

# MACS NEWSLETTER

## F O R T   H A Y S   S T A T E   U N I V E R S I T Y

### F O N D   M E M O R I E S   O F   A   G O O D   F R I E N D B Y   M A R Y   K A Y   S C H I P P E R S

THE NEWSLETTER IS  
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On May 25, 2005, Fort Hays State University and, in particular, the Mathematics and Computer Science Department lost a valued teacher, mentor and friend. Mr. Wilmont (Bill) Toalson died at Sterling House in Hays at the age of 97.

Born February 13, 1908 in Clark, Missouri, Bill received both his elementary and secondary education in his hometown. He received his A.B. degree in Math and Physics in 1929 from William Jewell College, a private school in Liberty, MO. In 1930 he attended the University of Missouri studying Chemistry, then attended the University of Kansas and received an M.A. degree in Mathematics in 1937. Bill completed the coursework for a PhD in Math Education at the University of Colorado from 1949 – 1956, but did not complete his dissertation and so was not awarded his doctoral degree.

While taking advanced courses, Bill taught school to earn his living. From 1931 – 1935, he was a coach and teacher at Garden City High School in Kansas. From 1937 – 1941, Bill taught mathematics at Independence High School. From 1941 – 1943, he taught mathematics at Pratt Junior College in Pratt, Kansas. With WWII in full

swing, Bill temporarily left his teaching career and served as a Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy from 1943 – 1946. Upon his return from active duty, he joined the faculty at Fort Hays Kansas State College, where he was a professor of mathematics from 1946 until his retirement in 1978.



MR. BILL TOALSON

During his tenure at Fort Hays Kansas State College, he became an integral part of the department and the university. He rose through the ranks of the department to become chair in 1956 and continued in that role until he reached the mandatory "step-down" age of 65 in 1973. After that, he remained in the department for another five years concentrating on his teaching.

Bill's involvement with the college extended beyond the department. In 1962, Bill was appointed to the NAIA National Eligibility Committee and was instrumental in initiating District Eligibility Committees in all 32 NAIA Districts. He helped write four of the five NAIA Handbooks and was a major influence in molding NAIA Eligibility Rules and Regulations. In 1967 Bill was appointed Chairman of the Committee and served in that capacity through 1972. In 1976, Bill was inducted into the NAIA Hall of Fame, only the fourth person from Fort Hays Kansas State College to be so honored. The others were Athletic Director Cade Suran, track and cross country coach Alex Francis, and basketball coach and Athletic Director Paul B. Gross.

Bill also won many awards and citations through the years for his outstanding teaching ability. In 1966 and 1967, Bill traveled to India to serve as a consultant and lecturer at educational institutes at major Indian universities. The institutes were sponsored by the National Science Foundation in cooperation with the Agency for International Development and the governor of India. Bill was involved in an institute planned to update sub-

## TOALSON CONTINUED

ject matter and introduce new teaching methods to secondary mathematics teachers. Bill's involvement with the National Science Foundation also had a long history. He was Director of ten NSF Summer Institutes in Mathematics held at Fort Hays Kansas State College. (See photo)

Bill's personal life revolved around his wife, Lorene, whom he married in 1931. Lorene preceded Bill in death in 1994. Bill was also involved in his church, and many local civic and service organizations. After retirement, Bill spent his time swimming, golfing, gardening, camping and reading. But he always kept in touch with his beloved Fort Hays State.

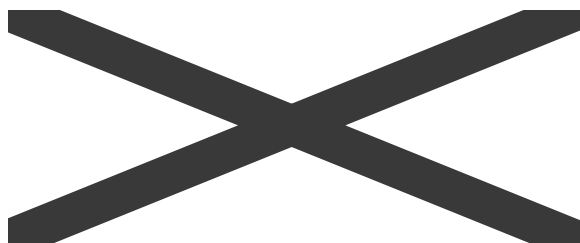
Fond memories of Bill flood the hearts of those who were fortunate enough to know him. One of those is Ellen Veed, retired FHSU Math Professor,

who was hired by Bill to teach in Fall, 1960. Ellen grew up in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and completed her degree at the University of Kansas. Ellen never learned to drive a car, because she had no need. Her family lived in Milwaukee and at KU she walked or rode her bicycle. Ellen rode the train to Hays, Kansas where she met Bill. Between the desolation and harsh weather of Western Kansas, Ellen realized she needed to learn to drive. Bill helped Ellen practice her parallel parking skills during their coffee breaks at FHSU. By winter, Ellen was ready to attempt her driving test. Using Bill's 1949 Studebaker, Ellen proved she could maneuver well enough to gain her license. She recalled that Bill's car had no turn signals, so – in winter – she rolled down the window and used hand signals to turn. But she had to hurry and pull her arm back in because, with no power steering, she needed two hands to

make the turn. Ellen stated that after all that practice, she was never asked during her driving test to parallel park!

After Bill's retirement in 1978, the Toalson Scholarship was established through the Endowment Association at Fort Hays State University. After Bill's death, the scholarship was fully endowed, and any department advisee with at least sophomore status is eligible. The scholarship is awarded based on academic achievement. Anyone wishing to contribute to this scholarship may do so through the Endowment Association. The MACS department wishes to extend a heartfelt "thank you" to those who have already contributed to this special scholarship.

Bill, thank you for your many years of service to Fort Hays State. We miss you and will never forget you.



*Check out*

*[www.fhsu.edu/scimathcamp/](http://www.fhsu.edu/scimathcamp/) for information on the Math and Science Camp for Middle School Girls at FHSU.*

## MATHEMATICS FACULTY INVOLVED WITH SCIENCE OLYMPIAD BY MOHAMMAD RIAZI-KERMANI

The Science Olympiad was created in 1983 to expand interest in science for students, and to serve as an alternative to the conventional science fair and tournaments.

The Olympiad consists of 32 individual and team events that require expertise in biology, earth science, chemistry, physics, problem solving, and technology. Division A is for grades K-5, Division B is for grades 6-9, and Division C is for grades 9-12. Typically about 12 teams in different events are invited to participate at FHSU.

Students who participate in the Science Olympiad are taught advanced science through active, hands-on participation. All events involve team work, group planning and coopera-

tion, and promote team spirit and good sportsmanship. There are now over 12000 schools from all over 50 states, grade K-12, who



actively participate in Science Olympiad. Department of Mathematics and Computer Sciences faculty at Fort Hays State University have been actively involved in coordinating, organizing, and judging many events for the past several years.

This year Keith Dreiling was the organizer and judge for **Practical Data Gathering** which was held at the Memorial Union on February 16, 2006. Lane Young organized and judged for **Mission Possible** which was held in the Trails Room of the Memorial Union on February 14, 2006. Jeff Sadler organized and judged **Scrambler** which was a new event for him. This event was held on February 16, 2006. Dr. Hongbiao Zeng, Dr. Lianju Wang and Michelle Zeng organized and judged the event **Compute This** which was held in Tomanek Hall on February 14 and 16, 2006. Bill Weber organized and judged the event **Write it Do it** which was held in the Pioneer Lounge of the Memorial Union

## 2005 - 2006 SCHOLARSHIP ACTIVITIES BY RON SANDSTROM

We still have four faculty working on PhD's through KSU. Hopefully by next year's newsletter we will have that number reduced. The highlights of this year's activities would have to be the two grants we received from KSDE to develop two on-line courses for teachers wanting middle school mathematics endorsement. One course is "Geometry and Measurement" (Dreiling and Weber), and the other is "Calculus" (Sadler and Young).

Last year I mentioned that we were able to send Dr. Zeng to Hawaii to a SUN Java Institute. This year I am able to announce that he is a "Sun Java Certified Programmer." We had

presentations at GRASPS workshops, MSAA workshops, In-service to USD 489 Middle School Teachers on Probability, KATM, two at Regional T<sup>3</sup>, two at National NCTM in St. Louis, and at USACAS in Atlanta.

Sadler together with (Paul Adams, Cyndi Danner-Kuhn, and Leslie Paige) submitted a grant proposal directed toward support of USD 489 teachers teaching mathematics in a technology embedded classroom setting, looking for key strategies that impact student learning. Riazi and Zeng published a proposed problem in College Mathematics Journal. Riazi also made a presenta-

tion on a new approach to "3x+1" at The Fifth Prairie Analysis Seminar at Kansas State University.

We had attendance at NCSM, NCTM in Anaheim, KMAA (six) in Lawrence, MATHFEST in Albuquerque, Kansas City Regional Technology EXPO, TI conference in Denver and two Regents' Conferences on Competencies in core mathematics courses. I made two NCA evaluation visits and completed NCA chair training. Dreiling will be making an NCA visit to Western Plains School District.

## WHAT ARE THEY DOING NOW

### BY BOB BERLAND

Editor's Note: This is the sixth contribution to a continuing feature in our annual newsletter. The purpose is to describe in greater detail the interesting careers of individual alumni after graduating with a degree in mathematics or computer science. If anyone would be interested in contributing to future issues, please let me know.

Johnny Cash sang and recorded a song called "I've Been Everywhere" that could serve as the theme song for my life since graduating from FHSU in 1988 with a BS degree in Mathematics. My name is Bob Berland, and this is a brief description of my journey.

While I was attending school at FHSU I also worked nights primarily as a roughneck and derrickhand on oil drilling rigs that were based out of Hays. By the time I graduated, I'd been roughnecking for 6 years or so and by accident, not design, had quite a bit of petroleum industry field experience to combine with my formal education.

Upon graduation I decided that I would like to work in the oil and gas industry as more of an engineer as opposed to doing programming. I ended up moving south to College Station Texas to formally study Petroleum Engineering at Texas A&M University.

While I was at A&M I received a job offer to go to work for one of the large oil field service companies that was recruiting graduates. I had not yet finished my degree, but the fact that I had a technical BS combined with solid field experience was getting a great deal of attention since I was now only 90 miles away from "Petro Metro," Houston Texas.

I moved to Lafayette Louisiana and went to work both on and offshore working the Louisiana Gulf Coast oil and gas fields as a field engineer. The job was more mechanical and chemical engineering related than petroleum as it was heavily fluid hydraulics and process engineering specific. I

liked the work, really enjoyed the Cajun people, but wasn't crazy about the number of or randomness of the working hours.

So like any good oil field worker, I kept working until oil and gas prices dropped and they laid me off! We moved to Dallas Texas after the lay-off, where I went to work for a large petroleum engineering consulting company. The mentoring and education I received there were invaluable. I worked as an engineering technician, mainly doing programming in FORTRAN and in a proprietary company language. Since I had formal petroleum engineering training, it wasn't too long before I was doing formal reservoir engineering analysis as well. This included petrophysical well log analysis (qualitative and quantitative), material balance and decline curve analysis.

Several of the engineers at the firm strongly encouraged me to finish the engineering degree that I had started at A&M. I really enjoyed my engineering coursework, so I attended classes part time at the University of Texas at Arlington as I worked full time during the days. As it turns out, this process was probably an inadvertent mentor in its own funny way. After spending several semesters taking core engineering coursework that would apply to any engineering major, a couple of things started to dawn on me. First was the fact that in a practical sense, I was already a petroleum engineer. The degree was a formality at this point. And secondly (and more importantly) was the fact that jobs for petroleum engineers were very cyclic, and not always in the nicest of locales.

I decided to direct my effort toward electrical engineering, and now work

as an electrical power engineer designing power plants. I still 'dabble' in oil and gas as a personal investment, but my day job is electrical engineering.

Designing alternating current (AC) systems involves the use of complex algebra. Since voltage and current 'react' differently to electrical capacitance and inductance, as a design engineer I must always take into account the effect of these passive elements on total system performance, and use complex algebra to do so. We typically express these parameters in polar coordinates. The work is math intensive, and I often think of Dr. Carolyn Ehr when working in polar coordinates!

This analysis is called 'steady state' operation; it involves events and parameters that are 'continuously' occurring with respect to the independent axis of time.

The other time domain concern involves what happens during 'transient events,' or physical events of very small time duration. This primarily involves short circuit and voltage drop analysis. Differential equations drive the boat during this analysis. The ultimate goal is to design a system that is robust enough to handle steady and transient state events while allowing for future growth, and to do so in a cost effective manner.

While attending FHSU I never realized that I was receiving and earning a world-class education.



After nearly 20 years and (as my Cajun friends would say) 'beaucoup' miles later; that fact does not escape me. I've attended great engineering schools and was always near, if not at, the top of my classes. I've worked with graduates of some of the most prestigious schools in the country and found I 'could run with the big dogs.' And those abilities came from the strong

foundation in mathematics I received at FHSU.

When I left the petroleum engineering consulting firm in Dallas to finish my engineering degree full time, each of the companies' two founding principals separately pulled me aside to give me some advice. It has been useful to me, so I'll pass it along.

One of them told me "while in school make certain you get good grades. It shows a future prospective employer that you're willing and able to do the work." The other principal, an elderly southern gentleman then told me. "Bobby, find a job that's like play to you. Then play like hell!"

And that's my story.

## A NEW MEMBER JOINS MACS BY MICHELLE ZENG

The Mathematics and Computer Science Department would like to introduce you to the new assistant professor Dr. Lianju Wang. If you find that it's hard to pronounce his Chinese name, you can call him Julian (which is a reverse of Lianju).

Julian was born in Fujian Province, China. He graduated from Beijing Normal University, the best normal university in China, with a BA in Mathematics in 1987. He continued his graduate school in the same university and received his MS in Mathematics in 1990. He then had worked as a Math Lecturer for 5 years in University of Science and Technology Beijing. Julian came to Wichita State

University for his Ph.D. program in 1995. Julian got his Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics in August 2000. In the same year, he also achieved his Master Degree in Computer Science from Wichita State University.

After he worked in Lucent Technologies as a software engineer for two years, he went back Wichita State University and worked as a postdoctoral researcher.

Julian always walks home for his lunch. We can guess that his wife, Qiang Yu, cooks very delicious Chinese food.

Welcome to Fort Hays State University, Dr. Lianju Wang.



Dr. Lianju Wang

## STUDENT POINT OF VIEW

### MY KEY TO SUCCESS BY JOAN DREILING

When I first started my educational career at Fort Hays State University, I was a typical timid freshman. During class, I was afraid to speak out and ask for more clarification when I was confused with something. However, this soon started working to my disadvantage. I found that if I didn't understand



JOAN DREILING  
FHSU JUNIOR

something in class, there was no way that I was going to understand it when I went home and tried to do my homework without the teacher there to help me. I knew that something had to change.

The first step that I took to becoming more involved in class was simply sitting in the front row of the room. This way, Dr. Riaz was able to see the confused expression on my face when I just wasn't quite getting it.

Once I actually became comfortable enough to ask questions and participate in class, I noticed a huge improvement in my overall understanding of the class material.

Now, I know that the best way to get the most out of education is to become involved in the classes. There are many times when I suggest a way of working a problem, and my ideas are completely wrong. However, these are the times that I seem to learn the most. This has truly been the best way for me to learn, and I would encourage others to also utilize classroom discussion as much as possible.

**2005 - 2006 SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED TOTAL  
\$ 16,800  
BY JEFF SADLER**

The generosity of alumni and friends of the Fort Hays State University Mathematics and Computer Science Department continued to benefit students. For the 2005-2006 academic year, the MACS department was able to offer \$16,800 in student scholarships. The scholarship dollars provided enable many students and their families to afford the quality higher education offered at FHSU. Through these scholarship dollars, alumni and friends make it possible for the MACS department to support FHSU's ongoing theme of *Affordable Success* at a time when tuition rates continue to climb higher at most institutions of higher education.

The scholarship awards greatest in dollar amount were presented to students working on a degree in computer science or mathematics within the MACS department through named scholarships. Due to continuing and new dollars designated to these special/endowed scholarship funds, the following FHSU students received well-deserved recognition and some welcomed cash for school expenses:

Tony Brown (**Atwood**)-awarded the Veed \$400 Scholarship  
Jason Crist (**Bennington**)-awarded the Ora and Everett Marshall \$750 Scholarship  
Kyndra Dobson (**McPherson**)-awarded the Vivian Baxter Memorial \$500 Scholarship  
Joan Dreiling (**Ellis**)-awarded the Colyer \$1000 Scholarship  
Jacqueline McDowell (**Smith Center**)-awarded the Lowery \$500 Scholarship  
Jennifer Princ (**Luray**)-awarded a Jimmy Rice Memorial \$500 Scholarship  
Shayne Riley (**Tribune**)-awarded the fall Tebo \$500 Scholarship  
Brian Bergdall (**Haven**)-awarded the spring Tebo \$250 Scholarship  
Jason Mahoney (**Wichita**)-awarded the spring Tebo \$250 Scholarship  
Lance Sharp (**Riley**)-awarded the Denio \$500 Scholarship  
Adam Taylor (**McCracken**)-awarded the Toalson \$750 Scholarship  
Chelsey Weber (**Hoxie**)-awarded the Ogle \$450 Scholarship  
Matthew Wood (**Chapman**)-awarded the Paul Miller Math/Physics \$1,000 Scholarship

Distribution of scholarship funds continued beyond this collection of highly prized named scholarships. The Award Of Excellence (AOE) Scholarship in Mathematics and Computer Science is a continuing scholarship program for incoming freshmen interested in pursuing a degree within the MACS department. Now in its seventeenth year, the AOE continues to be a valuable resource for new students, providing \$250 for residence hall fee reduction and \$250 for educational expenses. The AOE is usually awarded to a student based upon his/her ACT score and high school achievement. This past year, the department was able to offer 32 AOE scholarships to students contemplating attendance at FHSU with a declared major within the MACS department. Of this group, ten students enrolled for classes during the fall of 2005 and received AOE monies. Those students included:

Chelsey Weber ( <b>Hoxie</b> )	Catelyn Manly ( <b>Lakin</b> )
Bradley Dechant ( <b>Garden City</b> )	Andrew Sanford ( <b>Smith Center</b> )
Samantha Rodriquez ( <b>Lyons</b> )	Joshua Peterson ( <b>Abilene</b> )
Chris Haerich ( <b>Victoria</b> )	Jessica Schuler ( <b>Ellis</b> )
Jeffrey Honeyman ( <b>Hays</b> )	Taylor Shields ( <b>Potwin</b> )

The department continues to ask all alums to encourage and direct local high school students with an interest or talent in mathematics, mathematics education or computer science toward FHSU. In the near future, the department hopes to actually pay out twenty-five AOE scholarships (the department's quota of AOE funds), and having at least this number of well-prepared students beginning our programs.

The scholarship dollars did not end there. Due to generous supporters, the department was able to award MACS departmental scholarships. These scholarships are funded primarily by contributions to the department during the annual FHSU Endowment Telethon. The telethon dollars provided two levels of departmental scholarships and were given to the following students:

\$400 Scholarships	\$200 Scholarships
Darren Oelke ( <b>Hoxie</b> )	Sherri Quinn ( <b>Hays</b> )
Michael Wahlmeier ( <b>Philipsburg</b> )	Wayne Cook ( <b>Plainville</b> )
	Martin Brungardt ( <b>Russell</b> )
	Brandon Nimz ( <b>WaKeeney</b> )
	Thomas Zimmerman ( <b>Hoxie</b> )
	James Heit ( <b>Larned</b> )
	Derek Johnson ( <b>Clay Center</b> )
	Alex Harbaugh ( <b>Beloit</b> )

Students and faculty are truly appreciative of any and all financial assistance received through funds provided by friends of the MACS department. If you are interested in contributing either new or continued funds to any MACS scholarships, you may do so by sending a check to the MACS department payable to the FHSU Endowment Association, specifying the mathematics scholarship fund of interest on the memo line. Additional scholarship donation information may also be obtained by contacting Jeff Sadler via email at [jsadler@fhsu.edu](mailto:jsadler@fhsu.edu) or by phone at (785)-628-4416 with questions about the MACS scholarships.

## 2005 GRADUATES BY MARY KAY SCHIPPERS

\*Denoted graduated with honors

### **Melissa Beyer**

During Summer, 2004, Melissa worked as an intern with Scitor Corporation in Herndon, Virginia. Upon graduation, she became an employee with this corporation. You can check out their website at <http://www.scitor.com/>

### **\*Jerome Conner**

Jerome is working at the FHSU University Bookstore.

### **John Dumler III**

John is working for MDI Technology which designs healthcare applications. You can check it out at [www.mditech.com](http://www.mditech.com).

### **Thoman L. George**

Thoman is working in the Defense Industry.

### **Derek Johnson**

Derek is temporarily a Systems Administrator for the FHSU computing center.

### **Sean Norris**

Sean Norris is working at Nex-Tech in Hays.

### **\*Shayne Riley**

Shayne is working in McCook, NE at 21CSI.

### **Rafael Ruiz**

Rafael's occupation is unknown at this time.

## RETIRED FACULTY NEWS

### BY KEITH DREILING

Author's note: Some of the retired faculty members sent their information to me in written form, and others provided the information to me over the phone. I have summarized the information from the phone interviews, but I have included the written information as it was sent to me since it seemed to be more interesting to read than if I had summarized.

#### ELTON BEOUGHER

The biggest project I have going now is starting a new business, Planning Software, LLC. One of my wife's nephews, I, and our wives are the "members." That is what they call the owners of an LLC. This all came about when my wife's sister, who is an elementary principal in Anchorage, Alaska, told us about her frustration with one of her tasks. At the beginning of every school year every elementary principal has to make a schedule of "special" classes. These are ones for which the students go to another room for a class with another teacher. Examples are art, music, or physical education. There are several parameters and the process is more complicated than you imagine. It takes them from several hours to several days to make a suitable schedule. Most of them do it by trial and error. Make up a schedule, give it to teachers and let them find conflicts, inconveniences, and other problems. Try again. This may take several schedules, depending on the size of a school and number of specials, and other factors.

I took it as a challenge to write a computer program to do the task. The sister-in-law's son is the nephew I mentioned earlier. He took up the challenge also. I finished up the program in December and then he and I got together to discuss it. I had sev-

eral ideas from linear algebra and graph theory in addition to the technique I used. As soon as I described how matrices could be used he envisioned a way to do it in a program and he is now writing a program. He is a bright young man in his early twenties. We have reserved a booth at the national convention of the National Association of Elementary Principals in late March to see how it flies. Much of my spare time has been taken up with this operation. You wouldn't believe how much red tape and time it takes to write a program to be marketed, exhibiting it at a national convention, and starting a business.

#### LARRY DRYDEN

Larry reported that this last year has been somewhat uneventful, but he is "still around and getting around." He has been attending Encore and Symphony presentations, playing bridge, and reading.

#### CAROLYN EHR

Carolyn reported that she is keeping busy and is as ornery as ever. She traveled to the Southeast in the fall, is traveling to the Southwest this spring, and plans to travel to Wisconsin and Michigan this summer. She continues to do volunteer work for the church, serves on the board for Habitat for Humanity, and reads in her spare time.

#### ERV ELTZE

Last July we drove up to the Canadian Rockies. We spent 6 days in Banff and Jasper National Parks. In August we helped our son Mike and his family move from Pottsville,

Texas to Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He now works for Rockwell Collins as an ASIC engineer (he designs computer chips). On September 7, our daughter Michelle gave birth to a baby boy, Ethan Kellen Danner. This is our fifth grandchild and we just had to go to Olathe to help out.

#### ROSALIE NICHOLS

One of our goals for retirement was to travel. This past year we traveled extensively. My husband, Weeden, is a regional vice-president for the Scottish Clan McLeod Society, USA. We attended a board meeting in Alexandria, Virginia and the annual general meeting on a cruise to Nassau (June is not the ideal time for such a cruise). We also attended several Scottish festivals -- in McPherson, Tulsa, and WaKeeney. We participated in two Elderhostels, one in Savannah and the other in Gettysburg. We took a couple of long road trips: one with two of our granddaughters to the Black Hills and the other through British Columbia to Prince Rupert. In October we took a week long cruise with Weeden's sister from New York up to Halifax and back. Our big trip was to Australia for three weeks in March. We also traveled to Milwaukee for a conference, to Texas to visit friends and family, Orlando for a board meeting for Weeden and to a film festival in Kearney. Somewhere in between we have visited four of our five children.

Another of our goals was to resume playing duplicate bridge. In addition to playing locally, we



played in tournaments in Hutchinson, Kansas City, Dodge City, Salina, Omaha, Des Moines and Denver.

I am serving on the Habitat for Humanity Board of Ellis County and on the Heartland Social Justice Commission.

### RUTH PRUITT

I have some volunteer jobs that I can do at home on my computer. I am active in the DAR and help prospective members with their application papers. I play bridge with a group that includes Drs Ehr, Veed and Nichols. Roger and I like to go visit the grandkids and have them come here, although that doesn't happen as often. They did come from Portland, Oregon and Hot

Springs, Arkansas in April, with their parents, for their great grandma's 90th birthday.

### ELLEN VEED

I've been doing much the same things as reported in the last newsletter - paint, volunteer at the Sternberg Museum, a little bit of travel, work on family history, summer at the cabin. Recently, I've met (via e-mail) three distant cousins representing three different branches of the family so that adds quite a bit of information.

Author's note: Ellen was featured in the At Random section of the Hays Daily News last year. The story discussed how she came from Wisconsin to the University of Kansas to pursue a master's

degree, taught at FHSU for almost forty years, retired and decided to stay in Hays even though she had thoughts of retiring in Salida, Colorado. The story highlighted her painting, her occasional trips to New Mexico and Arizona, and her summers spent at her cabin near Fairplay, Colorado.

### CHARLES VOTAW

I don't have anything of significance to tell you about the past year. I got a year older, but don't feel much different. We are still caring for our great-grandsons and I am still editing family videos and writing the results to DVD. I think I have gotten more proficient at the editing process, but it still takes a lot of time.

## 2005 MATH RELAYS: SMALLER BUT BETTER BY BILL WEBER

The 2005 version of Math Relays was much different than previous years. Due to the on-going construction at the FHSU Memorial Union, efforts were made to downsize the numbers of participants, yet try to keep as many schools as possible involved in the competition. We were able to do so by forcing students to participate in at least 4 of the 6 events, and cutting back the number of teams from a particular school in each event from 2 to 1. This greatly reduced the number of participants (from around 1500 to 650), but still kept schools participating in the event (60 schools

brought students). Since so many students were busy taking tests, the student traffic in the halls of the Union was greatly reduced; so much that I think the director of the Union will probably continue to tell us they are in construction every year! School winners from the 2005 Math Relays were:

#### Large Schools(4A/5A/6A):

- 1<sup>st</sup> Hutchinson
- 2<sup>nd</sup> TMP-Marian
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Salina South

#### Medium Schools(2A/3A):

- 1<sup>st</sup> Quinter
- 2<sup>nd</sup> St. John
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Trinity Catholic (Hutchinson)

#### Small Schools (1A):

- 1<sup>st</sup> Golden Plains
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Skyline (Pratt)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Lincoln

Individual winners as well as team winners for each event can be found by accessing the Math Relays website at <http://www.fhsu.edu/macs/mathRelays/relayresults05/relays05resultnew.htm>

Next year will be another adventure, as it is expected that Union construction will still be in full swing. The tentative date for the 2006 Math Relays is November 9, 2006, although changes may have to be made to accommodate the construction.

### Courses Available this summer through MACS

Intermediate Algebra (MATH 010)

College Algebra (MATH 110)

Elements of Statistics (MATH 250)

Calculus Methods (MATH 331)

Measurement and Geometry for Middle Level Mathematics Teachers

## K M E U P D A T E B Y L A N E E Y O U N G

KME/MACS Club has had another fun filled year. The KME Spring 2005 Banquet was held at Rooftops on April 29. The new initiates were Ann Brungardt, Joan Dreiling, Jerome Conner, Charles Hansen, Jacqueline McDowell, Lance Sharp and Matthew Wood. Mr. Mitchell Ummel, a 1985 FHSU Mathematics and Computer Science graduate, spoke to the group about the venture of starting his own consulting firm. Mitchell currently resides in Topeka with his wife Neysa and their two children.

This fall KME/MACS Club kicked off the new school year with a softball game followed by a barbeque in the park. Many students came to enjoy a competitive game and great food. After keeping the game close for half of the first inning the faculty let the students come away with another win.



The faculty and students also enjoyed two lunch-time pizza parties during the fall semester. These were a great opportunity for students and faculty to converse in an informal atmosphere.

The advisors of KME/MACS Club hope to create a positive atmosphere for learning and collaboration among faculty and students.

## A L U M N I N E W S B Y M A R Y K A Y S C H I P P E R S

### **Judy (Braun) Brummer, '93**

After teaching seven years in the Hays school district, Judy made a career change and is now working as a parent educator for the Smoky Hill Foundation for Chemical Dependency, also in Hays.

### **Anita (Lessor) Curtis, '94**

Anita, husband Craig, and big brother Cale welcomed to their home baby girl Addie Marie on July 6, 2005.

### **Teresa Detweiler, '04**

Teresa stops by the FHSU Math department for occasional visits. She is a graduate teaching assistant at Kansas State University and is completing her Master's degree.

### **Jason Dickson, '03**

Jason is working for the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks.

### **Fran Dreiling, '87**

Fran and husband Scott Claassen brought home baby Andrew Francis, born April 18, 2005. Andrew joined sister Samantha and brother Matthew in their Kansas City home.

### **Zane Engelbert, '02**

Zane is working for 21CSI in McCook, NE. He is engaged to Amy Simon. They are planning a July 15 wedding.

### **Tina (Brungardt) Herrman, '97**

Tina and her twins visited the MACS department this summer. Tina stays at home with her kids in Scott City.

### **Kevin Ruda, '01**

Kevin and his wife Jodi welcomed their first child, Bryce Joseph on March 9, 2005. Kevin is a high school math teacher in McPherson, KS.

### **Amber Schmidt, '04**

Amber wed Tyrel Coker on July 22, 2005. Amber is a math teacher at Hoisington High School.

### **Mike Weber, '99**

Mike and wife Christine gave birth to Allison Marie on January 3, 2006. Mike works in the County Appraiser's Office in Hays.

Did you know...Heather Hulett and her husband Todd Will are on the Board of Editors for the College Mathematics Journal. Heather is the daughter of Dr. Gary Hulett, retired professor of Biology.

## TIGER CALL 2005

### BY RON SANDSTROM

MACS faculty and students joined 600 other students, faculty and staff again this year to participate in the annual FHSU TIGER Call co-chaired this year by Brenda Hoopingarner, Dept. of Allied Health, and Dr. Mark Bannister, Information and Networking Technology. Students Tony Brown, Martin Brungardt, Kyndra Dobson, Jared Leiker, Brandon Nimz, Jennifer Princ, Sherri Quinn, Shayne Riley, Michael Wahlmeier joined faculty Keith Dreiling, Mohammad Riaz, Mary Kay Schippers, Jeffrey Sadler, Ron Sandstrom, Bill Weber, and Lanee Young to help the FHSU Endowment Association surpass the goal of \$420,000. After a slow start FHSU alums picked up the pace and pledged \$426,892. We want to thank each of you, in particular we want to thank those of you who designated the MACS Dept. as recipient. You will notice that the list below seems to increase each year. We know there is an upper bound but we are a very large epsilon away from it. Those who designated MACS are: Thyla Aldrich, Charles & Cathryn Allphin, Lavern & Cari Andrews, Dirkson & Jennifer Anderholz, Stephen & Suzanne Barker, Leonard & Phyllis Bartel, Charles & Sharon Beckman, Gary & Bernice Bell, Elton & Wendy Beougher, Rex & Beverly Blandling, Sonny and Therese Blyn, Alvin & Lynnae Boedeker, Gabriel & Paula Buser, Darren Brungardt, Neil & Sharon Carlson, Melvin & Bernice Capps, John & Mimsie Coen, Kent & Lisa Colwell, Vernon & Pricilla Cowan, Willis & Alma Crabtree,

Mary Cunningham, Robin Deters, Scott Claassen & Francine Dreiling, Keith & Pam Dreiling, Kay & Mildred Dundas, Dennis & Dianna Echard, Thomas Edgett, Ken Eichman, Dan & Martha Eining, Tom & Kay Franke, Leslie & Karen Freeman, Mickey & Lynnette Frownfelter, Michael & Vicky Garza, Betty Gingrich, Leroy & Mary Gnad, Walter & Marilyn Griest, Dora Gross, Donald Hager, Jon & Robin Hanna, Chad & Lora Heckman, Troy & Tina Herrman, Al & Marilyn Herren, Marvin & Marty Hines, Jerrod and Jessica Hofaker, Darren & Cynthia Horn, Kent Huffman, Vaughn and Kristi Huslig, Stuart & Donna Jarvis, Amy Johnson, James and Judy Johnson, John & Regina Johnson, Loyal & Wanda Johnson, Nathan Jones, Betsy Kelly, Norm and Sherry Kinderknecht, Vernon & Virginia Kisner, Lloyd & Nixie Koelling, Richard & Sandra Kratzer, Darrell & Sheila Latham, Clint Ledbetter, Francis & Mary Ann Legleiter, Dolores Lessor, Max & Thelma Liggett, Evalee Lundy, Larry & Connie Masters, Richard & Linda McCullum, Joe and Jennifer McLeland, Ron & Debbie Miller, Robert & Anel Minneman, Steve Morgan, Donald & Cleo Mounday, Ronald & Barbara Musgrave, Wayne & Alberta Neal, John C Neuschafer, Larry & Betty Newton, Weeden & Rosalie Nichols, Marty & Tonya Orth, Curtis & Karen Pahl, John & Wilman Payne, Marvin & Katrina Penka, Roger & Ruth Pruitt, Jason and Rachel Purdy, John and Sondra Raile, Rich & Debora Rawlings, Christopher and Karen Ruder, Rich

& Sharon Ruder, John & Becky Sadler, Jeffrey and Lorilyn Sadler, Ron & Cathy Sandstrom, Bob & Christine Sauber, James & Jeanine Schieferecke, Dan & Mary Kay Schippers, Ron and Kim Schmidtberger, Janet Schuetz, Jim & Lida Sharp, Lori Shively, Gary and Charlotte Sneed, Harry & Loretta Spencer, Pat and Kathy Spicer, J Gail Stanley, Jim & Debbie Stelter, David & Betty Talyor, Stephen Tebo, Mitchell Ummel, Blake & Crystal Vacura, Douglas & Melinda Vahle, Charles & Rita Votaw, Wilmer & Sue Waldman, Donald and Mary Werner, Douglas & Shelley Whisler, Freddy & Roxi Wilson, Marilynn Wilson, Rex & Margaret Wilson, Leroy & Sharon Winklepleck, Lori Wittrock, Charles & Neoma Wonderlich, Clem & Ruby Wood, Lanee Young, Gene & Mary Zimmer, and Marvin & Janine Zimmer. We really appreciate those employers who matched your contributions. I apologize if I have inadvertently left off someone's name. This list of names indicates what the Endowment Association claims: The percentage of mathematics graduates who participate in financial giving to the university is among the highest of all departments.

These monies allow us to attract and keep mathematics and computer science majors so that the students can become successful citizens like you. If you know of any potential mathematics and computer science majors please send

**FYI:** Ron Sandstrom, Keith Dreiling, Bill Weber and Lanee Young are working with the Western Kansas Mathematics Academy. The project is sponsored through a Mathematics/Science Partnership grant and supported by the Kansas State Department of Education and the FHSU teacher education and mathematics departments. The purpose of the project is to provide knowledge, pedagogical strategies, and materials for **40 western Kansas 4th-8th grade mathematics teachers** that support a knowledge base in methods for teaching and learning mathematics.

Please use this form to notify us of a change of address or to contribute information for the next newsletter.

Return to *Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, Fort Hays State University, 600 Park Street, Hays, KS 67601* or e-mail the information to:  
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