In this Issue

The first mathematical experiences a new-born infant has are geometric. Every day of our lives, from birth to death, we touch, see, and interact with geometric figures in a variety of ways.

This issue of *delta-k* focuses on geometry. Al Olson talks about the "no-things" we need to teach in geometry. Donald Kerr suggests some essential components of a geometry curriculum, and Alan Hoffer summarizes the thought levels in geometry proposed by the van Hieles from the Netherlands. Bill Bruce outlines a procedure for constructing an octagon.

The Problem Corner contains a problem related to geometry. The seven pages of activities contain geometric activities adapted by your editor from a variety of sources.

Long-Time MCATA Executive Members Retire

John Percevault from the University of Lethbridge and Robert Holt from the Edmonton Public School Board have retired from the MCATA executive after many years of dedicated service.

During the past nine years John served as Faculty of Education representative, edited a recent monograph on reading in mathematics, and assisted in the organization of the 21st Annual Meeting in Lethbridge.

Bob has served in a number of important capacities including president, vice-president, and past president. Bob was also chairman of the Program Committee for the 1973 NCTM meeting in Edmonton.

The input both John and Bob gave to decisions made by the executive was always appreciated. We wish John and Bob well as they continue their professional careers and thank them for their valuable contributions to MCATA.

First Winners of the Donald H. Hinde Memorial Award

The first students in the Lacombe Junior High School to receive the Donald H. Hinde Memorial Award were announced recently. The winners were:

Grade 7 - Todd Peterson
Grade 8 - Jim Dixon
Grade 8 - Shane Milne
   - Leslie Newman

<p align="center">CONGRATULATIONS!</p>

MCATA 21st Annual Meeting

Lethbridge, October 16-17

The 21st Annual Meeting of the MCATA was held in Lethbridge on October 16 and 17. Over 300 people participated in a variety of workshops and sessions that dealt with a variety of topics and issues. Sessions on problem solving were conspicuous by their abundance. Other sessions dealt with diagnosis, calculators, curriculum revisions, and other topics. Earl Ockenga from Cedar Falls, Iowa was the keynote speaker Friday evening and at the luncheon on Saturday. His emphasis was on making problem solving meaningful and interesting.

What Do You Think?

This is the first time since the Jasper Meeting that the MCATA Annual has been held in what some might consider a non-central location. The main reason for this was to make our services available and more visible to members who might have had a more difficult time in the past to attend our Annual Meeting. The attendance, the best we have had for some time, seems to justify the decision. What do you think? Should the executive consider locations like Medicine Hat, Grande Prairie, and others for future meeting sites? Next year's meeting (Fall 1982) will be in Edmonton. Your reactions to the above questions will help us decide sites for 1983 and beyond.

President's Report, 1980-81

Once again we have arrived at a time of excitement and annual change for the Mathematics Council of The Alberta Teachers' Association. There seems to be a unique excitement when members of our organization meet at our annual conference to rekindle old friendships and embark on new ones. This year's conference in particular offers an opportunity to make new friendships. For the first time in MCATA history the Annual Conference is being sponsored by the Southern Alberta Regional, an affiliate of MCATA, which operates out of communities in and around Lethbridge. Although this regional is the result of the efforts of several people, I feel Gary Hill (Lethbridge) has been a key figure and motivating force that has brought it into being.

The conference organizing committee and chairman Gary Hill have been able to make this the best conference ever by arranging a number of excellent sessions covering topics of problem solving and the state of the art of technology.

In keeping with the theme of this year's conference, a monograph on problem solving (edited by Dr. S. Rachlin from the University of Calgary) was released

in 1980-81, and a new one commissioned for 1981-82 (edited by Ron Cammaert). The new monograph will include submissions from a wide variety of people involved in computing technology and educational computing. In addition to our monograph publications, Dr. George Cathcart, as editor of *delta-k*, has helped to keep us well informed.

Finally, let me take this opportunity to thank all of those people who have contributed to MCATA this past year, and let us look ahead to the enthusiastic leadership of Gary Hill in 1981-1982.

Lyle Pagnucco
President

Financial Statement for the Year Ending June 30, 1981

Combined General and Barnett House Account

Receipts		Expenditures	
Memberships	4688.50	Executive Meetings	1101.19
MCATA Publications	113.00	1980 Annual Conference	6375.35
Annual Conference	8793.00	1981 Annual Conference	331.40
S/A Interest	688.38	NCTM Annual Conference	579.63
NCW Regional	393.87	Regina Name-of-Site	100.00
1980-81 ATA Grant	4034.00	Specialist Council Seminar	42.00
Miscellaneous	10.00	AACE Conference	315.05
	18 720.75	Supplies	85.54
		Telephone	857.90
		NCTM Affiliation	50.00
		delta-k Honorarium	100.00
		Math Exams & Contests	
Balance: July 1, 1980		High School Prize Exam	500.00
General Account	7491.96	Calgary Jr. High	100.00
Barnett House Account	950.62	Calgary Math Night	100.00
	8442.58	Printing:	
		General	479.58
		delta-k	1414.33
		Monograph #5	653.00
		Monograph #6	1501.66
		Postage:	
		General	378.92
		delta-k	432.23
		Monograph #6	389.06
		Envelopes	197.18
		Miscellaneous	93.00
			16 177.02
		Balance: July 1, 1981	
		General Account	10 986.31
	27 163.33		27 163.33

Brian Chapman
Treasurer

Revised Budget, 1981-82

Receipts		Expenditures	
Memberships	4500.00	Executive Meetings	2000.00
MCATA Publications	100.00	NCTM Annual	700.00
ATA Grant	4500.00	Editor's Honorarium	300.00
	9100.00	Math Contests and Exams	800.00
		Donald Hinde Memorial Award	1100.00
		Supplies	100.00
		Telephone	700.00
		NCTM Affiliation	50.00
		delta-k	2500.00
		Monograph #7	3000.00
		Monograph #8	3000.00
		General Printing	500.00
		General Postage	400.00
		Regional Grants	100.00
Add Deficit	6500.00	Miscellaneous	350.00
	15 600.00		15 600.00

Idiot Quiz – For Fun

1. A ship standing in the locks extends 14 m above the water line. The water rises in the locks at a rate of 2 m a minute. After 3 minutes, how far does the ship still extend above the water?

2. How many three-cent stamps in a dozen?

3. If you went to bed at 8 in the evening, and set the alarm for 9 in the morning, how much sleep would this permit you to have?

4. Do they have a first of July in England?

5. Why can't a man living in Edmonton, Alberta, be buried east of the Manitoba border?

6. How many birthdays does the average man have?

7. If you had only one match, entered a room with a kerosene lamp, an oil burner, and a wood stove, which would you light first?

8. If a doctor gives you three pills and tells you to take one every half hour, how long would they last?

9. Some months have 31 days, some 30. How many have 28?

10. You are driving a bus. At the first stop you pick up three people, the second you pick up 9 people; at the third stop 4 people get off and you pick up 13 people at the next stop. How old is the bus driver?

11. I have two Canadian coins totaling 55 cents. One is not a nickel. What two coins do I have?

12. A farmer had 19 sheep. All but 9 died. How many does he have left?

13. Divide thirty by halves and add ten. What is the total?

14. An airplane flying from Canada to the U.S. crashes on the border. Where do they bury the survivors?

15. Two people playing checkers played 5 games. Each person won the same number of games with no ties. Explain.

16. Take 2 apples from 6 apples. How many apples do you have?

17. An archeologist claims he found a gold coin dated back to 46 B.C. What is the total value of the coin?

18. A woman gives a beggar 50 cents. The woman is the beggar's sister, but the beggar is not the woman's brother. How come?

19. How many animals of each species did Moses take aboard the ark?

20. Is it legal for a man to marry his widow's sister in Newfoundland.