

From the President's Pen



As a new president, I was nervous about writing this first From the President's Pen message, so I decided to look back through some issues of *delta-K* to see what others had written. After the first few, I found myself looking at the journal articles as well as examining messages from previous presidents.

When I receive a new issue of the journal, I look through it, read an eye-catching article, perhaps show a teaching colleague and then store it on a shelf. As I sat and looked through several in a row, I began to get a different perspective and could easily see why our journal has been internationally recognized through the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM). NCTM recognized *delta-K* during the editors' session at its conference in San Francisco in 1999. Nancy Hawthorne described *delta-K* as a stellar mathematical journal. Our journal was also cited as an excellent model for other editors to emulate.

Klaus Puhmann, *delta-K* editor, has done an outstanding job of writing, phoning, e-mailing, collecting and following up on articles that he wants in each issue. I can only guess at the amount of time he has put into this endeavor over the years. He works diligently on members' behalf to produce a quality publication. In the January 1999 issue, Klaus states his hope that "all readers find something interesting, useful and challenging" in every issue of *delta-K*. That's what makes this an award-winning journal. He ensures quality of articles, variety of topics, variety of levels and currency of mathematical issues for Alberta teachers, and he connects to the larger mathematical teaching and learning community through attention to the NCTM.

It is inspiring to see contributions from practising teachers as well as researchers and leaders in the field of mathematics education. The researchers inform our classroom practice, but it is the classroom teachers, through their practical knowledge and daily work with students, who make the love and learning of mathematics happen.

The Student Corner needs you. Have you come across that student explanation of a problem that made you say, "Wow!?" We want to see it. Encourage your students to send in some of their work. Klaus has given some good ideas for you to consider. Let's add the student voice to our journal. Let's create a culture of mathematics thinkers who reach out to the larger community through this fine journal.

I look forward to my term as MCATA president and encourage you to contact other executive members or me so that we know how you feel about the issues in math education in the province.

Sandra Unrau

Whatever your difficulties in mathematics,
I can assure you mine are far greater.

Albert Einstein
