that this would be possible in the future as all of our membership becomes technology savvy. However, we still have members who are not comfortable with technology.

Next, the group heard from Section Governor, Ben Klein, who spoke about the MAA's efforts to support high school teachers, AP Calculus instructors in particular. He said there would be two special events at MathFest 2004 for AP Calculus teachers and he hopes that our section will consider having special sessions at our meetings for them as well. He pointed out that Dan Teague of the North Carolina School for Science and Mathematics, is Governor-at-Large on the MAA's Board of Governors and is invited to attend MAA-SE Executive Committee meetings. Our hope is that he will be able to attend our fall meeting to help with the planning of the Spring 2005 meeting at Meredith College. Virginia Watson, our Newsletter Editor, discussed the numbers of newsletters and ads for the past few newsletters. The numbers have been stable. She also pointed out that we have encountered a problem with being charged taxes for printing the newsletter, a problem that the section treasurer

would address (and a problem that has appeared on the national section officers listserv).

Joe Wimbish, our Section's Program Chair, reported that after being initially concerned with the number of papers submitted for the conference, he was happy with the final tally. He said that the numbers were down only slightly from previous meetings. He thought that in the future, we should offer more special sessions in which a single individual lines up presenters for the session. Our Section Lecturer, Jeff Knisley, reported he had spoken at five institutions and had three more events on his schedule this year. It was mentioned that John Baxley, our Section Lecturer from the previous year, had made several presentations this year as well. The Executive Committee was pleased to hear that the Section Lecturer position has become more active over the last few years. In the past the individual was rarely called upon to visit schools in the Section. We had a short discussion on the financial support that should be offered to the Section Lecturer. Stephen Davis has always maintained that an institution should offer whatever it is comfortable offering any visitor to campus, and the Section does not make up the difference. Stephen also reported that past lecturers said that they broke even with the finances of all of their trips combined, where the excesses of some institutions made up for the less significant support from others. Next, the State Directors reported on this year's State Dinners and other matters related to their posts.

The Committee heard from the Section Historian, Joe Albree, who expressed concern over the location of the section's archives as well as what should be contained in the archives. After a lengthy discussion on the possibilities of placing the archives at Georgia Tech, the University of Georgia, or Wake Forest, the group decided that Prof. Albree should contact the mathematics archivist at the University of Texas to determine what should be preserved from all of our Section materials. With our endorsement, he will also contact Marcellis Waddell at Wake Forest University to investigate a location of the archives somewhere within the section, making them more useful for our section members. John Kenelly suggested that the national office most likely wants some section materials at the Austin location, but we could have our own collection within the Section. Joe Albree also reported on his response to the national office for the 100 Years Project, a report that was greatly appreciated by the Executive Committee. He concluded his report by discussing the damage that has been done to the libraries in Iraq and wondering if anything could be done at the national level for assistance. John Kenelly suggested that we contact Martha Siegel so that she could have one of the national MAA committees consider a solution to the problem.

The Section Web Master, Jeff Clark, reported that the Section Web Page has been updated to contain accurate information. He pointed out that students in a web design class at Elon University plan to use the Section's page as one of their projects.

Theresa Early reported for the Nominating Committee. The slate of officers approved by their group included: Charlotte Knotts-Zides (Wofford College) for Chair-Elect; Tom Barr (Rhodes College) for Vice Chair for Programs; Virginia Parks (Georgia Perimeter College) for Vice Chair for Two-Year Colleges; and Bob Fray (Furman University) for Section Lecturer. The slate also included State Directors: Bruce Atkinson (Samford University, Alabama), Curtis Herink (Mercer University, Georgia), Robert Harger (High Point University, North Carolina), John Harris (Furman University, South Carolina) and Gary Hall (Lipscomb University, Tennessee). Stephen Davis presented the information collected from the Site Selection Committee, which recommended Auburn University to host the 85th annual meeting. He pointed out that the department chair and dean offered support for the meeting to be held there the last weekend of March 2006. (The exact date will be announced once Auburn's academic calendar is approved so that it coincides with their spring break in 2006.)

The Project NExT Executive Committee (Julie Barnes, Rob Harger, Pat Humphrey, and Charlotte Knotts-Zides) reported that they had four new MAA-SE Project NExT fellows this year. The new fellows had been joined in the Thursday afternoon sessions by three Project NExT Executive Committee members and eight other fellows from either the national or section project. They are investigating changes to improve the program and have a link from the section site to the MAA-SE Project NExT website.

John Kenelly from the National MAA reported that the national office is in good shape financially with over 7 million dollars in the annual budget, 7 million in endowments, and 7 million in grants in place. He also spoke highly of the leadership being provided by MAA Executive Director Tina Straley, a former member of our section.

Under Old Business, Stephen Davis pointed out that we are always in need of nominations for our Teaching and Service Awards. He said that nominations are welcome from all institutions in the section, including two-year schools. He encouraged members of the Executive Committee to nominate colleagues. John Kenelly reminded us to nominate younger members of the section for the Alder Award, the national MAA teaching award for younger faculty members.

Under New Business, the group discussed Project ACCCESS, the two-year college version of Project NExT, for which Sharon Ross of MAA-SE is one of the co-directors. Participants in the project receive funding to attend national and section meetings, so the Executive Committee tried to think of the best ways to incorporate Project ACCCESS into section activities. There were several suggestions, including having a Section Project ACCCESS, inviting national Project ACCCESS members to participate in MAA-SE Project NExT activities, and determining which Project ACCCESS applicants from our section were not selected to join the national group and inviting them to form a

section version of Project ACCESS or to join MAA-SE Project NExT. Charlotte Knotts-Zides suggested that the MAA-SE Project NExT Executive Committee meet to discuss how the groups could work together.

The Executive Committee discussed possibilities for increasing the participation of graduate students at the section meetings. Stephen Davis mentioned the availability of grants from the national office. After announcing that the Fall Meeting of the MAA-SE Executive Committee would be September 24-25, 2004, the meeting was adjourned.

Martha Abell

Southeastern Section MAA Meeting

Meredith College

Raleigh, NC

March 11-12, 2005

Deadline for Special Session Organizers:

Friday, October 8, 2004

Deadline for Contributed Papers:

Friday, February 11, 2004

**Contact: Tom Barr, Program Chair,
tombarr@rhodes.edu**

The Southeastern Section of MAA looks forward to the 2005 meeting, March 11 -12, at Meredith College in Raleigh, NC. Now is a great time for those who have topics in mind for special sessions to contact the new Program Chair and suggest their interests--either in a topic or in chairing such a session. A preliminary announcement of special sessions will appear in the Fall Newsletter, and any suggestions received between now and mid-September will be helpful in finalizing these sessions. Continuing in its tradition, the Section would like the meeting to incorporate a wide range of topics of interest to faculty and students in the two-year colleges, four-year colleges, regional universities, and research universities.



Department of Mathematics

Graduate Programs

Programs leading to MA and PhD degrees are available in Algebra, Analysis, Applied Mathematics, Approximation Theory, Control Theory, Differential Equations, Probability, Statistics, Theoretical Computer Science, Topology and other areas.

The Department

The research of our 33 faculty members represent most areas in pure and applied mathematics. The Department includes *The Institute for Constructive Mathematics* which performs applied research for government and industry. Three international journals have their editorial base at our department: *Constructive Approximation*, *Abstract and Applied Analysis* and *Journal of Theoretical Probability*.

Financial Assistance

A limited number of University Graduate Fellowships of minimum \$10,000 for 9 months are available for **new students** starting Fall 2004. They carry a tuition waiver and no service for the department is required. Funds can be supplemented with a partial Teaching Assistantship. Teaching Assistantships with minimum of \$12,000 for 9 months with tuition waiver are available. Students holding these awards perform instructional duties for the Department. Summer Teaching Assistantships are also available. A limited number of students are awarded Tharpe Scholarships in addition to their Teaching Assistantship or Graduate Fellowship. These awards range from \$2,000 to \$5,000.

The University and Tampa

The University of South Florida is a large and diverse community with the main campus on 1,748 acres located on the outskirts of Tampa. The warm sunny climate allows outdoor activities throughout the year. Tampa Bay is a resort area offering numerous recreational and cultural attractions.

For more information: **visit:** www.math.usf.edu, **call:** 813-974-9566 or 813-974-5329, **e-mail:** ga@math.usf.edu, **write:** Graduate Admissions Director, Department of Mathematics, University of South Florida, PHY114, Tampa FL 33620-5700.

Announcements

Contribute to MAA-SE Student Activities

The Southeastern Section supports student activities at its annual meeting through:

- TA Rush with student pizza lunch
- Undergraduate Student Poster Sessions
- Undergraduate Student Contributed Paper Sessions
- Reduced student registration fees
- Jeopardy Contest

Further, student participation in the Association is encouraged by the State Directors through their organization of state dinners and coordination with MAA Student Chapters.

The Executive Committee of the Southeastern Section invites you to help sponsor these activities through a donation of \$10 or more. Make your contribution by sending a check (payable to MAA-SE) to

Martha Abell, Secretary-Treasurer
MAA Southeastern Section
Georgia Southern University
P O Box 8130
Statesboro, GA 30460

Subscribe to Section Listserv

An e-mail listserv has been established for news of the section; subscribe by sending the message

subscribe sesmaa Your Name

(where "Your Name" is your real name; your e-mail address is obtained from the header of your message) to listserv@huntingdon.edu

You may also use the subscription form located on the section website at <http://www.huntingdon.edu/MAA/>.

Section Putnam Award

Each year the Section awards a \$100 prize to the individual from an institution in the Section who scores highest on the annual William Lowell Putnam Mathematical Competition. This year, the winner of the Putnam Prize for highest score at an institution in our region is David G. Arthur from Duke University.

Theresa E. Early Receives Section Distinguished Service Award

Bob Fray, chair of the Southeastern Section Service Award Committee, made the following remarks upon presenting the award at the March 26, 2004 Awards Presentation.



The Southeastern Section of the Mathematical Association of America created the Southeastern Section Distinguished Service Award in 1989. This award is presented annually to a member of the section who has rendered outstanding service to the section. It is my pleasure to announce that the recipient of the 2004 Southeastern Section Service Award is Professor Theresa E. Early of Appalachian State University.

For many years Theresa contributed much of her time, energy and spirit to our Section in a variety of positions of responsibility. One of her first positions was Business Editor of the Southeastern Section Newsletter from 1990 until 1994. Then, in 1994, she began her six years as Editor of the Section Newsletter. In 2000 Theresa was elected Governor of the Southeastern Section, a position she held until last year. As a result of first being Editor of the Newsletter, then serving as Governor, she was a member of the Section Executive Committee from 1994 until 2003. Since 2000 she has also been a member of the Section Nominating Committee; currently she serves as Chair of this committee.

Theresa has also actively served the Mathematical Association of America by being a member of the Board of Governors from 2000 to 2003. Currently she is a member of several national committees—the Committee on Sections, the Coordinating Council on Mathematical Competitions, and the Committee on Local and Regional Competitions.

Professor Early received her Bachelor of Science degree in mathematics from Florida Atlantic University in 1970; the following year she received a Masters of Arts degree, also from Florida Atlantic. She received her Ph.D. in mathematics from Florida State University in 1976.

In the fall of 1976 Theresa began her career as an exemplary teacher and faculty member at Appalachian State University. In 1980 she received the Outstanding Teaching Award at ASU, and in 1999 she became a member of the College of Arts and Sciences Academy of Outstanding Teachers. She has also been a member of the Advisory Board of the ASU Mathematics and

Science Education Center since 1992.

For the past twenty years Dr. Early has served the mathematics teachers of North Carolina in a wide variety of ways. She has been especially active in the North Carolina Council of Teachers of Mathematics. She served as president of the NCCTM in 1992 and 1993. She was Editor of *The Centroid*, the journal of the North Carolina Council of Teachers of Mathematics, from 1986 until 1991 and served on its editorial panel from 1986-1995 and from 2000-2002. In 1995 the North Carolina Council of Teachers of Mathematics bestowed on Theresa its Rankin Award, the highest award given by the NCCTM, for excellence in mathematics education.

From 1991 until 1995 she served as one of the Principal Investigators for the TEACH-STAT Project, a state-wide project, funded by the National Science Foundation, designed to help elementary-grade teachers integrate teaching about statistics into their curriculum.

Theresa has given numerous talks at the annual meetings of the North Carolina and South Carolina Councils of Teachers of Mathematics. She has also presented workshops in the public schools on a variety of mathematics topics.

Not only is Theresa willing to serve the mathematics community in so many ways, she does so with such a wonderful, positive spirit, and the results of her endeavors are always of the highest caliber. One member of our Section who has worked extensively with her said, "Theresa is my role model for service to the profession. She takes on all tasks, no matter how small, with enthusiasm. She genuinely enjoys her service." And all the rest of us genuinely enjoy serving with her.

Professor Early, your contributions to our Section have been manifold; our Section has been greatly enriched by your service. You have honored us with years of dedication. We would like to now honor you by presenting to you the 2004 Distinguished Service Award of the Southeastern Section of the Mathematical Association of America.

Theresa Early made the following response to the Section.

I was thrilled to receive the 2004 Distinguished Service Award from the Southeastern Section of the Mathematical Association of America. I almost feel guilty to receive an award for activities from which I have received so much pleasure. I have truly enjoyed all aspects of my service to the Section. (Well, maybe not the hours I spent putting together the bulk mailings of the Section Newsletter!) The award means a great deal to me but, to quote a current advertising campaign, the friendships that I have made throughout the Section – priceless! Thank you for the award and your friendships.

Theresa

John W. Kenelly Awarded 2004 Southeastern Section Certificate of Meritorious Service

The Board of Governors of the MAA instituted the Certificate of Meritorious Service at its meeting in January 1984. The certificate is awarded once every five years in each section to a member of the section who has made significant contributions to the Association at the national and/or section level. The award was presented to John W. Kenelly at the national meeting in January.

John Kenelly made the following response to the section.

It has been my pleasure to serve our profession in many ways, but the opportunities mentioned would not have happened without the support of my colleagues. I thank them all, identified or not, in accepting this award. In the beginning, Billy Bryant, John Neff and Ivey Gentry showed me how much fun it is to be active in your section. Then Lida Barrett, who knew of my extra curricula activities in Banking and Real Estate, came to me for help with the "Building Problem." Within the bricks and mortar, there were always dollar questions, so Don Kreider and Jerry Porter got me deeply involved with the finances of the Association. After a brief reprieve, Shirley Frye and representatives of 23 mathematical science organizations asked me to use my "beggar" skills and help the nation host a spectacular International Mathematical Olympiad in Washington in 2001. But starting decades ago, Dick Anderson, Marcia Sward initially with Placement Tests issues and Tina Straley with "down south" curricula problems have been constants that even today keep me saying to them and others "I would be glad to, thanks for asking."



John Kenelly (far left) socializing with people from Georgia Southern University.

John

(Continued from page 3)

educators at two-year and four-year colleges and at universities in the section. Surely they are worthy of the time it takes to generate a nomination for this award. Take that time to honor these outstanding teachers.

Stephen Davis

Jeff R. Knisley Recipient of Section Distinguished College or University Teaching Award

Ron Harshbarger, chair of the Section Teaching Award Committee, made the following remarks upon presenting the award at the March 26, 2003 Awards Presentation.



I am honored to present the Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics. While being a masterly teacher in the classical sense of the term, our awardee has also found innovative ways to extend even further the practice and scholarship of pedagogy. While he has taught a wide range of upper-level and graduate classes, he has taught the honors and regular calculus sequence with perhaps the greatest success, being able to achieve the right balance between theory and technology that we all strive for (but do not

always attain). He is regarded as both a staunch supporter and valued critic of the calculus reform movement. He is currently working on a new calculus textbook with the goal of incorporating material that helps tell the tale of calculus so that students will view it not as a skeleton from the past, but rather as a vibrant field of study that reflects and contributes to our understanding of the universe.

He is the co-writer of a successfully funded NSF-CCLI proposal for a Math Technology Classroom, which has had a huge impact on his university's current and future offerings. His work with the Teaching with Technology group has assisted his department achieve the right blend of instructor motivation and web enhancement and has resulted in improved success rates in the most critical courses. He also co-wrote a grant proposal that received funding from the NSF-CCLI to make massive changes in a high-enrollment Probability and Statistics course. His team's success led to him being used as a facilitator in several grant-writing workshops.

Our awardee has publications in two areas, applied mathematics and mathematical pedagogy. His research in mathematical modeling in the neurosciences is a collaborative effort with the Biology department supported by an NSF grant the he also co-wrote. As a researcher in mathematical pedagogy, he has published papers in prestigious journals such as *Primus* and the *American Monthly Journal*.

In summary, he is a masterful and innovative teacher, a solid researcher in applied mathematics, and a very successful grant writer. Last but not least, our awardee has an uncanny ability to connect with students and excite them about mathematics. It is with pride that I present the Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics to Dr. Jeff Knisley.

Jeff Knisley's response to the section is below.

I am deeply honored to have been given the section teaching award. It means a great deal to me to be recognized, but it also makes me aware of how many of my colleagues are doing as much or even more than I am in the classroom. I am grateful to be chosen to be representative of we who so highly value the student-teacher relationship, as I can't help but consider myself part of the larger community of those who daily strive for and achieve excellence in their own classrooms.

Most of all, though, I am thankful to the students I have encountered along the way. In many ways, I have served only to provide some focus to their hard work and curiosity. The joy of teaching is that I get to experience the joy of learning all over again every time I see a student learn something worth knowing that they did not know before. I could not agree more with whoever first said that "teaching is its own reward."

Jeff

Editors note: The call for nominations for the Section Distinguished College or University Teaching Award appears on page 18.

Check out the Section's Webpage

<http://www.maa.org/southeastern>.

Send comments or suggestions to

Jeff Clark, Elon University

clarkj@elon.edu.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

for the 2005 Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics

Nominations for the 2005 Southeastern Section Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics are now being accepted. The Southeastern Section selection committee will choose the winner of this award from the pool of nominees, and the winner will be honored at the Spring 2005 meeting of the Section. The winner will also be widely recognized and acknowledged within the Section and will be the Section's official candidate for one of the three Deborah and Franklin Tepper Haimo Awards for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics that will be presented in January, 2006.

Nomination materials and a description of the complete nomination packet are included in this Newsletter. Each member of the Section is encouraged to consider submitting a nomination to Ron Harshbarger, chair of the selection committee. If you wish to nominate someone, please submit a complete nomination packet by October 31, 2004.

Nomination packets for persons nominated for the 2004 award may be carried forward for consideration for the 2005 award, if the nominator so desires. The selection committee will contact nominators to determine whether they wish to submit a revised nomination to the selection committee.

Previous Teaching Award Recipients

The section has presented the Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics each year since 1992. The recipient list is:

1992	Anne Hudson, Armstrong State University
1993	Robert Bryant, Duke University
1994	John Neff, Georgia Institute of Technology
1995	Sylvia Bozeman, Spelman College
1996	Carl Pomerance, University of Georgia
1997	Harold Reiter, Univ. of North Carolina at Charlotte
1998	Joel Brawley, Clemson University
1999	Ben Klein, Davidson College
2000	Theodore Shifrin, University of Georgia
2001	Johnny Henderson, Auburn University
2002	Ronald Harshbarger, University of South Carolina, Beaufort
2003	Sue E. Goodman, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
2004	Jeff R. Knisley, East Tennessee State University

Eligibility Requirements and Guidelines

Each nominee

- 1 – must be a teacher of mathematical sciences at a public or private college or university in the US or Canada (including two year colleges) whose assignment during the current academic year is at least half time. (Teachers on approved sabbatical leaves are also eligible provided they met this requirement during the previous academic year.)
- 2 – must have at least five years of teaching experience in a mathematical science.
- 3 – must be an active member of the Mathematical Association of America.
- 4 – should be widely recognized for extraordinary successes in teaching*.
- 5 – should have fostered curiosity and generated excitement for mathematics in students and possess teaching effectiveness which can be documented.
- 6 – should have had influence beyond their own institutions**.

The Nomination Packet -- A completed nomination packet should consist only of the following material:

- 1 – a completed nomination form (on the back of this page).
- 2 – a narrative of at most five pages*** that describes the nominee's background, experience, teaching style, involvement in the MAA and/or other organizations concerned with college teaching, and other special contributions and appropriate information not on the nomination form.
- 3 – at most three additional pages*** documenting extraordinary teaching; e.g. summaries of peer or student teaching evaluations (with explanations), successes in increasing mathematics majors or successes with masters or doctoral students, involvement in successful student competitions, campus teaching awards, etc.
- 4 – a maximum of five letters of recommendation, each limited to one page, with at least two letters from present or former students and at least two letters from colleagues, one of whom may be the department chair.

**Awards for
Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics
Nomination Form**

Please type.

Nominee's Name (first name first): _____
College or University Affiliation: _____
College or University Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Nominee's number of years teaching experience in a mathematical science: _____

Has the nominee taught at least half time in a mathematical science during the current academic year or during the previous year if on approved leave or sabbatical? _____

In the space below, please describe briefly the unusual personal and professional qualities of the nominee that contribute to his or her extraordinary teaching success.

Name of nominator (first name first): _____

Address of nominator: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Nominator's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please take the time to assemble the dossier in a thoughtful manner so as to make as strong a case as possible. Please adhere closely to the guidelines given above and include the items that are requested. If you are resubmitting a previous nomination, please be sure that it has been updated, rewritten as is necessary, and that some recent letters have been included.

The winner of the Southeastern Section Award will be the Section's nominee for the national Haimo Award, and since the winner's nomination packet will be forwarded to MAA headquarters, each packet should be as complete as possible. However, a curriculum vitae should not be submitted since all relevant teaching information will be contained in the documents mentioned above.

* "teaching" is to be interpreted in its broadest sense and is not necessarily limited to the classroom.

** "influence beyond an institution" can take many forms; e.g. demonstrated impact on alumni, influence on the profession through curriculum development/revisions, influential, innovative books, etc.

*** each of these pages should be typewritten and double-spaced on a single side of standard 8.5x11 paper in no less than 12 point pica.

The Procedure

Send a complete packet by October 31, 2004 to the chair of the selection committee:

Ron Harshbarger, Department of Mathematics, University of South Carolina Beaufort,
1 College Center, Hilton Head Island, SC 29928 ronharsh@hargray.com

Section Meeting March 26-27, 2004 Clarksville



A warm welcome at the Riverview Inn.

students and faculty alike.

Walking into the Riverview Inn the sign said it all. They may have got the spelling wrong, but they were happy to see us. (At least they used another mathematics term!) The 83rd meeting at Austin Peay State University will be remembered for the generous hospitality of the faculty, students and president of Austin Peay. Much of the credit goes to Jim Vandergriff and the local arrangement committee who managed to have a variety of activities of interest to

Friday mornings are busier than ever with Project NExT meetings (see following article), short courses and the initial rounds of Math Jeopardy. Five short courses met on Friday morning. They were *A First Real Course in Mathematical Modeling* by William P. Fox, Francis Marion University; *Introduction to Public Key Cryptography* by Jeffrey Ehme and Colm Mulcahy, Spelman College; *Making Assessment Work for Students and Faculty* by Bernard L. Madison, SAUM Project Director, University of Arkansas and Scott Smith, Director of Academic Assessment, Columbia College; *MAA Workshop on Mathematics for Business Decisions* by Julie Tarr and Gregory Hartman, University of Arizona; and *Initial steps toward preparing to teach mathematics for prospective elementary school teachers* by Gregory D. Foley, Distinguished Professor of Math Ed, Appalachian State University, Robin Blankenship, Frank Edge.

Math Jeopardy is fast becoming everyone's favorite activity at the meeting. Twelve teams participated this year. In the initial rounds Austin Peay State University, Catawba College, Coastal Carolina University, Davidson College, East Tennessee State University, Elon University, Freed-Hardeman University, Furman University, High Point University, King College, Methodist College and Western Carolina competed for the four Final Round Spaces. After the

MAA-SES JEOPARDY 2004				
Algebra/Trigonometry	Differential Equations	Calculus I	Calculus II	Calculus III
200	200	200	200	200
400	400	400	400	400
600	600	600	600	600
800	800	800	800	800
1000	1000	1000	1000	1000

The playing screen for Jeopardy.



Students eat pizza and talk about the Jeopardy contest..

competitions students adjourned to the traditional Pizza Lunch and TA Rush. About ten schools, including several from outside the section, provided booths. On Saturday morning Coastal Carolina, Davidson, Furman and Western Carolina met for the final four. In the end, Furman was

victorious. The only complaints heard were that the business meeting was held opposite the final round.

There were four invited speakers this year. Sue Goodman started the meeting off with “Learning by Doing”. Jeff Knisley spoke on “From Neurons to Neural Networks—And Back Again.” Arthur Benjamin described “Proofs that Really Count—The Art of Combinatorial Proof.” And Bruce Palka told us “Why Things Go Quasi in Higher Dimensions.”

At the Friday afternoon Awards Presentation, Ron Harshbarger presented the Southeastern Section Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics to Jeff Knisley of East Tennessee State University, and Bob Fray presented the Southeastern Section Award for Outstanding Service to Theresa Early. See the accompanying articles beginning on page thirteen for details as well as responses from the award winners.

Immediately after the awards presentation, participants attended a reception hosted by Austin Peay President Sherry Hoppe at her home on campus. The house is about 100 years old and she extended a generous invitation to attendees to see the interior. After the social hour we went to a banquet where Cumberland Collegium performed music from Isaac Newton’s day. Finally, Arthur Benjamin performed his famous mathematician routine. He astounded us with his ability to multiply large numbers



Arthur Benjamin does a mathemagic feat.

faster than a calculator and to memorize many digits of π . Then he told us the secrets of these “tricks”.

The meeting began early on Saturday with the traditional Liaison Breakfast and Department Chair Meetings. The Business Meeting (see the minutes elsewhere in the newsletter) had stiff competition from the Math Jeopardy. In addition to contributed talks participants could attend a Planetarium talk on “The Historical Link Between Mathematics and Astronomy” by Spencer Buckner of Austin Peay. At noon the boxed lunches were served. The meeting ended with the presentation of the Jeopardy trophies after Bruce Palka’s talk.

Additional pictures of the meeting appear at the end of the newsletter in Scenes from the Meeting.

Virginia Watson

Project NExT-SE Meets

Project NExT-SE, a professional development program for non-tenured mathematics Ph.D.s serving at institutions in our section, held its most recent meeting in the afternoon of March 25th and the morning of March 26th, immediately prior to the 83rd annual MAA-SE meeting. We welcomed four new Project NExT-SE fellows to our ranks: Sally Clark from the University of Montevallo, Aprillya Lanz from Columbus State University, Joel Sanqui from Appalachian State University, and Susan Simmons from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. We also enjoyed the opportunity to “catch up” with about a dozen or so previous fellows. The academic program consisted of an Open Discussion on Technology in the Classroom, led by Greg Rhoads of Appalachian State University, a presentation on Writing Grants by Leigh Lunsford of the University of Alabama at Huntsville, a panel discussion on the process of getting tenure, and numerous Neat Teaching Ideas (focusing primarily on ways to improve student’s proof-writing skills) presented by various Project NExT and Project NExT-SE Fellows. However, the Math Murder Mystery, developed by Julie Barnes and a group of students and faculty from Western Carolina University, was undoubtedly the most fun for all involved!

Project NExT-SE anticipates forming a new class of Fellows in Spring 2005; the first meeting of these Fellows will be held in conjunction with the second meeting for this year’s Fellows, March 10 – 11, 2005, immediately prior to the Section Meeting at Meredith College. Applications will be accepted later this fall; more information will follow in the fall newsletter and will be posted on the Southeastern Section MAA homepage. The organizers, Julie Barnes (jbarnes@email.wcu.edu), Rob Harger (rharger@highpoint.edu), Pat Humphrey (phumphre@georgiasouthern.edu), and Charlotte Knotts-Zides (knottszideca@wofford.edu), welcome all questions and comments.

Charlotte Knotts-Zides

Section Business Meeting

March 27, 2004

Section Chair Stephen Davis called the meeting to order at 8:20 a.m. Section Governor Ben Klein reported that the national MAA is in good shape financially and overall and credited section member John Kenelly and former section member Tina Straley with the improvement. He also reported on the MAA AP Calculus initiative. (See the MAA-SE Executive Committee Minutes for details.) Conference organizer Jim Vandergriff reported that 330 people registered for the meeting. Stephen Davis pointed out that our hosts had done an outstanding job and the group responded with a round of applause for our hosts from Austin Peay State University. Virginia Watson reported on the Section Newsletter. She is still in need of an Advertising Manager and would welcome volunteers. The Ad Manager position is excellent preparation for the post of Newsletter Editor. Martha Abell gave the financial report and presented four resolutions that were approved by acclamation.

Resolution #1: The Southeastern Section of the Mathematical Association of America expresses warm appreciation to the faculty and staff of the Departments of Mathematics and Computer Science at Austin Peay State University, and to the administration of Austin Peay State University, for providing excellent facilities for the 83rd annual meeting. We have been the beneficiaries of their hard work, extraordinary efforts, gracious hospitality and helpfulness in attention to many details that such a meeting involves. We mention in particular the contributions of the following individuals.

Austin Peay University:
President Sherry L. Hoppe
Jim Vandergriff
David Cochener
Floyd Christian
Jim Ridenhour
Nell Rayburn
Nancy Smithfield

We also wish to thank the organizers of the Math Jeopardy Competition, Mike Berry (UT-Knoxville) and John Harris (Furman University).

and the Poster Session on Undergraduate Research,
Bob Bernhardt (East Carolina University)

Resolution #2: The Southeastern Section of the MAA expresses warm appreciation to the following companies for their informative and attractive displays presented at the 83rd annual meeting:

Addison Wesley
BestQuest Teaching Systems
Brooks/Cole
Houghton Mifflin Company
John Wiley & Sons
Kendall/Hunt Publishing
McGraw-Hill Publishing
Prentice Hall
Texas Instruments

We also thank these companies for their generous financial support, enabling the refreshments that contributed greatly to the success and enjoyment of the meeting.

Resolution #3: The Southeastern Section of the MAA expresses its gratitude to the presenters of short courses at the 83rd annual meeting:

- A First Real Course in Mathematical Modeling by *William P. Fox, Francis Marion University*
- Introduction to Public Key Cryptography, by *Jeffrey Ehme and Colm Mulcahy, Spelman College*

- Making Assessment Work for Students and Faculty by *Bernard L. Madison, SAUM Project Director, University of Arkansas and Scott Smith, Director of Academic Assessment, Columbia College*

- MAA Workshop on Mathematics for Business Decisions by *Julie Tarr and Gregory Hartman, University of Arizona*

- Initial steps toward preparing to teach mathematics for prospective elementary school teachers by *Gregory D. Foley, Distinguished Professor of Math Ed, Appalachian State University, Robin Blankenship, Frank Edge*

We commend these individuals for their service to the Section through the presentation of these inviting and stimulating courses.

Resolution #4: The Southeastern Section of the MAA acknowledges with genuine appreciation the excellent and faithful leadership and dedicated hard work of those officers completing their terms of service:

Ray Collings, *Past Chair*
Jeff Knisley, *Section Lecturer*
Joe Wimbish, *Program Chair*
Sid Stubbs, *Webmaster*
Leigh Lunsford, *Alabama State Director*
Sabrina Hessinger, *Georgia State Director*

We anticipate with delight and pleasure their continued presence among us, as

well as their valuable contributions to the Section in the future.

Theresa Early, chair of the Nominations Committee, presented the slate of nominees for vacant offices on the MAA-SE Executive Committee. (See the minutes of the MAA-SE Executive Committee for the slate.) The slate was approved by acclamation. Next, Stephen Davis reported for the Site Selection Committee that Auburn University, host of the 1986 Section meeting, was the committee's nominee to host the 85th annual meeting that last weekend in March 2006 (pending the approval of their institution's academic calendar). Stephen pointed out that Auburn's application included a letter of support from the department chair and dean at Auburn.

Under Old Business, several suggestions were made concerning the schedule of our annual meeting. It was recommended that we set aside a time for members of student chapter of the MAA. Stephen Davis proposed that we arrange for Dan Teague, the at-large member of the MAA Board of Governors (from the North Carolina School for Math and Science) attend the MAA-SE Executive Committee Meetings and give a presentation at next year's annual meeting at Meredith College in hope of increasing the section's focus on high school mathematics teachers and AP Calculus. John Kenelly pointed out that students taking the first calculus course are evenly divided between high school, two-year colleges and four-year institutions, which comes as a surprise to most. The length of the conference was also discussed. Some wondered if we should go back to our original format of concluding the meeting around noon on the second day. Others observed that recent meetings have been extended to the afternoon due to having a fourth plenary speaker, which some thought encouraged conference participants to stay at the meeting to hear contributed papers leading up to the last plenary presentation. Some thought that the only reason to go back to having only three plenary speakers was if there was a small crowd for the fourth talk, which was not the case at the Clemson meeting last year. Several expressed a hope that the student Math Jeopardy competition would continue at future meetings. Jim Vangergriff pointed out that at least 40 additional conference participants attended the meeting due to the competition. John Kenelly proposed that the conference seek funding from the MAA Committee on Sections to support the Math Jeopardy competition. It was also suggested that at future meetings we try to avoid having the Math Jeopardy Finals at the same time as the Business Meeting. Several remarked on enjoying the after dinner activities that we had at the last two meetings and hoped we could continue similar activities at future meetings. After the invitation was extended to next year's meeting, March 11-12, 2005, by the conference organizers at Meredith College in Raleigh, NC, the Business Meeting as adjourned.

Martha Abell

News from the States



Alabama: Leigh Lunsford, State Director,
University of Alabama in Huntsville,
Huntsville, Al 35899.
email: leigh.lunsford@mathspace.com

The 9th Annual Alabama MAA State Dinner was held on Friday, February 20th at 6:30 p.m. at Judson College in Marion, Alabama. Our speaker for the evening, Dr. Kyle Siegrist of the University of Alabama in Huntsville, gave a presentation on “The Unreasonable Effectiveness of Probability.” Forty-seven mathematicians, students, and friends attended this event. Per Alabama tradition, the following day was the 54th Annual Meeting of the Alabama Association of College Teachers of Mathematics. The invited speaker this year for the featured Lewis-Parker Lecture was Dr. Pete Slater of the University of Alabama in Huntsville. He gave an interesting lecture on “Graph Based Social Choice Procedures.” In addition to the many contributed papers, conference attendees also participated in a lively panel discussion on “The No Child Left Behind Act” and its implications for mathematics in the state of Alabama. The MAA State Dinner/AACTM Meeting has become a popular forum for mathematicians in the state to meet each other and to discuss teaching and research. Dr. Ray Price of Judson College did a wonderful job of making all the local arrangements for these two events. More information can be found at the AACTM website: <http://aactm.jsu.edu/>.

Auburn University Montgomery hosted Alabama's first Sonia Kovalevsky Mathematics Day for high school young women on March 13, 2004. Thirty-eight young women plus teachers and parents learned about the history of women in mathematics, various other topics such as cryptography and coding theory, and met women who use mathematics in a wide variety of careers.

The University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa (UAT) hosted the 20th annual South Eastern Analysis Meeting (SEAM) on March 26-27 in Tuscaloosa. More detail about this meeting can be found on the website <http://www.math.ua.edu/~cconf/seam20/>.

The UAT Department of Mathematics and Department of Elementary Education Programs has received a MAA PMET (Preparing Mathematicians to Educate Teachers) mini-grant for \$4000. Dr. Cecelia Laurie and Dr. Wei Shen Hsia (Mathematics), are working in collaboration with Dr. Cristina Gomez (Elementary Education Programs, College of Education) to design mathematics courses for prospective elementary school teachers. Drs. Gomez, Laurie and Hsia also received a grant from the Alabama State Department of Education to

provide a course offering in Spring 2004 for practicing elementary and middle school teachers who need to strengthen their credentials to meet the "highly qualified" status.

As most of you know, I will be leaving the state of Alabama and the Southeastern Section for a position in Virginia (Longwood University). I have very much enjoyed serving as your Alabama State Director this academic year! Thank you for the honor and privilege! The incoming Alabama State Director for next academic year will be Dr. Bruce Atkinson of Samford University.



Georgia: Sabrina Hessinger, State Director,
Armstrong Atlantic University, Savannah,
Georgia 31419
email: hessinsa@mail.armstrong.edu.

On October 1, 2003 Armstrong Atlantic State University, Georgia Southern University, the University of Georgia and Georgia State University officially became southeast regional partners in the NSF funded PRISM initiative, a project directed by the state P-16 office. Two of these institutions will be collaborating with two year colleges, namely Coastal Georgia Community College and Georgia Perimeter Community College. The main goal of PRISM (Partnership for Reform in Science and Mathematics) is rather simply stated, to raise expectations and student achievement in science and mathematics. Yet, its implementation is a network of interdependent state and regional strategies involving intensified P-14 curricula, quality content-based professional development, collaborations between P-12 and higher education faculty, community involvement in schools, statewide policy changes in faculty reward structure, and improved incentive programs for quality teachers. Several of the strategies of this P-16 partnership call upon significant participation from college faculty.

There were many incredibly successful mathematics tournaments held around the state. Georgia Southern had a tournament for Junior High through High School students on March 6. Over 800 students from southern Georgia took part. Armstrong Atlantic State University held its 26th annual statewide high school mathematics tournament on February 14th with participation from over 400 students from schools in Georgia, South Carolina and Alabama. Columbus State University hosted its annual high school math tournament on March 5th. Participants included one hundred sixty five students from seventeen different high schools. Nearly 300 students from six southeastern states helped revive an annual high school mathematics competition at Georgia Tech. Students competed for \$10,000 in Georgia Tech scholarships, while parents and teachers played with Knots and Numbers. Finally, the Gainesville

College math tournament was held on April 3, 2004 with over 50 students present.

It seems each year one of our Georgia membership receives a national award. This year, Gina Reed received the AMATYC Input award at the national meeting as well as the GMATYC Teaching Excellence award.



North Carolina: Rob Harger, State Director,
High Point University, High Point, NC
27262.
e-mail: rharger@linus.highpoint.edu

The 2004 North Carolina State dinner meeting will be hosted at Elon University on Tuesday, April 20. The speaker will be Hugh Howards of Wake Forest University and the title of his talk is "The Trouble with Brunnion Circles". A reception will begin at 5:30 with the dinner at 6:00. Many thanks to the faculty at Elon for organizing and hosting the dinner meeting.

High Point University hosted an MAA SAUM/PREP workshop on assessing undergraduate programs in mathematics from March 5-8. Approximately 75 faculty members from all over the country attended the workshop. Follow up workshops will be held at the Joint Meetings in 2005 and 2006.

Appalachian State University will host an MAA PMET workshop from May 30 to June 6. The workshop will focus on issues related to middle (6-9) grade levels. A second week of the workshop will be held in early summer 2005.



South Carolina: John Harris, State Director,
Furman University, Greenville, SC 29613
email: john.harris@furman.edu.

The South Carolina State Dinner was held on Thursday evening, March 18th. Eighty participants gathered on the campus of Furman University and enjoyed a meal together. After dinner, speaker Carl Pomerance of Dartmouth College gave a wonderful presentation entitled "Prime Time: Ancient Problems to Modern Internet Security." Pictures of the event are available on the web (math.furman.edu/maastatedinner/).

Thanks to support provided by the MAA, Furman hosted an undergraduate research conference on March 19th. There were twelve undergraduate

speakers representing six different institutions. Pictures from this event are also available on the web (math.furman.edu/fumc/).

The Seventh Annual Presbyterian College MAA Math Competition was held Thursday, April 1, with the following winners: 1st place - T. Q. LeBlanc, 2nd place - Thomas Cameron, 3rd place - Hector Rincon.

On February 7, 2004, the USC Department of Mathematics hosted its 18th High School Math Contest on campus. All high schools in the state were invited to participate. This year we welcomed 175 students and their teachers from 24 of our state's high schools. There are three parts to the contest: The Written Exam, the Tournament, and the Ciphering Team Competition. The winner of the Written Exam receives a four-year full tuition scholarship to USC, if majoring in science, math, or engineering. The first runner-up receives a four-year half-tuition scholarship, and the second runner-up receives a four-year quarter-tuition scholarship. We thank the Deans of the Colleges of Science and Mathematics, and Engineering and Information Technology, for their financial support of our contest. The Tournament and Team Competition winners receive trophies and plaques. Further information about the contest including winners, old exam questions and solutions can be found on our contest website at <http://www.math.sc.edu/contest/>.

Dave Trautman hosted The Citadel's annual mathematics competition for high-school students in February, 2004. Joe Hoerl, a senior Computer Science major, took third place in The Citadel's Undergraduate Research Competition.



Tennessee: Gary Hall, State Director,
Lipscomb University, Nashville, 37204-
3951. email: Gary.Hall@lipscomb.edu.

We will be having our annual dinner at Lipscomb University in Nashville on April 23 at 6:00P.M. Dr. Jeff Knisley from ETSU will be the speaker. Congratulations to Dr. Jeff Knisley on being selected as the SES teacher of the year. Thanks to Dr. Jim Vandergriff and all those at Austin Peay State University for such a great conference.

The math club at Lipscomb University helped with the Math and Science Day which 86 high school students attended. Also, we had our annual chili supper at which we had an actuary visit and talk to interested students about her field. We are planning our Annual Murder Mystery Dinner for April 24, and we are planning on helping with the annual Tennessee Math Contest.

Lectures Across the Section



Section Lecturers past and present enjoy the social at the meeting. Bob Fray (left) and John Baxley (right).

The Executive Committee was pleased to hear that the Section Lecturers are busy giving talks to institutions in the section. In addition to having speakers come to you, you could travel to another institution to hear a talk. In fact, there is a lot of lecture activity across the section due to the named lecture series. These programs generally bring in top notch mathematicians from around the country and the world. Here is a sampling of the named lectures. The

next time you want to hear a good talk try, one of these.

The Auburn University Dept. of Mathematics has a lecture series called the **Bennett Memorial Lecture**. It is named after the topologist Ralph Bennett, who received his Ph. D. at the Univ. of Tennessee and taught at Auburn from 1966 until his death in 1972. The lecture has been given annually (usually in the spring) since 1973. This year's speaker, Professor Dave Lutzer, Department of Mathematics, College William and Mary spoke on "Generalized Ordered Spaces - What and Why?" on April 16, 2004. Information about the annual lecture can be found by going to <http://topo.math.auburn.edu/> and clicking on "Bennett Memorial Lecture".

The major mathematical event of the year at Davidson College in Davidson, NC is the annual **Bernard Lecture**. Supported by the department's Richard R. Bernard Endowment, the Bernard Society promotes the enjoyment of mathematics at Davidson by sponsoring the Math Coffees, Departmental picnics, in addition to the lecture. The 2003 lecture was "Mathematics Through Games" given by Professor Edward Scheinerman of Johns Hopkins University on October 16. This and other information may be found at the website http://www.davidson.edu/math/frontpage/bernard_lecture.htm.

Donald H. Clanton, who received his Ph.D. from Auburn in 1964, joined the faculty at Furman University in 1962 and served as chairman from 1976 to 1985. His friends and family established the **Donald H. Clanton Visiting Mathematician** program in his honor. This year's speaker was Jeffrey Weeks,

author of "The Shape of Space", on April 1, 2004. Information about the program can be found at <http://math.furman.edu/>.

Spring Hill College in Mobile, AL annually has the **Rimes Lecture** to honor Father William J. Rimes, S.J., who dedicated more than 30 years to Spring Hill College as a student, professor and College President. The purpose of the lecture is to have a "recognized expert" in the sciences give a public lecture at Spring Hill College. The choice of speaker is rotated through the departments of the Science Division. The Mathematics Department chose the speaker in 2003 - 2004.

The **James C. Cantrell Lectures** are in their tenth year at the University of Georgia in Athens, GA. The speakers present a series of three lectures. Past speakers include Persi Diaconis, Karen Uhlenbeck and Joan Birman. This year's speaker was Vaughan Jones of the University of California, Berkeley. His three talks were "Knots and polynomials", "The analytic and algebraic flavours of subfactors" and "Subfactors and Physics". All were held in April. For further information see http://www.math.uga.edu/seminars_conferences/cantrell.html.

Combinatorics and graph theory have been active research areas in the Department of Mathematical Sciences at the University of Memphis since the early 1970's. When Paul Erdős, the most famous combinatorialist of the twentieth century, learned that the Ramsey number for any pair of cycles had been determined by the Memphis group, he immediately expressed an interest in visiting the Mathematics department and working with members of this group. During the 23 year period of the Erdős visits to Memphis, approximately 50 different papers were written with him and faculty in the department. Annually the department honors its past relationship with Erdős by holding the **Paul Erdős Lecture Series**. It is a two day event consisting of a Memorial Lecture by an internationally renowned scholar. The 2004 Memorial Lecture was delivered by Endre Szemerédi of Rutgers University. More information can be found at <http://www.msci.memphis.edu/news.html>.

The University of North Carolina at Ashville (UNCA) has **The Parsons' Lecture** that features well-known mathematicians who can explain their area of expertise to a general audience. The lecture is made possible by an endowment from an alumnus in honor of former UNCA mathematics professor Joe Parsons. These talks are generally held in March or April. Past speakers include Bob Devaney of Boston University and Bill Dunham of Muhlenberg College. The 2004 Parsons' Lecture will be given by John Conway of Princeton. For information see <http://www.unca.edu/math/>.

The Brauer Lecture Series at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill honors Alfred Brauer (1894-1985) who had a profound impact on the Mathematics Department at UNC. Born in Germany, he held a position at the Uni-

versity of Berlin until the advent of the Nazis during the 1930's: he fled the country in 1939, accepting Hermann Weyl's invitation to the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton. He came to North Carolina in 1942, teaching there until his retirement in 1966. During this time he founded the Mathematics and Physics Library, using his knowledge and expertise to establish a superb collection. In appreciation for this effort the library was named for him in 1976. Alfred Brauer was honored by the University with the award of a Kenan professorship in 1959, the Tanner Award for excellence in undergraduate teaching in 1965, and an honorary doctor of legal letters degree in 1972. He has also received honors from outside the University, including the Oak Ridge Science Award and the G.W.F. Hegel Medal from the University of Berlin. In 1975 an Alfred T. Brauer Instructorship was created at Wake Forest University, where he taught after his retirement from the University of North Carolina. The Alfred Brauer Fund was established by the Department of Mathematics in 1984 on the occasion of his ninetieth birthday and the lectures were begun in 1985. The lectures are usually held in the spring each year. Check out the website <http://www.math.unc.edu/Brauer/brauer.html> for further information.

The Annual **Sherwood Ebey Mathematics Lecture** at The University of the South in Sewanee, TN is an endowed lectureship with the goal of presenting mathematically sound ideas in a manner that makes them accessible to a general audience. In each of the years of its existence, the lecture has been attended by a diverse group of students, faculty, and members of the local (and not so local) community. The topic under discussion at the lecture often sparks active conversations and debate among the attendees during the reception following the lecture. The lecture usually occurs early in the spring. Past speakers include Paul Halmos and Gian-Carlo Rota. For more information see <http://mathcs.sewanee.edu/seminars/ebey.shtml>.

The Shanks Lecture at Vanderbilt University is funded by an endowment from the Shanks family to honor Baylis and Olivia Shanks. The late Baylis Shanks taught mathematics at Vanderbilt from 1947 until 1978 and chaired the department from 1955 through 1969. An accomplished mathematician whose interests included algebra, numerical analysis, Riemannian geometry and the foundations of mathematics, Shanks was instrumental in the establishment of Vanderbilt's Ph.D. program in mathematics and directed the first two dissertations. Olivia Shanks served Vanderbilt for 21 years before retiring in 1980. She contributed to the development of the Master of Arts in Teaching Program and served as assistant director of that program and later as assistant director of teacher education. The lecture is held in conjunction with a conference each year. This year The Second International Conference on Computational Harmonic Analysis will be held May 24 - May 30, 2004 at Vanderbilt University. And will be held in conjunction with the 19th Annual Shanks Lecture by Steve Smale of the University of California at Berkeley. Information about the lecture may be found at <http://sitemason.vanderbilt.edu/site/juP8ac/news.html>.

The Gentry Lectures at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, NC bring outstanding mathematic scholars to campus. It was established in 1986 to honor Ivey Gentry, former Wake Forest professor and chair of the department of mathematics, and his wife, Nell, for their contributions to the university's mathematics department. The 2004 Gentry Lectures delivered by Dr. John Conway, Princeton University were "Some Things You Can't Hear The Shape Of" and "From Elementary Partials to Free Will".

Section AMC Awards

2003 AMC-8 perfect scores:

- 8 James Parks The Altamont School Birmingham AL
- 8 Kurt Von Laven Randolph School Huntsville AL
- 8 Cyrus Vafadari Brookstone School Columbus GA
- 8 James Gallagher Savannah Country Day School Savannah GA
- 8 Ray Wang E. B. Aycock Middle School Greenville NC
- 8 Vivek Bhattacharya Ligon GT Magnet Middle School Raleigh NC
- 7 Royce Feng Ligon GT Magnet Middle School Raleigh NC
- 8 Rebecca Lynn Oliver Springs Elementary Oliver Springs TN
- 8 Jordan Murray Oliver Springs Elementary Oliver Springs TN

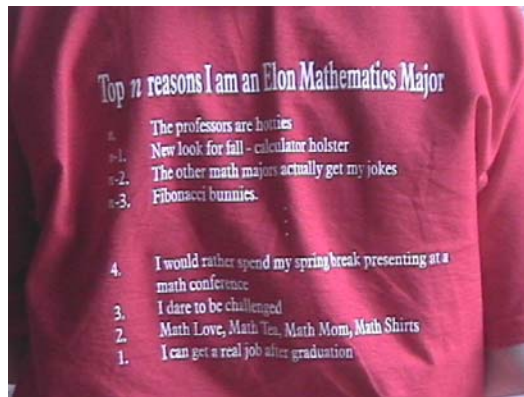
AMC 8 Edyth May Sliffe Awards for Distinguished Junior High/Middle School Mathematics Teaching

- Ms. Becky Green, Athens Academy, Athens, GA
- Ms. Karen Trochlil, Ligon G/T Magnet Middle School, Raleigh, NC
- Ms. Maggie Qian, Montgomery Bell Academy, Nashville, TN
- Mr. Ron Stewart, Baylor School, Chattanooga, TN

Scenes From the Meeting



Furman students browse at TA Rush in coordinated shirts.



Elon's shirt touts top n reasons to be an Elon Math Major.

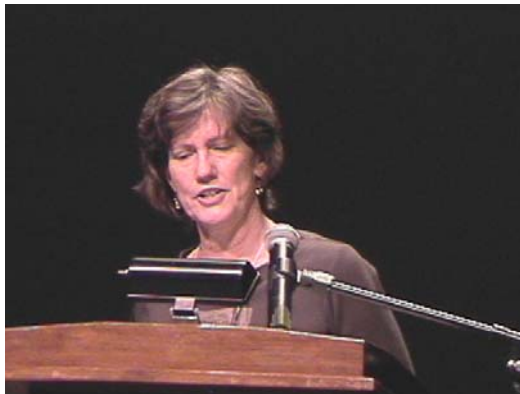


Davidson's Jeopardy team designed t-shirts for the contest.

Was there a t-shirt competition we didn't know about?



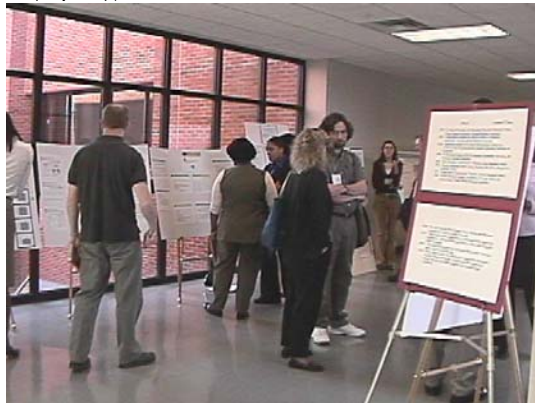
Jim Vandergriff (left) and Stephen Davis talk over plans for the meeting at the Thursday night social.



Sue Goodman inspires with lessons learned while teaching.



The exhibits in the atrium of the Sundquist Science Complex were beneath a mural of the history of Austin Peay State University.



The student poster presentations.



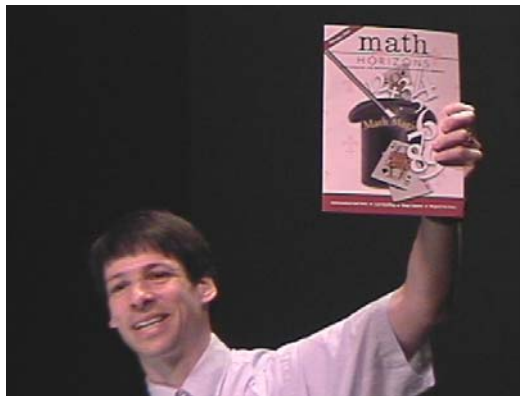
The Sundquist Science Complex.



Rob Harger (left) and Charlotte Knotts-Zides (far right) enjoy the meeting.



Cumberland Collegium plays at the banquet.



Arthur Benjamin publicizes Math Horizons during his talk..



Bruce Palka explains "Why Things go Quasi in Higher Dimensions".