Fall 1983

UA66/10/2 Newsletter

WKU Mathematics

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Hello, again. We appreciated the positive response we had to the newsletter last year and were glad to hear news from so many of you. The brunch at Homecoming last year was a success—well-attended and much enjoyed—and we hope to make it an annual occurrence. Since we have so many double majors, it was decided to make it a joint venture of Mathematics, Computer Science and Physics. It will be held this year on the Saturday of Homecoming, October 29, at 9:30 a.m. at the Ambrosia Restaurant which is located on College Street near the Square. Please, make your plans now to attend and return the form at the end of the newsletter, along with your check, to me by Friday, October 21. See you at the brunch.

Betty Detwiler
Alumni News by Carroll G. Wells

TONY ALAN RHEA ('80) has completed the M.S. degree at Purdue and is working as a Health Physicist at Carolina Power and Light Company in New Hille, North Carolina. KERRY CASEY ('80) is a math and physics teacher for Franklin County and lives in Beaver Dam, KY. He was married this summer. ROGER DALE JOHNSON ('74) is a C.P.A. and works as an auditor with James R. Meany & Associates in Bowling Green. TOM BLACK ('82) is enrolled in the M.S. program in computer science at W.K.U. DEBORAH DAIGLE ('82), VICKIE CURTIS ('82) and SHARON POWELL SLOAN ('81) are currently completing the M.S. degree in mathematics at W.K.U. PAM DURHAM ('82) is employed by Ingersoll Rand in Campbellsville, KY.

JO ELLEN WILHITE ('82) is living in Huntsville, AL and working for Integraph. DEDE METCALF ('82) is working in Nashville, TN and is in the actuarial department of National Life Insurance Co. DONNA SMITH ('83) is teaching in Allen County, KY. KAY BERRY ('83) is employed with an insurance company in Nashville, TN. LISA WILLIAN ('83) is a mathematics teacher for Hart County in KY. GLENN HUMPHREY ('82) is married to Kathy Hoffman and is living in Austin, TX where he is a computer programmer for Lockheed Aircraft. He is enrolled in the master's program in aviation engineering at University of Texas-Austin. JEFF NASH ('82) is working for Lockheed Aircraft in Sunnyvale, CA. RONALD CAIN ('78) lives in Wartburg, TN and is employed by Union Carbide Corp. JOHN DAWSON ('78) is a programmer for Datamax Computer Corp. He and his wife live in Owensboro, KY. JOHN SCOTT ('79) is employed by Monsanto Research Corp. and lives in Centerville, OH. JACK LAWRENCE ('76) is employed by General Electric in Charlottesville, VA. MARY GRIFFING MOSS ('75) is a mathematics teacher for the local county school system. BOB HARRIS ('76), LINDA HOWARD ('79), DAVID WILLIAMS ('82), and PETER SISLER ('78) are employed by Elizabethtown Community College, Elizabethtown, KY. DONALD K. TAYLOR ('79) has the M.S. in Electrical Engineering from the University of KY and is employed with Texas Instruments in Johnson City, TN.

RICHARD DAUGHERTY ('78) is a Staff Programmer for I.B.M. and lives in Red Hook, N.Y. ANITA NEAL GREENLEE ('79) lives in Oakridge, TN where she is employed by Union Carbide. E. CLAY BUCHANAN ('78) lives in Santa Clara, CA and works for Compression Labs, Inc. RON KERRY ('78) works for General Motors Research Labs and lives in Sterling Heights, MO. TIM HARRINGTON ('78) works for Monsanto Research Corp. and lives in West Carrollton, OH. JIM T. SNODGRASS ('77) was married in May, '83. He is currently finishing his doctoral dissertation at Vanderbilt U. CHRIS SPETH ('82) and Teresa Montgomery were married in Louisville in August, 1983. Chris is currently at W.K.U. where he is also doing work on the M.S. in computer science and is assistant manager of the computer lab in Thompson Complex. KEITH WRIGHT ('76) is a Senior Associate Programmer with I.B.M. in Rochester, MN. He has 2 children. ANNA
THORNBERY ('78) and Tom Neely are married and live in Lexington, KY where Anna is an engineer for South Central Bell. SHANNON DUCHENOIS KAST ('81) received the Master's in Applied Math from the U. of Georgia in '83 and is teaching in the technical school at Winterville, GA. She is also director of the computer lab. ZEXIA BARNES ('79) is in the Ph.D. program in chemistry at Michigan State.

New Computer Science Department

On July 1, 1983 the Department of Computer Science was officially established at Western. As a result, returning students found some new faces and a few new procedures. However, most of the computer science faculty are still housed in offices on the third floor along with the mathematics faculty. New departmental offices have been constructed in room 137A and a new classroom has been constructed in room 137 to relieve the pressure for teaching space.

The head of the new department is Dr. Don Henderson who was in a similar position at Mankato State U. in Minnesota prior to coming to WKU. Two other new faculty members this year are Mr. William Kang from Southern Illinois U. and Mr. Freeman Moore from Central Michigan U. The department lost the services of Dr. Alton Crawley who is now teaching at Ouachita Baptist U. in Arkansas and Mr. Raymond Hsu who returned to Taiwan.

Faculty members were involved in several projects during the year. Dr. Cheatham spent the summer developing software for a robotics project in the Engineering Technology program. Dr. Davis received a grant for an additional PDP 11/44 to be used by the department for research and upper division instructional support. Dr. Crenshaw taught several workshops for faculty/staff at Western in the area of micro-computer literacy and programming. He also consulted for several Kentucky Area Development Districts which were seeking to develop regional computer service facilities. Dr. Linton and Dr. Crawley both taught continuing education courses in computer literacy for the Bowling Green community. Many members of the department were active in supplying teaching and consulting help to elementary and secondary schools who are establishing micro-computer labs.

In addition to the three new faculty, the department is composed of full-time teaching members: Cheatham, Crawford, Crenshaw, Linton, and Smothers. Davis and Wilson combine teaching responsibilities with running the Ogden Computer Lab along with a new assistant lab manager, Chris Speth. Additional teaching support comes from faculty in mathematics and other departments at WKU.

John Crenshaw
Departmental Activities

Ours is a very versatile department consisting of twenty-nine faculty members and it has, as many of you have shown, strong and supportive alumni. Department members continue to be active in all phases of university life. Our undergraduate enrollment is growing; ‘major’ courses are up 28% from ’72 to ’82; service courses—algebra is up 158% from ’72 to ’82—other support courses were up 507% during the same period. The graduate student population stays at about the same level and we do have assistantships available for the spring semester.

This year we have had the pleasure of adding three new members to our faculty. Barry Brunson comes to us from Depauw. His Ph.D. is from Indiana U. with a speciality in probability. Pansy Brunson also completed her doctorate at Indiana with a speciality in adult education. She has taught at Depauw and E.K.U. Bonnie Langley received her master’s degree in mathematics education here at Western and has previously taught part-time in our department.

One of our faculty members has recently been honored for the outstanding work that she has done. At the May graduation exercises Linda Pulsinelli received the University Award for Excellence in Productive Teaching. She is the first department member to receive this award and we are very pleased with her recognition.

The fourth annual mathematics symposium was held in March. The theme was “Computer Assisted Instruction in Mathematics.” The annual summer mathematics seminar for community college teachers was held in May. We are looking forward to the eighth such seminar which will be held next spring and our next symposium is ‘on the drawing board.’

Several of our faculty have given lectures during the past year. Pauline Lowman has been a speaker at three N.C.T.M. meetings. James Barksdale and Glenn Powers each gave a talk at the spring meeting of the Kentucky Section of the M.A.A. Glenn also had a paper published during the year. Martha Watson, governor of the Kentucky Section of the M.A.A., represented that organization at the two annual meetings of the M.A.A. (Speaking of travel, several of our faculty continued their quest to span the globe: Pauline Lowman traveled to Turkey; Betty Detwiler to Ecuador and Mexico; Martha Watson to Russia; Carroll Wells to Smiths Grove??)

Linda Pulsinelli and Pat Hooper have had two textbooks published by Macmillan: *Introductory Algebra* and *Intermediate Algebra*. They are currently working on a new text, *Arithmetic for College Students*. 
Becky Stamper and Hope Richards conducted a short-course for gifted junior high students in June. John Brevit, Steve Jacobs, Glenn Powers, and Carol Reagles attended the NSF-Chautauqua course "Combinatorial Problem Solving" which was held in Memphis. Carol Reagles is also a participant in a D.O.E. funded research project. Eighteen members of our department are either teaching computer science courses or completing computer science course work (or both). Several department members have been active, and successful, in grantsmanship and thus we have been able to add several microcomputer and peripheral equipment to the department.

Our department is indeed fortunate to have an active faculty. We do, however, consider supportive alumni a vital need. Please do not hesitate to write or call us at any time. We would like to hear of your current projects or plans. Our department is committed to developing a high quality program here at Western and we are counting on you to support our efforts.

Bob Bueker

Please reserve ______________________ (number of people) places for ____________________________ (name)
at $5.25 each. Enclosed is a check for _______________________.

Make check payable to Betty Detwiler and return to Mathematics Department, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY 42101.

RETURN BY FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21.