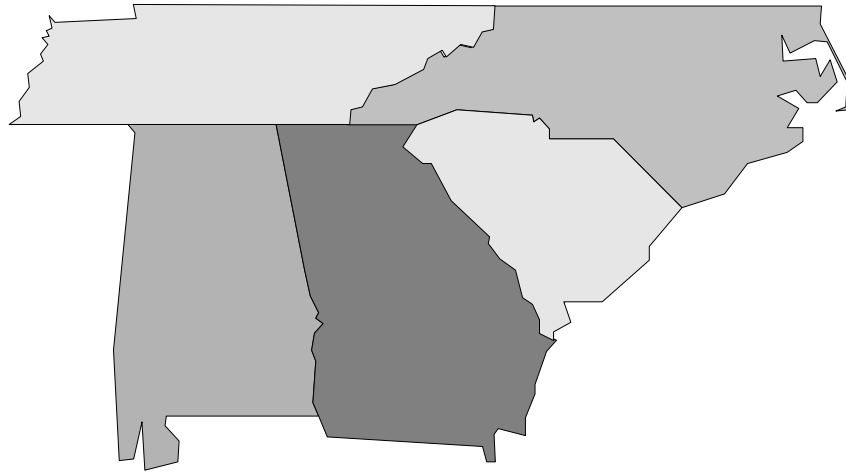


Southeastern Section Newsletter



Spring 2008

Volume 27 Number 1

Southeastern Section Officers 2007-2008

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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 cd; 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: to be announced.

Section Calendar

July 31-August 2, 2008	MathFest, Madison, WI
November 20-23, 2008	AMATYC Annual Meeting, Washington, DC
January 7-10, 2009	MAA/AMS Annual Meeting, Washington, DC
January 6-9, 2010	MAA/AMS Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA
March 26-27, 2010	SE Section Annual Meeting, Elon University, NC
January 5-9, 2011	MAA/AMS Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA
January 4-7, 2012	MAA/AMS Annual Meeting, Boston, MA
January 9-12, 2013	MAA/AMS Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA

From the Chair



It seems like only yesterday that I wrote a report after we hosted the 86th annual meeting at Georgia Southern. Time flies, however, and we just returned from an outstanding meeting at The Citadel in Charleston, SC. Mei-Qin Chen and her colleagues, Shankar Banik, Margaret Francel, John Moore and Dave Trautman, did a great job in serving as our hosts. They were able to handle all things that came their way even with an increased number of conference attendees (457). They also managed to arrange for wonderful weather and for the azaleas to be in bloom.

It also seems that we can't have a MAA-SE Meeting these days without some type of excitement related to the athletic achievements of one of our section institutions. This year was no exception with the heroics of the Davidson College Men's Basketball Team that reached the "Elite Eight" in the NCAA Division I Tournament during the conference. (And we thought they were only good at Math Jeopardy!) Congratulations to the students and faculty from Davidson!

Many thanks to Jim Vandergriff, our program chair, who put together an excellent program. The plenary talks were exceptional. MAA Pólya Lecturer Professor George Andrews, Evan Pugh Professor of Mathematics at Penn State and the world's leading expert on the theory of integer partitions, brought new life to the Lost Notebook of Ramanujan. In her talk, Section Lecturer Angela Shiflet of Wofford College shared with us the experiences and accomplishments of students involved in the study of computational science and the benefits to students to pursue this exciting area. Our 2007 Teaching Award recipient, David Sumner, gave an excellent presentation on games of chance that he uses to motivate his students at the University of South Carolina. The program also featured outstanding short courses in Mathematics and Social Justice, Prime Numbers: Finding and Applying Them, Active Learning Strategies for the College Liberal Arts Mathematics Course, and Engaging Students in Advanced Analysis via Fractal Geometry and the Hausdorff Metric. The meeting also featured special sessions on several topics, including Combinatorial Number Theory, Issues in the Undergraduate Mathematics Classroom, Innovative Ideas for Teaching Concepts in an Introductory Statistics Class, College Geometry and Trigonometry, Combinatorial Mathematics, Mathematics in the First Two Years, and Connecting Math to the Liberal Arts. There was also a Special Session for Presentations by Beginning Faculty in the Section.

Again this year, there was a high level of participation by students in the Section, 157 undergraduates and 30 graduate students. There were twenty-three undergraduate student presentations and six graduate student presentations. In addition, twenty-nine posters were presented by undergraduate students. The Patterson Prize was used this year to recognize the top five presentations by undergraduates with each student receiving a \$100 award. We will continue to use the Patterson Prize at the 2009 meeting to recognize the best undergraduate student presentations. The section also devoted part of its own treasury to recognize the top three undergraduate poster presentations and will continue this practice in the future. The section would like to involve more graduate students in

our program and encourage those of you at institutions with graduate programs to have your students give a presentation. The Section will also make efforts to include other sessions on the program to attract graduate students. The Math Jeopardy competition was as intense as ever, with sixteen teams competing. The finals saw five teams vying for the top prize. After a difficult round of questions, Augusta State University (Augusta, GA) earned first place. In light of the fact that twenty-two teams expressed a desire to compete this year, the Section will investigate the possibility of running concurrent rounds of Math Jeopardy on the Friday morning of the meeting so that more teams can participate in the future.

The Citadel offered a wonderful location for the social on Friday evening. Many of the conference participants car-pooled out to the Citadel Beach House for good food and conversation. We were entertained after dinner by Dr. Charles Groetsch, Dean of the School of Science and Mathematics at the Citadel, who spoke on *Fear of Refrigerators: Some Mathematical Characters, Crackpots and Crazies*. Dr. Groestch, a mathematician, told of some interesting and unique people from the history of mathematics.

(Continued on p. 7)

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.

Angela Shiflet is the 2007-2008 Section Lecturer. She is available for the next two academic years. Contact her at shifletab@wofford.edu. She works in computational science and has some really great talks.

John Swallow of the University of Tennessee Knoxville was the 2006-2007 Section Lecturer. He is still available for the 2007-2008 academic year. Contact him at his email address [joswallow@davidson.edu](mailto:joswallow@ davidson.edu).

Make your arrangements today!

One of the more important decisions made by the Section's Executive Committee this spring was the establishment of a Section Award for Distinguished Teaching by a Beginning College or University Mathematics Faculty Member. This award, modeled after the national MAA Alder Award, will recognize college or university faculty who have taught full-time for at least two years (but not more than a total of seven years) at an institution in the Southeastern Section. The recipient will receive a certificate of recognition and a gift certificate of \$100 to the MAA Book Table at the annual conference. Nomination will be made in Fall 2008 for presentation at the 2009 annual MAA-SE meeting.

A more expanded report of the many highlights of the meeting may be found elsewhere in this newsletter. Make sure to read more about the conference to find out what you may have missed or remember some of the outstanding aspects of the meeting. Also, mark your calendar for March 13-14, 2009, for next year's meeting at Belmont University in Nashville, TN. I'm sure that the organizers will plan an outstanding event! They are definitely looking forward to hosting us!

Please be aware that the Section encourages you to nominate your colleagues for the Section Awards for Teaching and Service. There are many outstanding faculty members in the Section, and we need your help in identifying them. In addition, if you are interested in participating in the leadership of the Section, please contact Ray Collings, Nominations Committee Chair, or me. There are many ways to get involved in the Section, including serving on committees, assisting with the annual meeting as a session organizer, moderator or judge, and serving on the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee of the Southeastern Section continues our efforts to make our section the best in the nation. If you have suggestions for accomplishing this goal, then please do not hesitate to contact one of our Executive Committee members.

Martha L. Abell
Chair, MAA-SE

From the Governor



The Board of Governors met at the Joint Mathematics Meetings at San Diego, California in January 2008; it meets next at MathFest 2008.

Finances: The MAA was projected to end the 2007 budget year with a deficit, due to investments in staff and publishing, and decreases in federal grants and membership income. However, the Budget Committee recommended no increase in dues for 2009 and no change in the 2008 budget. Membership renewals, which are easier to obtain than new members, has been an area of special focus, and the retention rate improved from 2007 to 2008. This spring the MAA begins membership renewals on the anniversary date of membership, rather than on the calendar year (hence not all renewals will occur at the same time). Discussion of changing the structure of institutional and student memberships has begun; the most efficient structuring of international memberships is also under discussion. The Treasurer reported that MAA investments continue to be healthy; the buildings that the MAA owns were recently valued at over \$ 18 million.

Halmos Fund: Late in 2007 Virginia Halmos gave \$600,000 to be matched on a 2:1 basis over two years; the money is for an endowment fund to support mathematical programming at the Carriage House. The MAA quickly raised the necessary \$300,000. Mrs. Halmos has given another \$200,000 to be matched on a 1:1 basis; the MAA is seeking contributions for this match (see the March *Focus* article)

Strategic Planning: The three Cycle I Strategic Planning Reports on Professional Development, Finances, and the AMC Competitions are complete and online. Two of the Cycle II planning work groups, on Governance and on Students, reported to the Governors in January; the third working group on Membership is not completed. The Governance report included recommendations intended to make better use of MAA committees. The Students work group made recommendations intended to strengthen student chapters and focus more efforts on graduate students. When complete, all final reports on are put online at [http: www.maa.org/aboutmaa/sp](http://www.maa.org/aboutmaa/sp). The three Cycle III planning groups are on STEM Issues, Meetings, and Sections. At the January meeting the Governors voted to add an additional work group on Publications and Communications to the other Cycle III work groups; with various electronic formats and concerns about the budget, this area needs to be studied. I am a member of this work group. The strategic planning effort has been quite productive, and it was decided that after the groups named above have completed their work, there will be a year of reflection to allow implementation and integration from the reports before starting new cycles of strategic planning.

Publications and MAA Online: The MAA print publication program (journals, books, and newsletter) remains strong; there is continued interest in publishing textbooks. The MAA has also redesigned and expanded its website MAA Online and begun some e-

mailed newsletters. In MAA Online “Math in the News” is updated each day (and archived) and there are podcasts of Joint Mathematics Meetings lectures. The MAA journals and *Focus* can be accessed online, and there are regular online columns. The new online MAA Math Classifieds provides a place for mathematics graduates at all levels (Bachelors, Masters, and Doctoral) to search for academic and non-academic jobs, post resumes, and sign up for job alerts. It is located at:

http://www.mathclassifieds.org/home/index.cfm?site_id=1925

or use the link at <http://www.maa.org/students/> There is a new electronic newsletter for graduate students (also archived online).

MAA Study Tours and PREP: This summer’s MAA Study Tour will be to Peru and next year’s tour will be to Egypt; details are at the MAA website. There are many interesting summer professional development opportunities available through the MAA professional enhancement program PREP: see <http://www.maa.org/prep/2008/>

Programs to Increase Participation of Minorities: National REU programs will be held in the summer of 2008. For information on these programs, and on the twelve 2007 programs (several from our section) see <http://www.maa.org/nreup/> The Tensor-SUMMA Program of the MAA awards grants of up to \$6000 to support enrichment programs for students in middle school-first year of college from underrepresented groups. Twelve sites were funded in the first year of the program, including two from our section – see <http://www.maa.org/programs/tensor-summa.html> for information on the program.

(Continued on p. 10)

Consider a Contribution

in support of

MAA-SE Student Activities

Student activities in the section are growing!

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

See page 11 for details

Mathematics Competitions: The USA team finished fifth in last summer's Mathematical Olympiad in Hanoi; for the first time a female tied for the lead of the American Team. Sherry Gong also tied for the lead worldwide in the Chinese Women's Math Olympiad, which the MAA co-sponsored this year for the first time. Information on the MAA's American Mathematics Competitions (AMC) is at <http://www.unl.edu/amc/>. For the second year, colleges were host sites for the AMC 10 and 12 in February 2008; contact Steve Dunbar sdunbar@maa.org for information on becoming a host site in February 2009. Note the PREP workshop held in June at the University of Nebraska: "Making the Transition: Moving Students from Success on AMC12 to AIME" led by our own section member Dan Teague.

MathFest 2008: MathFest will be held July 31-August 2 in Madison, Wisconsin. The Earle Raymond Hedrick Lectures: "Fun with Algorithms and Folding" will be given by Erik Demaine from MIT,

Support for Students to Attend Meetings: The MAA has received an almost \$500,000 NSF grant to support students attendance at the Joint Mathematics Meetings and MathFest. Information about travel grants for students to attend MathFest 2008 is at <http://www.maa.org/students/>

It is an honor to represent our active MAA Southeastern Section. Feel free to send me comments and suggestions at kirkman@wfu.edu

Ellen Kirkman, April 20, 2008

Check out the Section's Webpage
<http://www.maa.org/southeastern>.

Send comments or suggestions to

Jeff Clark, Elon University
clarkj@elon.edu.

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

John Harris, Secretary-Treasurer, MAA-SE
Department of Mathematics
Furman University
Greenville, SC 29613

Subscribe to Section Listserve

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 imailsrv@huntingdon.edu

You may also use the subscription form located on the section website at <http://www.maa.org/southeastern>.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
for the 2009 Award for Distinguished College or University
Teaching of Mathematics

Nominations for the 2009 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 2009 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, 2010.

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 Jeff Knisley, chair of the selection committee (knisleyj@etsu.edu). If you wish to nominate someone, please submit a complete nomination packet by **October 31, 2007**.

Nomination packets for persons nominated for the 2007 award may be carried forward for consideration for the 2008 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 1993. The recipient list is:

- 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 Ron Harshbarger, University of South Carolina, Beaufort
- 2003 Sue E. Goodman, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
- 2004 Jeff Knisley, East Tennessee State University
- 2005 David Stone, Georgia Southern University
- 2006 William "Mac" Priestly, the University of the South
- 2007 David Sumner, the University of South Carolina
- 2008 Ron Gould, Emory University

Spring Executive Committee Meeting



MINUTES OF MAA-SE SPRING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

7:45 pm, March 27, 2008
The Citadel

In attendance: Martha Abell, Charlotte Knotts-Zides, Angela Shiflet, Greg Rhoads, Tom Fitzkee, Emily Hynds, Narendra Govil, Pat Humphrey, Ellen Kirkman, Ray Collings, Jennifer Hontz, Karen O'Hara, Laurie Heyer, George Andrews, Lila Roberts, John Kenelly, Tina Straley, John Long, Jim Vandergriff, Jeff Clark, John Harris

Most of the officer reports had been emailed to the executive committee prior to this meeting. As these reports had been available ahead of time, each officer used his/her time to answer questions regarding reports. Discussion regarding these reports is included below.

The minutes from the Fall 2007 executive committee meeting were approved.

Jim Vandergriff, program chair, reported that as of the morning of 3/27/08, there were 398 registered participants for this annual meeting.

Martha Abell asked for the committee's thoughts regarding the distribution of the Patterson Prize money. It was agreed to continue the plan that had been used in previous years.

There was discussion regarding possibilities for encouraging more graduate students to be involved in the program. One possibility would be to seek a funding source that would provide something similar to what the Patterson Prize provides for undergraduates. Other ideas mentioned included travel support, networking sessions, and sessions designed to help prepare graduate students for the job search.

John Harris, as co-organizer of the Jeopardy contest, announced that there had been higher demand this year regarding participation --- 22 teams expressed interest, and there were 16 available spots. He asked for ideas regarding ways to include more teams. One possible idea is to have concurrent rounds. The committee voted to give Harris the authority to incur minor expense in renting/borrowing the additional buzzer systems that would be required.

John Kenelly, national MAA treasurer, distributed two graphs that gave a history of income/expense and assets.

Tina Straley, MAA Executive Director, described the MAA's strategic planning process. She also described a "dot activity" that will take place at this meeting --- an activity that invites attendees to prioritize various features of the MAA and its programs.

Abell asked State Directors to consider having the state dinners in the fall, in order to avoid the busy spring calendar.

Jennifer Hontz, chair of the site-selection committee, reported that three proposals had been received. Her committee recommends that Elon University host the 2010 meeting, the dates of which would be March 25-27, 2010. This recommendation will be voted upon at Saturday's business committee.

Charlotte Knotts-Zides brought forth a proposal regarding the establishment of an award for distinguished teaching by beginning faculty. She had previously distributed via email a description of such an award. Concerns that had been expressed centered around process and money. Regarding process, the sub-committee suggests that we establish the award and carefully monitor and address procedural difficulties. Knotts-Zides asked that we consider the award separate from the money issue. It was moved, seconded, and approved to establish the award as outlined in the proposal --- minus the monetary component. The committee then voted to award a \$100 MAA book table certificate to the winner (which is identical to what is given to the current service and teaching awards).

Abell brought several questions to the committee --- questions that were raised at the Section Officers meeting in January. Our section has been asked to respond to these questions, as part of an effort to understand section dynamics.

1A. What are the 5 things the Association should expect from your Section?

- Maintaining the currency of member contact information
- The encouragement of membership
- The advancement of mathematics
- Networking possibilities among members
- The involvement of students in the discipline and in the association

1B. What are the 5 things the Section should expect from the Association?

- Providing convenience in communication
- Involvement of national officers in section activities
- Guidance in development-related activities
- Facilitating exchange of information among sections
- Investigate ways to assist sections in the planning/running of the annual meetings
- Assist the section in the development of successful recording procedures (with an eye toward recording features of annual meetings)

2A. How do you provide for leadership transition and continuity of the Section's knowledge base?

- Involving relatively young section members in leadership roles (as NExT directors, state directors, etc)
- Having chair-elect and past-chair positions on the executive committee
- Having each officer/leader keep track of annual activities, so that this information can be passed along
- Having a Section Historian
- Having staggered terms among the leadership

2B. How can the Association help your Section make effective leadership transitions?

- Be aware of how other sections accomplish successful transitions and keep us informed of those methods.

The meeting adjourned shortly before 10:00 pm.

MINUTES OF MAA-SE SPRING BUSINESS MEETING

7:50 am, March 29, 2007

The Citadel

Mei Chen of the local arrangements committee gave a report on the number of participants registered. As of the previous day, there were 256 faculty, 167 undergraduates, 23 graduate students, 3 high school teachers, and 9 industry/government employees, for a total of 458 registered participants. Most notable among these numbers was the large percentage of undergraduates.

Jim Vandergriff, program chair, said that there were approximately 130 undergraduate talks and approximately 30 posters.

Section Governor Ellen Kirkman encouraged the group to attend Mathfest 2008 in Madison, Wisconsin and to visit the new and improved MAA website.

MAA Treasurer John Kenelly gave a reassuring report regarding the Association's finances, in light of shaky financial situations around the country.

MAA Executive Director Tina Straley encouraged the group to consider the MAA study tours.

Newsletter editor Karen O'Hara requested that section officers get reports to her as soon as possible.

Section Secretary/Treasurer John Harris presented the treasurer's report, making note of the two donations to the national MAA: a commemorative brick in the River of Bricks project and a sponsorship of a national Project NExT fellow.

Harris also presented several resolutions expressing gratitude to the many groups and people that contributed to the success of this meeting.

Nominations committee chair Ray Collings presented the slate of officer nominees. The nominees were approved by acclamation.

Pat Humphrey of the Site Selection committee reported that the 2010 meeting will be held at Elon University on March 25-27, 2010.

Sarah Ann Stewart from Belmont University encouraged everyone to attend the 2009 meeting at Belmont on March 13-14, 2009.

Martha Abell reported on plans to accommodate the increased demand in Jeopardy participation. She also reported on the Executive Committee's decision to establish an award honoring distinguished teaching by a beginning faculty member.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 am.

Submitted by John Harris

From Your State Director

Alabama State Director's Report

Submitted by Emily Hynds, Alabama State Director

The Alabama MAA State Dinner was hosted by Samford University's Department of Mathematics on February 1st, 2008. The invited speaker was Dr. Ronald Gould, Goodrich C. White Professor of Mathematics at Emory University. Dr. Gould is an outstanding scholar and teacher. He has numerous publications and has authored a text in graph theory. He has mentored many Ph.D. students and has also won several teaching awards, including this year's Southeastern Section Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching. His talk was geared more towards the teaching aspect of his career in order to be accessible to a broad audience of faculty, students, and family. The talk was entitled "Teaching a Freshman Seminar or How I gained an International Reputation as a Gambler." Dr. Gould did an excellent job and his talk was well received by everyone.

The dinner was in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Alabama Association of College Teachers of Mathematics (AACTM) which was held on Saturday, February 2nd at Samford University. This meeting featured a series of contributed talks as well as the invited Lewis-Parker lecture. Tom Barr was this year's Lewis-Parker lecturer. He gave a talk entitled "Mathematical Ideas through Cryptology." Tom is currently the Chief Operations Officer in DiscoveryBioMed, LLC, a small startup company located in Birmingham that focuses on identifying compounds that have potential as pharmaceutical therapies to improve quality and length of life for people with cystic fibrosis, polycystic kidney disease, and other related disorders. For many years, until 2007, he was a faculty member and chairperson of the Mathematics and Computer Science Department of Rhodes College.

Georgia State Director's Report
Submitted by Lila Roberts, Georgia State Director

The Georgia MAA State Luncheon was held on March 15, 2008 at Georgia College & State University. Our speaker was David Stone (Georgia Southern University), and his entertaining and informative presentation was entitled "Fibonacci Numbers and the Meta-Theorem."

Colleges and universities in Georgia have been very active this year in promoting mathematics among Georgia's students at all grade levels. Some of the reported highlights are listed below.

Math Tournaments and Competitions: North Georgia College & State University hosted its annual Mathematics Tournament on March 7 with twelve high schools participating. Georgia Southern University held another "wildly successful" Math Tournament on March 8 with 750 students participating. Approximately 300 students participated in the inaugural Eagle Math-a-Mania for grades 1-5. More than 110 public and private high schools in Georgia took part in the 2007-2008 Kennesaw State University Mathematics Competition. The competition, administered at individual schools, is the largest mathematics competition in Georgia; more than 2350 students showcased their mathematical talents on the highly challenging, non-routine mathematics problems.

Conferences: The Integers Conference, an international conference in combinatorics and number theory, was held at University of West Georgia on October 24-27; over 100 participants from 19 different countries participated in the conference. The 13th Annual VSU Technology Conference was held at Valdosta State University on February 22.

Other news: A Research Experience for Undergraduates in Combinatorics, Number Theory and Graph Theory at the University of West Georgia is being held this summer. The Master of Science program was approved at the University of West Georgia. The 13th Annual Sonya Kovalevsky High School Math Day was hosted at Valdosta State University on April 10. Emory University hosted a Sonya Kovalevsky High School

Math Day on May 8. Pi Day was celebrated at Georgia Perimeter College Clarkston with activities ranging from pi memorization awards to pi songs. During Pi Day, pie awards were given to Math, Computer Science, and Engineering faculty.

North Carolina State Director's Report
Submitted by Gregory Rhoads, South Carolina State Director

The 2008 state dinner was held on April 10 at Catawba College. A total of 40 people enjoyed the talk entitled "Computational Science Coursework and Internships: Applying Mathematics and Computer Science to Important Scientific Problems" by Dr. Angela Shiflet of Wofford College.

The Fourth Annual Smoky Mountain Undergraduate Conference on the History of Mathematics was organized by Sloan Despeaux of Western Carolina and held on Saturday April 28, 2008 on the Western Carolina campus. The keynote speaker was Dr. Patti Hunter of Westmont College who gave the talk titled "*Spreading the Gospel*": *Gertrude M. Cox and the Promotion of University Statistics at Home and Abroad*. The fall North Carolina Council of the Teachers of Mathematics (NCCTM) conference will be held on October 30-31, 2008 at the Sheraton Four Seasons in Greensboro.

A team from Duke University was an Outstanding Prize winner and the MAA prize recipient for their solution of the continuous problem in the Math Contest in Modeling sponsored by COMAP in spring 2008. Another team from Duke University placed in the top 5 at the 68th Putnam mathematical competition.

The North Carolina "A" high school team did a tremendous job by finishing 3rd nationally in the 33rd annual American Regions Mathematics League (ARML) competition held May 30-31, 2008. This comes on the heels of a fourth place finish last year and a top finish in 2006. Congratulations to these outstanding high school math students.

Congratulations to Dr. Ben Klein of Davidson College, this year's recipient of the section's Distinguished Service Award and to Elon University who was awarded the host institution for the 2010 spring meeting.

Under student chapter news, The Appalachian State student chapter of the MAA held their second Pi(e) Day on March 25 (later due to bad weather). People could pay money to throw a crème pie at a math professor of their choice (the state director was unfortunately rather popular).

South Carolina State Director's Report
Submitted by Tom Fitzkee, South Carolina State Director

The big event in South Carolina this semester was the 87th Annual MAA-SE meeting at the Citadel in Charleston. For this reason, the State Dinner of South Carolina was held on Thursday, November 8th, in the Newberry Center of Piedmont Technical College. Dr. Angela Shiflet, Larry Hearn McCalla Professor of Mathematics at Wofford College, spoke on "Computational Science: Applying Mathematics and Computer Science to Important Scientific Problems".

The fourth annual Francis Marion Undergraduate Mathematics Conference was held on April 11. The conference welcomed 60 participants from 9 institutions from North and South Carolina. Student presentations were limited to 16 presentations. The keynote speaker, Dr. Arlie Petters, M.B.E., Ph.D. of Duke University, presented "Einstein, Higher Dimensions, and Black Holes".

Tennessee State Director's Report
Submitted by Jeff Knisley, Tennessee State Director

Be sure to plan to attend next year's spring MAA-SE meeting at Belmont University in Nashville, Tennessee, March 13-14! If anyone is interested in hosting a state dinner for Tennessee next year, please contact the Tennessee State Director, Jeff Knisley, as soon as possible.

Historical Biography

RUTH WYCKLIFFE STOKES
(October 12, 1891 - August, 1968)

Early Life and Education

Ruth W. Stokes was born in Mountville, South Carolina, the daughter of Dr. William Henry and Frances Emily Fuller Stokes. She had two sisters, Marie V. Stokes, who was a high school teacher for many years in the Greenville, South Carolina area, and Mrs. Sara S. Hunter of Laurens, South Carolina [Anon., *Greenville News*, December 1956; Obituary, *Columbia The State*, August 29, 1968].

Ruth Stokes attended Winthrop College in Rock Hill, South Carolina, from September 1907, until June 1911, when she received her B.A. After she left Winthrop, Stokes taught mathematics at high schools in Denmark, South Carolina (two years);

Spartanburg, South Carolina (three years); and Greenville, South Carolina. She was Principal of a school in Ebeneger, South Carolina (three years), and head of the mathematics department at Synodical College, Fulton, Missouri (one year). In this period, she also attended several summer “certification” programs at Columbia University and the University of Chicago [Application, January 28, 1922].

In 1922, she tried to go to Cornell University to do post-graduate work, but at that time, Cornell had not recognized the validity of a degree from Winthrop College [Stokes to Johnson, January 7, 1922; Johnson to Stokes, January 23, 1922]. Instead, she spent 1922-1923 at Vanderbilt University and received her M.A. there in 1923.

Winthrop College I

On May 24, 1923, Stokes accepted the position of “assistant mathematic [sic] teacher” at Winthrop College [Telegram, Nashville, Tennessee, May 24, 1923]. During the Summers of 1926, 1927, and 1928, she studied at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. As a result of this work, when Duke University accepted her into its doctoral program in 1928, she had already satisfied their “residency requirement” [Stokes to Johnson, April 19, 1928].

During her five years on the Winthrop faculty, Stokes had come to “love Winthrop dearly” and she and the College President, Dr. D. B. Johnson developed an especially close relationship. In fact, when she left Winthrop for Duke in 1928, Johnson offered Stokes “a plan” for her return after she had completed her graduate studies: “His exact words were, ‘It will have to be private, very private. No one must know but you and me.’” [Stokes to Phelps, July 4, 1936].

Duke University and Struggling

Stokes spent 1928-1931 at Duke, where in addition to her graduate work she taught as many as two courses a quarter and had to change thesis advisors. She finished her PhD in the Spring of 1931, with Dr. J. M. Thomas as her advisor and her dissertation, “A Geometric Theory of Solution of Linear Inequalities” was published [Stokes, 1931].

Unfortunately however, while Stokes was in Durham, Dr. Johnson died and there was no room at Winthrop for another member of the mathematics faculty. It was the heart of the Great Depression, and despite Dr. Stokes’ brand new Duke PhD, college mathematics faculty positions were very scarce, especially for a woman. From 1932 to 1935, Stokes had a succession of temporary positions at North Texas State Teachers College in Denton. On the one hand, she complained about the summer heat, but she did get the opportunity to introduce several higher level courses, including history of mathematics, solid analytics and theory of determinants, projective geometry, and differential equations. As she reflected on her work in Texas, she observed that, “the only thing that stands between me and promotion to the head of the department is that I made the mistake of being born a woman.” [Stokes to Kinnard, May 10, 1934]. Losing her position at NTSTC in September 1935, she had to settle for a job teaching at Mitchell

College in Statesville, North Carolina. The only redeeming factor of this position was that it allowed her to drive over to Duke on the weekends where she was given an honorary fellowship [Stokes to Kinnard, November 24, 1935]. She presented the results of some of her work on this fellowship in a paper to the 14th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Section of the MAA at the University of South Carolina, April 17, 1936. She spent the Summer of 1936 teaching at Asheville (N.C.) Normal and Teachers College and worked on the *Duke Mathematical Journal*.

Winthrop College II

On August 18, 1936, Stokes accepted the position of professor of mathematics at Winthrop, promising to be present at the teachers meeting at noon on Monday, September 7 [Stokes to Matthews, August 18, 1936].

During her ten years as head of Winthrop College's mathematics department, Stokes became quite active in Pi Mu Epsilon; she started a Winthrop chapter (called the *Archemedeans*), and at some time she became Editor-in Chief of the *Pi Mu Epsilon Journal* [Stokes to Phelps, December 12, 1936]. She was one of the founders and supporters of The Institute for Teachers of Mathematics, founded at Duke University in 1940. Stokes contributed to the World War II effort by teaching cryptography and cryptanalysis to more than one hundred Winthrop girls, many of whom who went on to work for the military [Layton, *Greenville News*, n.d.]. In 1942, she was one of the first in the nation to respond to the national call by the American Astronomical Association for training in astronomy and navigation for Army Air Corps pilots. Stokes made a small number of modifications to her Astronomy 53 course and made a plea for it to be offered in the summer in order to meet the demand [American Astronomical Society, February 2, 1942; Stokes to Fraser, February 5, 1942; Stokes to Phelps, February 13, 1942].

At some time in the early 1940s, Winthrop College was placed on "probationary" status by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and was censured by the AAUP and the AAUW. In 1944, the College hired a new President Henry Sims, a lawyer, in its effort to remove these sanctions. During 1945-1946, the first academic year at the end of World War II, Stokes took a leading role in re-establishing the Southeastern Section of the MAA. She presented a paper, "Mathematical Program for College Majors Who Plan to Teach," at the 22nd Annual Meeting of the Section, April 19, 1946, at North Carolina State College, Raleigh, she was elected Chair of the Section for 1947, and Winthrop College was selected as the host for the 1947 annual meeting [Stokes to Sims, April 23, 1946]. Unfortunately, later that Spring, Sims thought that Stokes had been too aggressive in advocating an expansion in the mathematics program offered by the College, and he fired her [Stokes to the State Council on Teacher Education, May 8, 1945; Webb 2002, pp. 141-143]. Sims attempted to offer Stokes a check for one year's salary (\$3300) "in lieu of notice," but Stokes refused to cash the check protesting her dismissal as "wholly arbitrary and as such contrary to the principles of academic freedom and tenure" [W. D. W., *Charleston (S.C.) News and Courier*, May 3, 1949].

Stokes secured a faculty position in the department of mathematics at Syracuse University for the Fall of 1946. It was probably an uncomfortable experience, but she did preside at the 23rd Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Section at Winthrop in the Spring of 1947.

Syracuse University and Retirement

Stokes taught at Syracuse until her retirement. She was elected a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 1950. She worked on her extensive collection of mathematical models and did some work on a book, "The History and Construction of Mathematical Models" [Anon., *Columbia The State*, October 1, 1950; Anon., *Evening Herald*, January 29, 1954]. She also worked on a book on spherical trigonometry. She spent the 1956-1957 academic year as a visiting member of the faculty at the American University of Beirut.

At the end of August 1968, at age 76, Ruth Stokes died [Obituary, *Columbia The State*, August 29, 1968].

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I. Newspaper articles

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Ruth W. Stokes to President D. B. Johnson, April 19, 1928.

Ruth W. Stokes to Dr. Kinard, July 15, 1931.

Ruth W. Stokes to Dr. Kinard, May 10, 1934.

Ruth W. Stokes to Dr. J. P. Kinard, November 24, 1935

Ruth W. Stokes to President Shelton Phelps, June 11, 1936.

Ruth W. Stokes to President Shelton Phelps, July 4, 1936.

Ruth W. Stokes to Mrs. Mary Ona Matthews, August 18, 1936.

Ruth W. Stokes to President Shelton Phelps, December 12, 1936.
Ruth W. Stokes to Dean Mowat G. Fraser, February 5, 1942.
Ruth W. Stokes to President Shelton Phelps, February 13, 1942.
Ruth W. Stokes to the State Council on Teacher Education, May 8, 1945.

III. Other documents

Ruth W. Stokes, Job Application Form, Winthrop College, January 28, 1922.
Program, 14th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Section of the MAA, April 17, 18, 1936.
Ruth W. Stokes, Personal Data, Winthrop College, ca. 1936-1940.
Office of the Secretary, American Astronomical Society, Observatory, Ann Arbor, Michigan, February 2, 1942 (typescript ms.)
Program, 22nd [sic.] Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Section of the MAA, April 19, 20, 1946.

**88th Annual Meeting
Mathematical Association of America
Southeastern Section**

Friday-Saturday, March 13-14, 2009

**Belmont University
Nashville, Tennessee**

**Deadline for Special Session Organizers
Monday, October 15, 2007**

**Deadline for Contributed Papers
Friday, February 15, 2008**

**Contact Jim Vandergriff, Program Chair
vandergriffj@apsu.edu**

The members of the Southeastern Section of MAA look forward to being on The Citadel campus for the annual conference. The Section would like for the program to incorporate a wide range of topics of interest to faculty and students in two-year colleges, four-year colleges, regional universities, and research universities. Consequently, the MAA program chairperson would like to hear from members who wish to suggest topics for special sessions, individuals who could offer short course, or individuals who may be general session speakers. A preliminary announcement of special sessions will appear in the Fall Newsletter.

Ron Gould Receives Section Distinguished Teaching Award

David Stone, member of the Southeastern Section Teaching Award Committee, made the following remarks upon presenting the award at the March 28, 2008 Awards Presentation.

The recipient of the 2008 MAA Southeastern Section Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics is Professor Ron Gould of Emory University.

For more than 30 years, Professor Gould has been a gifted classroom teacher and a dedicated, generous adviser. His contributions as a teacher, mentor and innovator have stretched from freshman mathematics to doctoral research.

This is not Ron's first teaching award. His abilities were recognized early on – he received a teaching award as a graduate student at Western Michigan, and in 1999 received the Emory Williams Teaching Award at Emory. Here is one sample of the type of activities which have led to these recognitions: beginning in 1998, he developed and taught a course “the Mathematics of Games, Sports and Gambling”, which quickly became the most sought-after freshman seminar at Emory. Active learning is a priority of the seminar and Ron receives rave reviews from the students. Since then, he has also assisted other mathematics faculty in the development of innovative freshman seminars, which often attract strong students to the study of mathematics.

Professor Gould twice served as Director of Graduate Studies for extended periods. He was dedicated and innovative and re-energized the graduate program. He has served as dissertation advisor for more than twenty students and as MS project director for many others. With his introductory graduate courses in graph theory and combinatorics, he has attracted research students and provided interesting thesis topics. Ron is the exemplar teacher-scholar and has been a strong advocate of teaching excellence at Emory. He founded the Teaching Seminar for graduate students and has mentored and advised students who have now joined our profession and continue in the tradition he established.

Ron has worked with middle and secondary school teachers in Atlanta; he has given many colloquium presentations at other colleges, aimed to interest students in graph theory (and recruit them for Emory); he has conducted program reviews on other campuses, and he has become a source of help and advice to younger faculty.

One of Ron's students describes his style as “a loose hand on the tiller”. “Ron allowed me to choose the direction that I wanted to go at a particular time, yet provided gentle guidance. He was patient when the winds were calm, that is when ideas and proofs weren't flowing, and an excited skipper when they were blowing. On occasion he would remind me of my original course. This style allowed for me to investigate my research

area with confidence and to feel that I had gained ownership of it through my own efforts.”

From his work with local schoolteachers, undergraduate and graduate students and faculty colleagues, Ron attempts to find the best way to make difficult concepts understandable. In a distinguished career, he has exhibited extraordinary devotion to the process of imparting mathematics on all levels of instruction, and the Southeastern Section is pleased to recognize him with its highest award for teaching.

Section Meeting March 28-29, 2008 The Citadel

The Citadel hosted our 87th annual meeting, and it was another great one. Many thanks to Mei Chen and her team for all of their hard work! Everything went smoothly and the hospitality was wonderful.

Thursday is becoming as busy as Friday and Saturday with Project NExT meeting in the afternoon and the annual Thursday evening event for students. Julie Barnes again hosted a Math Treasure Hunt (an account of this follows) which had about 65 participants.



The Citadel

The initial Jeopardy rounds were held on Friday morning with sixteen teams participating. The competition in the initial round was fierce, and for the first time, had a tie for 4th place, resulting in five teams in the final. These teams were Auburn University at Montgomery (Montgomery, AL), Augusta State University (Augusta, GA), Davidson College (Davidson, North Carolina), King College (Bristol, TN), and Western Carolina University (Cullowhee, North Carolina). The final round was held Saturday morning and after some very difficult questions, Augusta State came out on top. Students also enjoyed TA Rush and the Career Fair on Friday before heading off to the talks. There were some incredible student talks and posters presented, and the second annual Patterson Prizes were awarded.



Once again, Student Posters were a big part of the meeting.

Our first invited speaker this year was George Andrews, Polya Lecturer, of The Pennsylvania State University. His talk, titled *The Lost Notebook of Ramanujan*, was a fascinating historical discussion of his search and discovery of this wonderful notebook. The next invited speaker was Angela Shiflet, Section Lecturer, of Wofford College. Angela and her colleagues have developed a program in Computational Science at Wofford and her talk, *Computational Science Coursework and Internships: Applying Mathematics and Computer Science to Important Scientific Problems* gave us an insight into the development and implementation of the program. Our last invited speaker was David Sumner, the 2007 Section Teacher of the year, of the University of South Carolina. He taught us how to win every time at Cracker Barrel's peg jumping game in *Jumping at the Chance*. of the day as each speaker caught or kept our attention with song.

The teaching and service awards were again announced before one of the invited talks.



David Stone and Ron Gould

The Southeastern Section Award for Outstanding Service went to Benjamin Klein and the Section Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics went to Ron Gould. The citations and responses for these awards are printed elsewhere in the newsletter.

On Friday evening of the MAA-SE Spring Meeting, Dr. Mei-Qin Chen and our Citadel hosts arranged a delightful night of dinner and

entertainment at the Citadel Beach House on the Isle of Palms. For those who arrived before dinner began, the beach was a short walk from the house and some paused to take photos as the sun set. Dinner was served buffet-style, and conversation among the 144 attendees seated at large round tables flooded the central dining area of the house. Once dinner was completed, Mei Chen introduced our speaker for the evening: Dr. Charles W. Groetsch, Dean of the School of Science and Mathematics at the Citadel and the Traubert Chair in Science and Mathematics.



Sylvia Bozeman and Ben Klein

The title of his talk was "Fear of Refrigerators: Some Mathematical Characters, Crackpots, and Crazies" and for about thirty minutes, Dr. Groetsch led us through a bit of mathematical history with a twist. We learned about the interesting or amusing quirks of deceased mathematicians such as Wronski and Hilbert and of living mathematicians such as Grigori Perelman. Dr. Groetsch enlightened us about the sad circumstances of mathematicians such as Cantor, Turing and Nash. Finally Dr. Groetsch ended his talk with a few scary cases of mathematicians; for those interested in the entire talk, a link to the Power Point slides is available on the conference website. Our thanks to Dr. Groetsch for an entertaining and enlightening talk and to Dr. Chen and all of the local organizing committee for a relaxing evening on the beach!

The Business Meeting was held on Saturday morning, early enough to allow people to

watch the Jeopardy Finals. The Liaison's had a lunch with the Governor, Ellen Kirkman, and heard about the developments on the national level.

Submitted by Karen O'Hara

Section Business Meeting March 16, 2007

Pat Humphrey, chair of the local arrangements committee, welcomed the group, gave a report on the number of participants, and made a few announcements regarding the day's activities.

Ellen Kirkman, Section Governor, reported on a number of items contained that were contained in her report to the Executive Committee two nights earlier (see her report on the Section website).

Tina Straley, Executive Director of the MAA, gave a brief update on the Carriage House.

Karen O'Hara, Section Newsletter Editor, presented figures related to the printing and mailing of the biannual newsletters. She announced the Executive Committee's decision to try an alternative method of distribution --- the use of the web and of notification postcards.

John Harris, Section Secretary-Treasurer, presented the Section financial report (available on the Section website). He then presented a number of resolutions, thanking the many people and groups who have helped to make this meeting possible. The group expressed its appreciation by accepting the resolutions unanimously.

Ray Collings, chair of Nominations committee, presented the slate of candidates for positions to be filled this year. The following officers were elected: Jim Vandergriff (Vice-Chair for Programs), Angela Shiflet (Section Lecturer), Emily Hynds (Alabama State Director), Lila Roberts (Georgia State Director), Laurie Heyer (Student Activities Director), John Long (Vice-Chair for Two Year Colleges), Tom Fitzkee (South Carolina State Director), Jeff Knisley (Tennessee State Director), Greg Rhoads (North Carolina State Director).

Jim Vandergriff, chair of the Site Selection committee, announced that the 2009 Spring meeting would be held at Belmont University in Nashville, TN on March 13-14, 2009.

The meeting closed with an invitation to the 2008 meeting, to be held at The Citadel in Charleston, SC on March 28-29, 2008.

Submitted by John Harris

Benjamin Klein Receives Section Outstanding Service Award

The following comments were made by Sylvia Bozeman, Chair of the Section Award Committee, in presenting the award.

The Southeastern Section of the Mathematical Association of America created the Distinguished Service Award in 1989 to recognize annually a member of the section who has made outstanding contributions to the section. It is my pleasure to announce that the recipient of the 2008 MAA Southeastern Section Distinguished Service Award is **Benjamin G. Klein** of Davidson College.

Professor Klein has been an active member of the MAA for many years. His work has gained visibility of the MAA membership for more than 20 years through his contributions to *the American Mathematical Monthly*, *the Mathematics Magazine*, *the Mathematics Horizons*, and also *the College Mathematics Journal*, where he served eight years as Co-Editor of Problems and Solutions. Within the SE Section Professor Klein served in several capacities, including as a member and chair of the Nominations Committee, as a speaker at section meetings, and speaker for the NC State dinner of the MAA. He has also served in leadership roles as the Southeastern Section Chair (1993-95) and as the Section Governor (2003-06) and, nationally, as a member of the MAA Investment Committee and the Editorial Committee for the Dolciani Expositions Series.

Professor Klein earned his B.A. degree at the University of Rochester, and both the M.A. and Ph.D. degrees at Yale University. He joined the faculty of Davidson College in 1971 and was appointed the Beverly F. Dolan Professor of Mathematics there in 1993. After more than 35 years of service to Davidson College our recipient officially retired in December of 2007.

Ben Klein's lengthy vita attests to a career of dedicated service to the mathematics profession. The range of his activities and his level of commitment are both inspiring. One of his colleagues wrote, "To observe him in a teaching environment, be it in class, with a student in his office, mentoring a colleague, or presenting at a professional meeting, is to encounter Ben in his true element." Clearly he is held in high esteem on campus for both his teaching and his leadership skills. Not only did he serve as Chair of the Mathematics Department, but he even served a year as Interim Chair of the Education Department. Beyond the campus, he has given many presentations at conferences of the North Carolina Council of Teachers of Mathematics and served in leadership roles of that organization, has held several roles with Advanced Placement Calculus, and has co-authored the North Carolina State Mathematics Contest for more than 10 years.

In recognition of his contributions to teaching, the SE Section awarded Professor Klein the Southeastern Section Distinguished Teaching Award in 1999. You will not be surprised to know that his contributions have been recognized by others as well. This past fall, Ben was recognized with the NC Council of Teachers of Mathematics Rankin Award for outstanding contributions to that organization and to mathematics education in

North Carolina. It is evident that his contributions to this MAA Section and to the development of mathematics in this region have been distinguished.

Professor Benjamin Klein, we commend you for a career of service to mathematics, and for your service to the MAA Southeastern Section, in particular. We are confident that you will continue your efforts, even in retirement. Congratulations on this recognition that is so well deserved.

(Editorial note: The call for nominations for the Distinguished Service Award appears in the Fall Newsletter.)

Math Treasure Hunt

On the night before our spring meeting at the Citadel, approximately 75 students and 20 faculty volunteers came together for another Mathematical Treasure Hunt.

As students arrived, they were broken up into teams with members from different colleges and universities. Students were presented with a task – to go to various rooms, solve whatever problems were presented to them by faculty volunteers, collect “keys”, and unlock the treasure box which was located where they had first met their teammates. During the evening, students created patterns with large Tangrams, solved a logic puzzle using plastic ducks dressed in military uniforms, built a bridge with Zome tools, solved some puzzles using bendable army people, used compasses and tape measures to navigate their way to a hidden location in an auditorium, and answered trivia questions about the conference program and about the Citadel. At each step, students collected “keys” that had a number on one side and part of a proof on the other. Once all “keys” had been collected, students had to arrange them so that the proof was in the correct order. The corresponding “key” numbers represented the combination to the treasure box – with a little catch. The numbers were in base thirteen and needed to be converted to base ten before using them. This was a non-competitive event, and every group was able to open the treasure box. Students each left with either a plastic military duck or a bendable army person.

We will have a similar event next year, and look forward to seeing you there. If you have any ideas for next year or would like to volunteer to help, please contact Julie Barnes at jbarnes@email.wcu.edu.

Julie Barnes, Western Carolina University



Students solving problems during the Math Treasure Hunt Thursday evening

**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: _____

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 (previous 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.

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 January 26, 2009 to the chair of the selection committee:

Mac Priestley, University of the South, 735 University Ave., Sewanee, TN 37383-1000

wpriestl@sewanee.edu

MAA Southeastern Section Committees for 2008 – 2009

Newsletter:	Karen O'Hara
Section Teaching Award:	Mac Priestly (Chair) State Directors David Sumner
Section Service Award:	Sylvia Bozeman (Chair) Jeff Dodd Joel Brawley Hugh Haynsworth Gary Hall Stephen Davis
Nominations:	Ray Collings (Chair) Wanda Patterson Walt Patterson Bernie Mullins Andrew Hetzel
Site Selection:	Jennifer Hontz (Chair) Narendra Govil Pat Humphrey
Site Organizer – Belmont U.:	Sarah Ann Stewart
Books Committee:	Jenny Langdon (Chair) John Harris (ex-officio) David Stone Barbara Tankersley

Southeastern Section MAA Website
<http://www.maa.org.edu/southeastern>