

MACS DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 33 SPRING 2007

MOBILE TEACHING AND LEARNING AT FHSU

Beginning Fall 2007, all new, on-campus students enrolled at FHSU will be required to use tablet computers in order to take full advantage of the learning opportunities presented by the University. A tablet is a wireless personal computer that allows the user to take notes using handwriting with a digital pen on a touch screen. The key concept behind mobile learning and teaching is based on the need to deliver information to any location for the purpose of enhancing learning opportunities, improving productivity, and providing a competitive edge in the classroom and in future careers.

This is a very exciting time on the campus of Fort Hays State University. The integration of this new technology will provide faculty and students with:

- Equal, instant, and continuous access for all students to learning resources and information
- Anytime, any location access to administrative resources
- Increased opportunities

for communication between students and faculty

- The ability to participate in group assignments anytime, anywhere
- The capability to add threaded discussions and simulations to the classroom environment
- A minimized learning curve with new technologies
- A competitive edge in the job market

As this transition occurs, students and faculty will have many adjustments to make in the fall semester. One of our first concerns in the MACS department is to find adequate technology while minimizing cost to the students. Currently, the TI-84 or TI-89 is the technology of choice in the mathematics classroom. All students enrolled in College Algebra or Statistics are required to have a TI graphing calculator while most upper level students have access to a TI-89. With the integration of laptop/tablets into the classroom, there will be some changes in the



Derek Vonada and Scott Hand work on a laptop in the MACS Library.

technology used as well. Students in College Algebra (MATH 110) and Calculus Methods (MATH 331) will use GraphCalc. This is a free graphing calculator available as shareware. Students in Statistics (MATH 250) will be required to use Excel. This change will help students apply statistics in real world situations where Excel may be used. All math classes will use Maple and/or Matlab. Students will still be allowed to use a graphing calculator in any of these classes; however, the instructors will be using, demonstrating, and emphasizing the technology on the computers.

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All classrooms will have wireless access in the fall. Tablets will become an integral part of the instructional process which means Tablets should also become a vital part of the assessment process. Test security becomes an issue for faculty to consider. The use of DyKnow software should help with some of these concerns as it allows the instructor to see all computers in the classroom at the same time. In addition, faculty need to have the ability to turn the wireless connection off in the classroom anytime.

Other issues that may arise throughout this process include access to plug-ins, lack of adequate electrical circuits, and inadequate table space. Most classrooms used by the MACS department are equipped with desks instead of tables. There is not enough room to put a laptop and a textbook safely on the desk and still have room to work efficiently. Equity for students is also a concern as many students are working full time just to afford to go to school let alone purchase a computer. The ability of the University to effectively provide technical

support to students is another concern that may need to be addressed.

Faculty members in the MACS department are embracing the change. Student access to powerful software such as Maple, Matlab, and Geometer's Sketchpad and the ability to use the internet can and should enhance classroom instruction. This new environment will better prepare our students for the experiences they will face in the "real world." We will update you in next year's newsletter as to the progress of our mobile teaching environment.

NEW FACULTY MEMBER

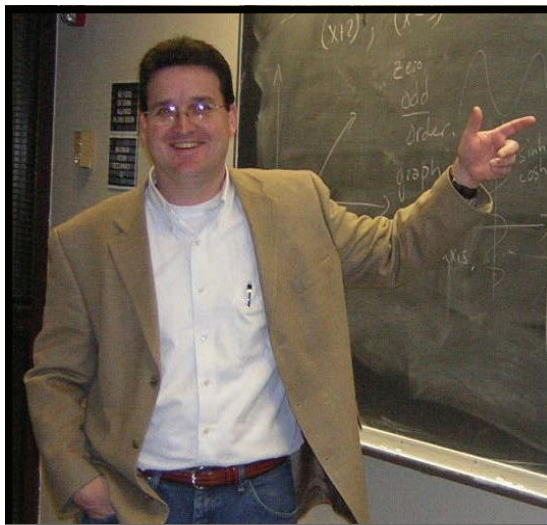
BY KEITH DREILING

Don Clewett is the newest member of the MACS faculty. He currently teaches three sections of College Algebra after teaching two sections in the fall. His wife, Cathy, is an assistant professor in the physics department.

Don comes to us with a colorful past (nothing illegal that I know of). He grew up in Sacramento, CA, and after high school he enlisted in the Marine Corps as a Cryptologic Technician. After two years he was offered a Naval ROTC scholarship, and he attended the University of Arizona. He earned a B.A. in History with a minor in Russian in May 1990, was commissioned as ensign in the Navy, and served on the USS Richmond K. Turner in the Arabian Gulf for Desert Storm. His experiences in the Navy took him everywhere around the world except Antarctica and Schoenchen.

He left the navy in 1994 and settled in Albuquerque, NM (could there possibly be a better place for someone accustomed to the high seas?). It is there that he met Cathy, and he followed her to St. Louis where she was working on her master's degree at Washington Uni-

versity. They moved back to Albuquerque when she completed her degree.



Don Clewett is the newest member of the MACS department. He currently teaches three sections of College Algebra.

Don taught for three years at the Albuquerque Country Day School. Originally he was hired to teach history classes and one math class, but by the time he left he was teaching five math classes and one history class. Again, he followed Cathy, this time to New Mexico Tech where she began

working on her Ph.D. Don became a mathematics convert and began working on his B.S. in math. He became a grad student in his second year at Tech and finished his M.S. last May. While at Tech he taught mostly Calculus I and II, but he also taught College Algebra and assisted in a trigonometry class.

Last August he followed his wife again, this time to another great place for sailors, Hays, where she was hired to teach in the Physics Department. Dr. Sandstrom found out that Cathy had a husband who could teach mathematics, and after some tense negotiations, Don was hired (I don't know the specifics of his contract, but Don has bought donuts for the department several times).

Don and Cathy have been married for over nine years, and although they have no children yet, they are raising two cats, Merlot and TBLR (The Baby Lab Rat). Don's hobbies include history, trout fishing, and cooking, and he is active in the Episcopal Church as a Lay Assistant and Lay Eucharistic Minister.

TIGER CALL

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 Dr. John Heinrichs, Geosciences, and Glen McNeil, Health & Human Performance. Students Tony Brown, Allison Chretien, Joan Dreiling, Mary Gleason, Rita Gnizak, James Hauck, Thomas Hornung, Kristy Koch, Catelyn Manly, Paul Maseberg, Brandon Nimz, Kevin Schulte, Craig Stramel, Chelsey Weber, and Matt Wood joined faculty Keith Dreiling, Don Clewett, Mary Kay Schippers, Jeffrey Sadler, Ron Sandstrom, Bill Weber, and Lane Young to help the FHSU Endowment Association surpass the goal of \$440,000. 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 Ankerholz, Stephen & Suzanne Barker, Lida Barrett, Leonard & Phyllis Bartel, Charles & Sharon Beckman, Gary & Bernice Bell, Elton & Wendy Beougher, Rex & Beverly Blanding, Sonny and Therese Blyn, Alvin & Lynnae Boedeker, Jerry & Edith Bollig, Susan Bozeman, 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, Ali & Maggie Farahani, Richard & Amelia Franke, Tom & Kay Franke, Leslie & Karen Freeman, Mickey & Lynnette Frownfelter, Michael & Vicky Garza, Betty Gingrich, Leroy & Mary Gnad, Walter & Marilyn Griest, Dora Gross, Donald Hager, Rod Hanson, Jacqueline Havel, Jon & Robin Hanna, Chad & Lora Heckman, Troy & Tina Herrman, Al & Marilyn Herren, Marvin & Marty Hines, Jerrod and Jessica Hofaker, Harris Holler, Darren & Cynthia Horn, Kent Huffman, Rod & Karen Hunley, Vaughn and Kristi Huslig, Stuart & Donna Jarvis, Amy Johnson, James and Judy Johnson, John & Regina Johnson, Loyal & Wanda Johnson, Sandra Johnson, Nathan Jones, Betsy Kelly, Norm and Sherry Kinderknecht, Vernon & Virginia Kisner, Lloyd & Nixie Koelling, Richard & Sandra Kratzer, Michael & Carmen LaBarge, Darrell & Sheila Latham, Clint Ledbetter, Bob & Kim Lee, Francis & Mary Ann Legleiter, Larry & Donna Leitner, Don & Linda Lesovsky, Aaron Lessor, Dolores Lessor, Max & Thelma Liggett, Evalee Lundy, Ken & Edith Mahan, Larry & Connie Masters, Mason May, Richard & Linda McCullum, Joe and Jennifer McLeland, Merrill & Jean Miham, Ron & Debbie Miller, Robert & Anel Minneman, Carl & Joan Mooney, James & Wanda Morford, Steve Morgan, Donald & Cleo Mounday, Ronald & Barbara Musgrave, Wayne & Alberta Neal, John C Neuschafer, Larry & Betty Newton, Phuoc Nguyen, Weeden & Rosalie Nichols, Marty & Tonya Orth, Curtis & Karen Pahls, John & Wilman Payne, Marvin & Katrina Penka, Don & Kathryn Petr, Larry & Darlene Plymell, Roger & Ruth Pruitt, Jason and Rachel Purdy, Lynne Rahm, John and Sondra Raile, Rich & Debora Rawlings, Roy & Eugenia Richards, Shayne Riley, Kevin & Jodi Ruda, Christopher and Karen Ruder, Rich & Sharon Ruder, John & Becky Sad-

ler, Jeffrey and Lorilyn Sadler, Ron & Cathy Sandstrom, Bob & Christine Sauber, Paul Scheuerman, James & Jeanine Schieferecke, Dan & Mary Kay Schippers, Ron and Kim Schmidtberger, Janet Schuetz, Edward & JoAnn Schwartzkopf, Jim & Lida Sharp, Lori Shively, Gary and Charlotte Sneed, Harry & Loretta Spencer, Pat and Kathy Spicer, J Gail Stanley, Jim & Debbie Stelter, Adam Taylor, David & Betty Taylor, Stephen Tebo, Mitchell Ummel, Blake & Crystal Vacura, Douglas & Melinda Vahle, Ellen Veed, Charles & Rita Votaw, Wilmer & Sue Waldman, Bill & Tiffany Weber, Donald and Mary Werner, Douglas & Shelley Whisler, Freddy & Roxi Wilson, Marilyn Wilson, Rex & Margaret Wilson, Jeffrey & Mandy Windholz, Leroy & Sharon Winklepleck, Lori Wittrock, Charles & Neoma Wonderlich, Clem & Ruby Wood, Lane 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 the names to us.

MATHEMATICS FACULTY ASSIST WITH SCIENCE OLYMPIAD

BY LANEY YOUNG

Science Olympiad is a national, non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of K-12 science education through participation in Science Olympiad Tournaments and incorporation of the Science Olympiad into classroom curriculum.

Science Olympiad competitions are like track meets, consisting of 23 individual and team events. Each year, events are updated to reflect the ever-changing nature of biology, earth science, chemistry, physics, computers, astronomy, engineering, and technology. By combining events from all disciplines, Science Olympiad encourages a wide cross-section of students to participate.

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

and cooperation. There are now over 5,500 middle schools and high schools from all 50 states who participate in Science Olympiad.



The Department of Mathematics and Computer Science at Fort Hays State University has been actively involved in coordinating, organizing, and judging events for the past several years.

Keith Dreiling facilitated Practical Problems on February 16. Jeff Sadler and Laney Young assisted with Scrambler also on February 16.

Bill Weber was in charge of Write It Do It for both middle school and high school students. Lianju Wang and Hongbiao Zeng facilitated Compute This for Division B and C. Laney Young judged Mission Possible on February 14.

ALUMNI NEWS

BY MARY KAY SCHIPPERS

Larry Becker, '62

Larry received a dual degree from FHSU in chemistry and mathematics and is now the Laboratory Manager for Coatex Inc. in Chester, SC.

Kate Denning, '02

Kate's been busy. After completing a major in physics and a minor in mathematics from FHSU at age 17, she earned her doctorate in computational neurobiology from the University of California in 2006 at the age of 21. Kate is now married to Quentin Gaudry and plans to work on a degree in patent law.

Devin Dinkel, '98

Devin teaches high school math ranging from Algebra I to Precalculus in

St. Francis, KS. He also works at the local golf course in his spare time.

Shaun Moseman, '90

Beginning with the 2006-2007 school year, Shaun is the new Baldwin High School principal in Baldwin, KS. After graduating from FHSU, Shaun received his Master's Degree in educational administration from Southwest Missouri State University in 1993. Shaun had worked as an administrator in the Junction City school district for seven years and was previously principal of the Science Engineering Technology Academy at Junction City High School.

Chuck Neuschafer, '92

After graduation, Chuck taught and

coached for several years in Spearville, Cimarron, and Garden City, KS before moving to Georgia. After 2 more years of teaching/coaching, Chuck gave it up and got into real estate. He now owns and operates several real estate companies including a rehab company, a development company, and a management company. And if you watch late-night TV in Georgia, you might see Chuck on some real estate infomercials. Chuck is the father of three sons and a daughter.

Brad Oestreich, '92

Brad is now coaching at Raytown South.

Mark Pahls, '95

Mark and his wife Angie and little brother Benjamin are proud to announce the birth of Jacob Law-

rence Pahls, born July 25, 2006. Mark works for the FHSU Athletic Department.

Darrell Piner, '92

Darrell is a software engineer for Premier Global Services in Colorado. Darrell is the father of three children, aged 8, 10, and 17. Perhaps his 17-year-old son will follow in his father's footsteps and join the Tiger family!

Roger Schuster, '88

Roger has worked for many years for Texas Tech University in Lubbock. He recently received a promotion and is now a Senior Programmer Analyst in the Information Technology Division.

Stephen D. Tebo, '67

Stephen received an Alumni Achievement Award during the FHSU Homecoming festivities in 2006. In 1977, Stephen was among the first year's recipients of FHSU's Young Alumni Award. Stephen is owner of Tebo Development Company in Boulder, CO and currently owns and manages more than 125 properties in Colorado, Kansas, and California. Stephen and his family are recognized for their philanthropic and community-oriented activities and they have established the Tebo Family Scholarship for math students at FHSU.

Steve Vance, '03

Steve married Tara Towns on July 22, 2006. Steve teaches math at La-Crosse High School.

Alan Wamser, '95

Alan and his wife Heidi welcomed their second child, a daughter, Reaghan DaNae, on May 19, 2006. Alan and his family make their home in Hays.

Donna Weninger, '93

Donna is an actuarial consultant for Deloitte Consulting in Hartford, Connecticut.

STUDENT POINT OF VIEW

BY CHUCK HANSEN

In any field of learning, the most important factor is the ability to share ideas. That is where the faculty members of the Mathematics and Computer Science Department excel. Small class sizes enable all students to ask questions in class about subjects that are harder to understand. If there is need, the faculty are very open to help students outside of class. The professors can answer most questions students have. The only questions that remain unanswered are those that are not asked!

The Mathematics and Computer Science department communicates very well with other departments. I remember one example, when a professor from the English department mediated a CSCI class. He was "honored" by the faculty of the MACS department when they all wore Hawaiian shirts, just like the English professor was well known for wearing to his classes! The professors make class exciting, and any rivalries between the professors from

different departments are purely for fun.

Most importantly, the Mathematics and Computer Science professors have very good communication amongst themselves. The diverse nationalities of the faculty do not interfere

with communication – it aids it! Never before have I had the opportunity to learn so much about a different culture, and at the same time, be able to share so much about mine. No other department have I found the faculty more willing to learn from students, and in no other department have I found the faculty more knowledgeable. To me, diversity increases knowledge. The MACS professors I have had are all unique and add a



Chuck Hansen is a senior Computer Science Student in the MACS Department.

different component to my learning I would not receive from the "average" professor. I think the professors in the Mathematics and Computer Science department realize more than any other professors that learning never stops!

Math, of course, is infinite – so too are its uses! Because of this, my CSCI professors always look for new ways to use math in order to make their example programs faster and more efficient. The reason I will always be able to learn something new from my MACS professors is because they will always be looking to expand their knowledge to pass it down to their students. I am excited to be a part of this program at FHSU!

2006-2007 SCHOLARSHIP ACTIVITIES

BY RON SANDSTROM

We still have four faculty working on PhD's through KSU. Hopefully next year's newsletter will have that number reduced. In fact before you receive notice of this newsletter that number might change. The highlights of this year's activities as were last 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). "Geometry and Measurement" was taught last summer and during the fall semester. "Calculus" is being taught this semester and will be taught again this summer. Four faculty have also been working with Dr. Germaine Taggart, Interim Chair of Teacher Education, on courses and activities in conjunction with the Western Kansas Math Academy which is also designed to help K-12 teachers become highly qualified.

We had three faculty present at the KATM Conference in Manhattan, and

one faculty presented at the KATM Conference in Liberal. One faculty presented at the T³ Regional Conference in Las Vegas. Five faculty will attend with two presentations at the spring meeting of the Kansas Section of the MAA in Wichita. Two faculty helped with the Math and Science Middle School Girls Camp held last summer and will be held again this summer. Three faculty presented workshops for the local Felten/Kennedy Middle schools mathematics teachers. One submitted a paper for publication in the MAA Monthly 'Rates of Approach of Arbitrary Differential Equations to Steady-State in one dimension.' One submitted along with two education faculty an article to Action in Teacher Education. One presented a workshop on Geometer's Sketchpad as part of the University's Math and Science Center's HOT TOPICS. Two had a problem proposal published in the January, 2007 issue of the College Mathematics Journal. Two attended the Joint AMS/MAA Winter meetings in January with one presentation "Couple Interactive Computer Based

Math Games." One had a contract which has been fulfilled to write a supplement for a Java text book. Another submitted an article co-authored which was accepted in the Journal of Computational and Applied Mathematics entitled "A Simplified Fornberg-like Method for the Conformal Mapping of Multiply Connected Regions- Comparisons and Crowding." Two attend the Third International Conference on Neural, Parallel, and Scientific Computations in Atlanta this past summer. Another solved five posed problems in the College Mathematics Journal. And, another submitted three articles for publication, one as the lead writer and two as a member of a team. All three have been selected for publication. Another was chair of two NCA teams conducting comprehensive evaluation visits at universities similar in size to FHSU. BUSY, BUSY, BUSY we are.

KME/MACS CLUB UPDATE

BY LANEY YOUNG

KME/MACS Club is beginning to increase in numbers and activities. The KME Spring 2006 Banquet was held at Gella's Diner on April 20. The new initiates were Roger Bach, Jeremy Danler, Kyndra Dobson, James Hauck, Kristy Koch, Brandom Nimz, Nicholas Packauskas, Todd Sherman, and Lianju Wang. Dr. Gary Hulett, retired professor of biology, was the speaker for the evening. He spoke about his adventures climbing Mount Kilimanjaro. The talk was very informative but also

very entertaining as Dr. Hulett had a little fun with certain members of the math department.

This fall KME/MACS Club kicked off the new school year with another softball game followed by a barbeque in the park. It was a beautiful day for a softball game but it was very cold by the time we ate. A few students came to enjoy a relatively competitive but highly entertaining game and great food. The faculty kept the game close but eventually we got hungry and had to call the game. After our first baseman

was taken out, there were no other major injuries to report.

The faculty and students had an ice-cream social in August to meet the new freshmen. We also enjoyed a lunch-time pizza party during the fall semester. This was a great opportunity for students and faculty to enjoy lunch in an informal atmosphere.

There are plans for some more friendly competitions and as always, some more food.

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

Keith asked me to catch you up on my "retirement" activities. I was afraid he might make something up so I am begrudgingly making things up myself. The latest project I just finished is the writing of a second piece of software for elementary principals. It will be out on the market by the time you read this. It will help them do some very frustrating and time consuming tasks they are required to do every year. No, not visiting with irate parents or making evaluations of teachers. They still do that on their own. The program will form class lists for their students and teachers. I have spent all my time since last August writing this. My wife kept telling me, "When you get done with that project I have a whole list of things you need to do." She threatened to throw out all of the treasures (some people might call it junk) that I have found with my metal detector over the past 25+ years. Guess I'd better get on that. I am going to give away a lot of it to county historical associations in the counties where I found it. I have found so much stuff that when I go out detecting now if something I find is not unique I just bury it back in the ground. Some other detecting nut can collect it some time in the future. I do this mainly for the exercise and soli-

tude anyway, so it really doesn't matter if I find anything or not. My wife also said I need to clean out my shop. Gee, I don't know why. I can still get in the door and there is a path to the furnace room through there. Hope I never have to make it to the furnace in a hurry. She said these two jobs are the first of many. Hmmm. I believe there is another program I want to write.

We enjoy traveling and a Mediterranean cruise is on the horizon for us. It follows the journeys of Paul to places like Ephesus, Corinth, Thessalonica, and the Greek Isles. It is run by the same company that took us to the Holy Land and Egypt a year ago. We are looking forward to that with great anticipation. People ask us if we feel unsafe going to that part of the world. Unsafe no, uneasy at times yes. In Israel and Egypt there were armed guards and security people everywhere. They like American visitors (and their money) so they want us to feel safe and secure. We must have really felt secure because we painted those places green! We found that the people there are very friendly and happy. Even the ones who didn't have a lot of creature comforts. They like to have American stuff. One clerk in a store talked me out of my ball point pen after I signed one of many credit card receipts.

Larry Dryden

Larry reported that he has not done much over the past year except fight the weather. He said that he is "just retired." He wishes everyone his best

Carolyn Ehr

Carolyn visited family in Michigan, Wisconsin, and North Carolina. She continues to volunteer her time for Habitat for Humanity of Ellis County and St. Nicholas Church (I see her there often, and it is my chance to try to keep her out of trouble). She has a new companion in her life--a five-year-old Pekinese named Faith that she adopted from the Humane Society.

Erv Eltze

Erv and LeAnn took a Hawaii cruise last year, and I am still upset that he forgot to take me along. He said that he has not done much else lately, but he continues to play the cello.

Rosalie Nichols

We continue to travel often. Our travels are for pleasure, to play competitive bridge and/or to meet obligations to Weeden's Scottish Clan McLeod. We traveled to Tuscon, Dallas, Salina, Hutchinson, Kansas City and Fort Worth to play in bridge tournaments. We took a trip by car to Mississippi and Alabama to do some genealogy and revisit Biloxi where we had lived when we were first married. Travels dealing with Scottish matters involved McPherson, Alma (Michigan), St. Louis (twice), Alexandria (Virginia) and the Isle of Skye in Scotland for Clan Parliament.

Upon our return to the United States, we had a terrible experience in Newark airport. We, along with about 100 other travelers, were held under armed guard by border patrol and customs officials in the baggage carousel area. Most of that time we were standing in a confined area close together.

After four hours we were allowed to spread out and sit on the floor and were escorted a few at a time under armed guard to toilet facilities. It took another 3½ hours standing in line to get our flight rescheduled. We have not received a satisfactory answer about why US citizens or any travelers were subjected to such treatment. Travel by commercial airlines is an ordeal. As much as possible we travel in our car or our airplane.

We took a cruise from Venice to the Greek Islands. It was wonderful. We have seen most of our children and grandchildren several times during the year and had the pleasure of some of the grandchildren spending time with us in Hays without their parents.

Weeden and I continue to serve on various charitable or other boards.

Ruth Pruitt

Yesterday was the day we had lightning, thunder, rain, hail, sleet and finally snow. I was able to drive myself to church this morning and get inside without ever putting my feet on the icy ground. This was due to a new van we

bought last summer with a ramp for my scooter that allows me to transfer to the scooter without getting out of the van. We picked up the van in Minnesota in August and drove to Portland, Oregon to spend a week with two of our grandchildren (and their parents) coming home by way of Salt Lake City to do some genealogy. In October we went the other way to Connecticut for genealogy and Florida to visit family, stopping along the way to visit friends and family. We put 10,000 miles total on the new van. We went to Hot Springs, Arkansas, where the other three grandchildren live, for Thanksgiving. We had a great time, as most of the family was there, twenty-three of them.

I still try to go to the Center three times a week to swim and exercise, am involved in some things at my church and in DAR.

Ellen Veed

When I wrote to Ellen asking what she has done since last year, she wrote, "Just the same old same old - the cabin in the summer, volunteer at the Sternberg Museum, and make art." I told

her that if she did not provide me with enough exciting information, then I would make something up, and she replied, "I didn't say my life wasn't exciting. It is just the same old exciting stuff."

Charles Votaw

We don't really have much to report for the newsletter. Our worry level is somewhat higher this year as we now have a grandson in the Army in Iraq and our granddaughter in the Air Force just returned from a tour in the UAE. Mostly we still look after our great-grandsons, although we did visit my brothers and sister in the Dallas area recently. I am still working on getting our old photos stored in digital format and organized, as well as doing some video editing. That's about it.

[Editor's note: Charles was being modest when he said that he did not have much to report. He and Zireta celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on August 19. They were also featured in the At Random section of the Hays Daily News last fall.]

SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED IN 2006-2007

BY JEFF SADLER

During a time in which tuition rates at post secondary institutions continued to climb, generous scholarship funding in dollars donated by alumni and friends of the MACS Department meant significant financial support for several students pursuing higher education at FHSU. Through these donated monies and a few other sources, the MACS department was able to offer over \$22,500 in student scholarships during this year. These scholarship dollars significantly impacted the overall cost of higher education for students and their families.

Through named scholarships, ten students working on a degree in computer science or mathematics were awarded sizable awards. These scholarships are provided through both endowed funds and newly received designated contributions, some pledged during the annual Tiger Call Telethon. The following FHSU students received both recognition and educational dollars from MACS:

Matthew Wood (Chapman)-awarded the Toalson \$1000 Scholarship

Craig Stramel (Hays)-awarded the Denio \$500 Scholarship

Kevin Schulte (Goodland)-awarded the Tebo Family \$1000 Scholarship

Brandon Nimz (WaKeeney)-awarded the E.E. and L. Colyer Memorial \$750 Scholarship

Paul Maseberg (Macksville)-awarded the C.W. Lowry \$750 Scholarship

Kristy Koch (Oakley)-awarded the O.E. and P. Etter \$500 Scholarship

Mary Gleason (Dodge City)-awarded the Veed \$450 Scholarship

Joan Dreiling (Ellis)- awarded the P. Miller Math/Physics \$1,000 Scholarship

Allison Chretien (Hays)-awarded the Ogle \$400 Scholarship

Tony Brown (Atwood)-awarded a Jimmy Rice Memorial \$500 Scholarship

Due to additional charitable telethon supporters, the department was also able to award several MACS departmental scholarships. The telethon dollars provided two levels of departmental scholarships and were given to the following students:

The Award of Excellence (AOE) Scholarships in Mathematics and Computer Science is a program to recognize incoming freshmen interested in pursuing a degree within the MACS department. Now in its eighteenth year, the AOE continues to be a valuable resource for freshmen by providing \$250 for residence hall fee reduction and \$250 for educational expenses. The AOE is usually awarded based upon a student's ACT score and high school achievement. This past year, the department offered 26 AOE scholarships to students contemplating attendance at FHSU. Of this group, six students enrolled for classes during the fall of 2006 and received AOE monies. Those students included:

Rodney Rippe (Ludell)

Patrick Patterson (Phillipsburg)

Peter (Andy) Miller (Hanover)

Kayla Klug (Odin)

Pat Huddleston (Centennial, CO)

Allison Chretien (Hays)

The department is actively seeking assistance in recognizing and encouraging local high school students with an interest or talent in mathematics, mathematics education or computer science toward the university. The department has a goal to have at least twenty-five well-prepared high school seniors begin their higher education in mathematics and computer science at FHSU, but are in need of assistance from friends and alums to reach this goal.

| \$400 Scholarships | \$200 Scholarships |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| James Hauck (Satanta) | Rita, Gnizak (Hays) |
| Thomas Hornung (Stratton, CO) | Joshua Peterson (Abilene) |
| Catelyn Manly (Lakin) | |
| Chelsey Weber (Hoxie) | |

Students are truly appreciative of any and all financial assistance received through funds provided by friends of the MACS department. If you have questions about departmental scholarships or have the ability to assist in identifying and/or recruiting possible MACS students from your local region, please contact Jeff Sadler by email at jsadler@fhsu.edu or by phone at (785)-628-4416. If interested in contributing either new or continued funds to any MACS scholarships area, please do so by sending a check to the MACS department payable to the FHSU Endowment Association—specify the mathematics scholarship fund of interest on the memo line. Additional scholarship donation information may also be obtained by contacting Bev Unruh at bunruh@fhsu.edu or 785-628-4240.

THE MATH RELAYS THAT WASN'T--2006

By Bill Weber

Even though it appeared like the Math Relays coordinator (who is now only teaching half-time, but will go unnamed) just wanted a day off, there was actually a valid reason for not holding the 2006 version of the Math Relays. As many of you are aware, we were unable to host the Math Relays last November due to the ongoing construction taking place at the Memorial Union. Due to the large number of students and schools who now attend the event annually, we were not able to find another suitable location on campus to host the event.

The good news is, though, that the construction at the Memorial Union should be completed by late summer or early fall, so we are already planning for the 2007 edition of the Math Relays! The 2007 version of the Math Relays is currently scheduled for Thursday, November 8. After piloting some new rules in 2005 to help keep the

number of students at a manageable level, the Math Relays Committee has decided to keep most of them in place (or slightly modify them). Here is a listing of what we did in 2005:

- Each student must participate in at least 4 of the 6 events.
- Teams are limited to 1 team per event per school
- Individuals will be limited to 5 individuals per event per school

Although we enjoy having many students come to the FHSU campus, hopefully these rule changes will allow the Math Relays to become an even stronger math competition than it has been in previous years.

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR SCHOLARSHIPS

Editor's Note: This is the second contribution to a continuing feature in our annual newsletter. The purpose is to describe in greater detail the history and the people for whom our scholarships are named. This year, Bill Weber caught up with Dr. Ellen Veed.

Recently, I had the chance to visit with former FHSU Math Professor Dr. Ellen Veed. Dr. Veed began teaching at FHSU when she was only 24 and stayed here until she retired in 1998 (this was a clever way of answering my question without giving up her age!) Here are some of the others responses she gave to my questions about her background, professional career, and some random questions that inquiring minds may want to know:

Background

Q: Where did you grow up?

DR VEED: I was born in Iowa, moved to the small town of Riverton, Wyoming when I was three, and then to Antigo in northern Wisconsin when I was ten. I went to high school and college in Milwaukee.

Q: Why did you choose to study math?

DR VEED: Math was always my best subject and was fun. I wanted to be a math teacher from Junior High on, although I briefly detoured to occupational therapy when

I started college. I went back to math when the teacher in my first O.T. class told us that if we were going to put water in a sand box, be sure it was water proof.

Q: Do you have any other family members who studied math?

DR VEED: My only brother has all but the dissertation on a doctorate in electrical engineering, so he has a good math background. One of the fun things he does in retirement is watch calculus courses on TV (and critique the teaching).

Professional

Q: Where did you attend college and obtain your degrees?

DR VEED: I got my BA at Milwaukee Downer College, now part of Lawrence University in Appleton, Wisconsin, my MA at the University of Kansas and DA at University of Northern Colorado.

Q: Were there any other institutions you taught at during your career?

DR VEED: None, other than 2 years as a TA at KU, one year at University of Wisconsin, and one year as a visiting professor at Northern Colorado while working on my doctorate.

Q: You were once the department chair. How long were you the chair, and did you hire any current FHSU faculty?

DR VEED: I was chair for nine years, before Ron (Sandstrom) took over. I think Mohammad (Riazi) is the only one I hired. He interviewed in the summer. The weather had been beautiful but when he came it was over 100 with blazing sun. I thought, this guy is from Michigan, he's not going to get off the plane. But he loved it (or said he did), that it reminded him of Iran.

Q: Did you have any current FHSU faculty in class as students?

DR VEED: Ron (Sandstrom), Mary Kay (Schippers), Jeff (Sadler), Lane (Young), & Keith (Dreiling) were students in at least one of my classes. All of them, of course, were excellent students. (Author's note: I find this hard to believe!)

Q: Are there any reflections you would like to make about your time at FHSU?

DR VEED: When I started out, I had no idea I would spend my whole career at Fort Hays, but each time I went away and saw other schools, Fort Hays and particularly the

Math department, stood out. The faculty get along so well together, both professionally and socially, and the faculty know their students. That isn't true everywhere. Fort Hays State students are nice people.

Random:

Q: Has Bev always been the "boss" of the department?

DR VEED: No, Bev needed to grow into "bosshood". She is certainly a blessing to the chair and the department as a whole.

Q: Do you like Sudoku's?

DR VEED: I am a Sudoku nut and other puzzles too. If you haven't tried it, websudoku.com has some good ones to print off or play online.

Q: Is there any little tidbit about yourself that not many people know that you would be willing to share?

DR VEED: The really old-timers know that I built my Colorado cabin and that is where I plan to spend the summer, at 11000 feet - nice and cool and green.

It is pretty easy to see why Dr. Veed fit so well into the FHSU family. She has had quite an impact on our department, both professionally and socially. I just wish I could have gotten her to tell me some stories about those former students of hers.....

TIDBITS FROM THE MACS DEPARTMENT

Joan Dreiling from Ellis who received the Physics/Mathematics Paul and Virginia Miller scholarship is going to have an undergraduate research internship in physics this summer at University of Colorado at Boulder. She will be working with a Nobel prize winner.

Jacqueline McDowell (cs) gave birth to a baby boy on November 29.

Kristy Koch (cs) is expecting a baby in April.

This summer the MACS department is offering the following courses: Intermediate Algebra, College Algebra, Elements of Statistics, and Calculus Methods. Concepts of Calculus for Middle Level Teachers and Concepts of Algebra will be offered as part of a grant.

2006 GRADUATES

By Mary Kay Schippers

* Graduated With Honors

*Jason Crist

Jason received the FHSU Torch Award as outstanding graduating senior in Spring, 2006. Jason married Erin Murray June 2, 2006 and is now teaching high school math in Maine. Congratulations Jason!

Scott Davied

Scott is a programmer/manager for Taco Grande in Hays.

Wanda Davis

Wanda is teaching high school math in Wakeeney, KS.

Heath Ostmeyer

Heath is teaching for USD #230 in Spring Hill, KS.

*Jennifer Princ

Jennifer is attending graduate school at K-State.

Lance Sharp

Lance is the kitchen manager at Carlos O'Kelly's Mexican Café in Hays and he and his wife are now parents to a son in addition to their eldest daughter.

Alex Tafoya

Alex is a systems analyst for Citizen's National Bank in Kansas City, KS.

Adam Taylor

Adam is working as a software engineer in a government-related job in McCook, NE.

Michael Wahlmeier

Michael is teaching high school math at Washburn Rural, south of Topeka. He is teaching AP Calculus, 2 classes of Geometry, and 2 classes of Intro to Algebra.

See ya next year!!! If you have anything you would like to share or if you are interested in writing an article for the newsletter, please feel free to contact me at lyoung@fhsu.edu.