Mathematics Council
NEWSLETTER
The Alberta Teachers' Association

Volume 1   **Number 5**   **June 1983**

NCTM 61st Annual Meeting

MCATA president Gary Hill attended the 61st Annual Meeting of NCTM held in Detroit during the month of April.

Report of Proceedings

On Wednesday, the Canadian Caucus met from 8:30 - 10:30 a.m. to go over the day's agenda and procedures as well as to review the resolutions we would later be debating and voting on.

From 10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., all the regional caucuses joined in the 34th Annual Delegate Assembly, at which time we debated/amended 25 resolutions that had been submitted by the various affiliates (14 were passed, 11 defeated). Some of the topics that the resolutions dealt with include the following aspects of mathematics education:

- curriculum
- computers
- shortages of math teachers
- teacher preparation and professional development
- NCTM membership decline

At 2:30 p.m., the Canadian Caucus reassembled to discuss the services provided by NCTM and ideas for promoting membership in both NCTM and affiliates.

At 3:45 p.m., we adjourned to the NCTM business meeting and open forum.

From 2:00 p.m. Wednesday until 1:00 p.m. Saturday, there were a total of 536 sessions and workshops from which to choose. The topics were numerous and covered all levels of mathematics education, from kindergarten to university.

Membership in NCTM

As you may be aware, the MCATA is an affiliate of the NCTM, the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. Even though the NCTM head office is located

in Reston, Virginia, it is an international organization whose goals are to assist in promoting the interests of mathematics and to vitalize and coordinate the work of local organizations of teachers of mathematics.

The NCTM is a professional organization of teachers dedicated to the improvement of classroom instruction in mathematics at all levels. Through its many publications and services, the Council is a forum for the discussion of new developments, a means of sharing innovative classroom experiences and evaluating trends in the teaching of mathematics.

As a member of NCTM, you will receive a monthly issue of either the Arithmetic Teacher or the Mathematics Teacher, both excellent journals of mathematics education. As well you will receive the bi-monthly NCTM's News Bulletin. All three of these publications feature easily reproducible student activities.

NCTM members are eligible for a 20 percent discount on literally hundreds of NCTM publications dealing with every aspect of mathematics education at every level, from kindergarten to university.

If you are not already a member, I highly recommend that you complete the application form and mail it directly to:

> NCTM
> 1906 Association Drive
> Reston, VA 22091

What's New?

MCATA

Monograph No. 9: *Motivation in School Mathematics*

Possible Topics:

1. What factors increase a student's motivation in studying mathematics? (e.g., ability to understand? experiences of success? awareness of the importance of mathematics? development of role-models?) What actions can be taken to increase students' motivation?

2. Can attitudes toward mathematics be measured? Can they be changed? If so, how?

3. Is level of motivation in mathematics a sex-related phenomenon? How can the level of motivation be increased for both sexes?

4. What topics, approaches, methods, materials, or activities have individual authors found particularly motivating?

Rationale:

1. Mathematics teachers, like other teachers, are concerned about motivating their students to do their best. Every teacher has some ideas about how to do this, but more ways of sharing ideas are needed.

2. It would be expected that papers with a variety of points of view would be included, but that the theme "motivation" would tie them together. Current emphases such as problem solving, calculators, computers, math labs, and others would not be neglected.

3. It would be expected that a good balance could be found between general or theoretical papers and ones focusing on practical suggestions for classroom teaching.

Persons interested in contributing papers for this monograph are invited to contact:

Thomas L. Schroeder
Curriculum & Instruction Department
Faculty of Education
University of Calgary
2500 University Dr. N.W.
Calgary, Alberta
Canada   T2N 1N4

MCATA Executive Named

President	-	Ron Cammaert
Vice-President	-	Robert Michie
Past President	-	Gary Hill
Secretary	-	Mary Jo Maas
Treasurer	-	Virinder Anand
delta-K Editor	-	Gordon Nicol
Monograph Editor	-	Thomas Schroeder
Newsletter Editor	-	To be appointed
Directors	-	To be appointed

South West Regional of MCATA

New Executive to Be Named

The South West Regional of MCATA is looking for a new executive for the coming year. The new executive is to be selected at a general meeting on Wednesday, June 15th, 1983 - 4:00 p.m., Lakeview School, 129 Henderson Lake Boulevard. The term of office is from June 1983 to June 1984. Executive includes: President, Secretary, Treasurer and Program Director. Contact President, Ron Cammaert, at 223-4948 (home) or 223-2902 (work), if interested.

Clearinghouse South

The South West Regional of MCATA is planning an afternoon-evening session at which teachers can look at computer courseware. The session will be at

the University of Lethbridge on October 5th from noon to 9:00 p.m.

It is anticipated that there will be about twenty Apple computers available with software from the provincial clearinghouse as well as from commercial suppliers. Teachers could then drop in and try out the various software.

Alberta Education

Mathematics Consultant Retires

Mr. Wilf Lencucha will retire from Alberta Education. Wilf served as mathematics consultant with the Lethbridge Regional Office since 1968. He was chairman of the Mathematics Curriculum Committee since 1971. Wilf also served on the executive of MCATA.

Dates for Your Calendar

BCTF

"Mathematics Their Way" Workshop

"Mathematics Their Way" offers an activity-oriented approach to teaching mathematics. A summer workshop is being offered to help teachers implement this approach in their classrooms. The workshop is run as a model classroom and focuses on manipulative materials and activity-centered learning. Concepts to be dealt with are: free exploration, pattern, sorting and classifying, comparing, counting, number (beginning addition and subtraction), measurement, graphing and problem solving.

Three workshops are being held in Alberta this summer:

1. August 3 - 10 - Edmonton
2. August 15 - 20 - Calgary
3. August 17 - 24 - Grande Prairie

Pre-registration is required through the Centre for Innovation in Education in California. For further information, contact:

Marilynn Bernard
11612 - 150 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta
T5X 1C2
Phone: (403) 456-7142

MCATA Annual Meeting

Remember that the Annual Meeting will be held at the University of Calgary on October 28 and 29, 1983.

Problem Corner

Name-related games can teach strategies for winning. Games can be altered to include subtraction or addition formats and may be played on hand-held calculators.

Game I: *"Take Twenty-One"*

Two players. Twenty-one chips. Players must take 1 or 2 chips from the pile.

Object: Player who takes last chip wins.

Game II: *"Take Twenty-Two"*

Rules are the same as for game 1.

Game III: *"Take Twenty"*

Twenty chips. Players must take 1, 2 or 3 chips from the pile.

Object: Player who takes last chip wins.

Game IV: *"Take Twenty-One"*

Rules are the same as for game III.

Games V, VI, VII, and VIII

These are versions of games I - IV. However the person who takes the last object loses.

Develop games of your own after strategies have been refined. Will the rules you discover for the development of the games apply to:

1. Take 1, 3, or 5 chips from a pile of 24? from a pile of 27?

2. Take 2, 4, or 6 chips from a pile of 24? from a pile of 27?

PLAN YOUR VACATION TO INCLUDE THE:

Tenth Mathematics Summer Workshop

<u>DATE:</u> Tuesday, August 30 and Wednesday, August 31, 1983

<u>PLACE:</u> Sutherland Secondary School North Vancouver, B.C.

80 sessions of interest for levels K-12 (Many sessions repeated)

P R O G R A M M E   H I G H L I G H T S

George Ivany (Acting President of S.F.U.) - Keynote Speaker

*Robert Baratta-Lorton   *Math Their Way

*Frank Ebos   *Computers   *Motivation

*Publisher's Displays   *Curriculum Revisions

*Problem Solving   *Speakers from throughout B.C.

- Lunches available on-site ($5.00) -

Pre-registration (by June 30, 1983) $35.00   Students $20.00

On-site registration $40.00

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NAME _____   GRADE TAUGHT _____

ADDRESS _____   DATE _____

POSTAL CODE _____

Registration fee includes a one-year complimentary membership in B.C. Association of Mathematics Teachers and a subscription to its publication "VECTOR". A PSA application form will be sent on receipt of your fee. Your registration fee should accompany this registration form.

☐ BCTF MEMBER OR ASSOCIATE MEMBER

☐ NON-BCTF MEMBER. FOR NON-BCTF MEMBER DESIRING PSA MEMBERSHIP, ADD $5.00 TO REGISTRATION FEE.

Make cheque payable to Tenth Summer Workshop.
Mail to: REGISTRATION, 4488 Skyline Drive, N.Van, B.C., V7R 3H1