



THE NUMBER LINE

MARCH 2006

Louisiana Association of Teachers of Mathematics

An Affiliate of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics

www.lamath.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is my honor to serve the Louisiana Association of Teachers of Mathematics as Acting President. Having been on the LATM board for the past six years, I am excited about the opportunity to serve in a higher position with an increased capacity to work with the officers and membership to better the organization. I hope to use this position and my new role to increase the value of belonging to LATM.

LATM has the ability and the charge to facilitate the formation of a community of mathematics educators. The LATM leadership is committed to helping the other affiliates of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, www.nctm.org, in our state and reach out to the areas not currently served by an affiliate. These affiliates should aid teacher-to-teacher networking and promote professional development.

I am very excited that LATM's next professional development offering will be held in cooperation with the Louisiana Science Teachers Association, www.lsta.info. The LATM/LSTA Joint Conference: *Energize Learning with Math and Science* will be held in Shreveport on October 19-21, 2006. The planning committee is already hard at work to make this an outstanding event.

The LATM Executive Council plans to look for new ways for the association to help support teachers of mathematics in their efforts to improve classroom instruction. Such new approaches should address ways for teachers to increase meaningful time with students, assist in delivering quality instruction, and incorporate useful technology into lessons.

As you know, teaching mathematics is not only about preparing students for a test that has established a standard level for each student to reach. Teaching mathematics is about seeing growth in each individual student in the span of an academic year. Such growth is best achieved by considering where the student begins and helping them work from there. Effective classrooms have this built into everyday instruction as educators use questioning strategies and scaffold instruction to help students achieve higher levels.

I hope that each of you is able to see how your work in the classroom changes lives and lifts students to greater heights. Please know that the leadership of LATM appreciates and acknowledges your work to better serve the students in your classroom. Thank you for focusing on student growth. Thank you for all you do!

If I can help in any way, I hope you will not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Muse





LATM Board Members working at the February meeting in Lafayette Pictures provided by Nell McAnelly

Members of the LATM Executive Council

Jeremy Muse President-Elect/Acting President lsumuse@yahoo.com	Jamie Gilmore Secretary gilmorej@sabine.k12.la.us	Bryan Alleman Parliamentarian balleman@acadia.k12.la.us	Liz Arcement LCSM Representative eda1951@yahoo.com
Cat McKay VP Colleges cmckay7390@earthlink.com	Unfilled Treasurer	Suzanne Moyers Web Page Editor smoyers@bellsouth.net	Jean Ware NCTM Representative jware@caddo.k12.la.us
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Michelle Conner VP Middle Schools michelle.conner@cpsb.org	Stacey Jamison Community Relations sjamison@caddo.k12.la.us	Nell McAnelly BRAC TM Representative mcanelly@math.lsu.edu	Maryanne Smith SEATM Representative smith70471@yahoo.com
Unfilled VP Elementary Schools	Carolyn Sessions LDE Representative carolyn.sessions@la.gov	Sharon Thomas GNOTM Representative sharon.thomas@jppss.k12.la.us	Kay Kussman SWLTM Representative kkussman@mail.mcneese.edu
			Jean May-Brett Newsletter Editor Jean.may-brett@la.gov

Mark Your Calendars! The joint LATM/LSTA Fall Conference will be held October 19-21, 2006 in Shreveport. Co-Chairs Jean Ware (LATM) and Jan Graff (LSTA) promise this event to be the best opportunity you'll have to:

Energize Learning with Math and Science

Proposal forms for extended and concurrent sessions may be found in this issue of *The Number Line*. Registration and hotel information will be included in a future issue.

Affiliates in Action

Baton Rouge Area Council of Teachers of Mathematics (BRAC TM)

...from Nell McAnelly and Jeremy Muse

BRAC TM had a meeting on January 23, 2006. At that meeting the membership approved constitutional changes that included changing the BRAC TM President's term from one year to two years. This makes the rotation of President-Elect, President, and Past-President the same as LATM. Attendees also chose between four grade level specific breakout sessions to earn a CLU. At the business meeting on March 27, 4:30 pm at LRCE, BRAC TM will elect officers and **Wayne Cook**, Principal of Bakerfield Elementary, will be a guest speaker. Dinner will provided for all BRAC TM members. For membership information please contact Melanie Cloutre at woolfm@sjabr.org .

The NCTM Board of Directors has approved a charter for a student affiliate organization at LSU. The Council of Preservice Teachers of Mathematics - LSU will be recognized at the NCTM annual meeting in St. Louis, April 26-28. LSU College of Education and Math Department faculty members along with BRAC TM officers worked closely with students to establish the group.

Aubrey Culullu and Danica Robinson, LSU pre-service students in mathematics, received the NCTM CAPE (Conference Attendance for Prospective Teachers) Award from NCTM. Based on academic record and standing, expressed interest in and commitment to teaching mathematics, and anticipated benefits of conference attendance, this grant provides financial assistance to future teachers of mathematics for attendance at NCTM conferences. Three of these grants were awarded nationally. Aubrey is currently serving as president of the Council of Preservice Teachers at LSU.

Greater New Orleans Teachers of Mathematics (GNOTM)...from Sharon Thomas

GNOTM's board decided that they wanted to do something special for the math teachers in the organization following Katrina. The board gave free memberships for this year to anyone who was interested in joining GNOTM. The board planned a social so that math teachers could get together and share things that all have been experiencing the past few months. The social held at Boomtown Casino brought together about 65 teacher of math. The GNOTM Board was excited to have so many attend. The board has another meeting scheduled for March 25th when elections, future meetings, and other topics will be discussed.

Northwest Louisiana Mathematics Association (NLMA)...from Suzanne Moyers

The Northwest Louisiana Mathematics Association held its winter conference on Saturday, February 11, 2006 from 8:00 a.m. until 12 noon at LSU in Shreveport. The conference title was "Mathematics: The Big Easy". There were Mardi Gras beads for all attendees. Refreshments included king cake and coffee. A textbook publisher (Houghton Mifflin) sponsored the keynote speaker and furnished door prizes of manipulatives and calculators. The conference opened with the keynote address given by **Dr. Karol Yeats**. Her topic was "Integration of Mathematics Across the Curriculum".

A short business meeting followed with membership approval of the slate of officers for 2006-2007. All current officers were approved to continuation of office.

Break-out sessions followed the business meeting. Topic sections included presentations for grade spans K-2, 3-5, K-5, 6-8, and 9-12. **Angela Malloy** presented “Book Box” as the K-2 topic. Speakers in the 3-5 grade level were: **Donna Densworth** – “Fun With Fractions”, **Vernelda Morning** and **Brenda Smith** – “Mardi Gras Measurement”, **Terri McClure** and **Deborah Killian** – “It’s All Fun and Games with the Comprehensive Curriculum”. For the K-5 grade level, speakers were: **Marilyn Bartlett-Jackson** and **Cathy Jiles** – “Jumping for Geometry” and **Detrise H. Fashion** – “Technology and Math”. In the 6-8 grades, presenters were: **Debbie McNutt** – “Venn Diagrams for GCF and LCM”, Donna Densworth – “Fun With Fractions”, and **Gregory O’Quinn** – “Literature and Logic in the Classroom. The grade 9-12 presenters were: **Sonya Bryant** – “Integration of Graphs of Quadratic Functions from Pencil and Paper to Technology”, **Susan Tompkins** – “Picture T.H.I.S.” and **Sue Moyers** – “Transformation Graphing”.

The conference was a huge success. Attendance was up with more than 70 participants present.



Pictures from the highly successful NLMA meeting were provided by Sue Moyers.

SouthEast Area Teachers of Mathematics (SEATM)...from Maryanne Smith

SEATM held its spring meeting at Lake Harbor Middle School in Mandeville on March 9 beginning at 5:30. As members signed in they were able to socialize with other members and then enjoy dinner catered by Hugh’s Wine Cellar.

During the business meeting, issues discussed and approved included election of officers, membership needs/wants, opportunities for involvement in both SEATM and LATM, and a call for volunteers to serve on the scholarship committee in honor of Carol Meyer.

The featured speaker this year was **Dr. Andy Talmadge** of UNO. His presentation, *Mathematical Distractions*, involved all participants and gave them that middle-of-the-year motivation that all educators need.

SEATM has recently established a webpage for the organization that is updated on a regular basis. For further information and candid pictures from the spring meeting visit the site at <http://lakeharbormiddle.stpsb.org/SEATM.htm>

Opportunities in Math Education

2006 New Orleans Math & Science Institute (July 24-25, 2006) (<http://msi.uno.edu>)

This is a wonderful opportunity for local math and science educators (middle school through college-level) to share what they know and to network with colleagues. Conference registration is \$30 (just \$15 for speakers) with breakfast & lunch provided each day.

The institute will be held on the campus of [St. Martin's Episcopal School](#) in Metairie, LA just minutes from downtown New Orleans. This year's institute will feature 40- and 80-minute talks, presentations, and panel discussions. Presentation proposals are currently being accepted. Educational technology will be a theme that permeates the institute. More sessions for science teachers as well as sessions for middle school teachers will be offered.

You can [register](#) for the institute online, via fax, or by snail mail. Tell a friend about the conference today!

Resources for Math Educators

Project Links: Mathematics and Its Applications in Engineering and Science

Help students see the links between math class and engineering careers at this website. This Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute site provides modules that cover advanced math methods, probability and statistics, differential equations, and discrete mathematics. The modules are designed to fit into existing curriculum units for grades 11 and 12. <http://links.math.rpi.edu/index.html>

Middle School Math Curricula

The What Works Clearinghouse (WWC) review focuses on curriculum-based interventions outlining the fundamentals of mathematics that students should know and be able to do, instructional programs and materials that organize the mathematical content, and assessments. Within the broad topic of math curricula, the WWC focused the first set of reports on middle school. The next two sets will be on elementary and high school math. <http://www.w-w-c.org/TopicReportLinks.asp?tid=03>

VIDEO PRESENTATION "Knowing and Using Mathematics in Teaching," by Dr. Deborah Loewenberg Ball, University of Michigan. View the entire video of the presentation made at the Learning Network Conference with accompanying overheads and transcript. Dr. Deborah Loewenberg Ball is Dean of the School of Education, and William H. Payne Collegiate Professor at the University of Michigan. Her research on mathematics instruction and the content knowledge needed for effective instruction builds upon her many years of experience as an elementary classroom teacher. Deborah directs several research projects that investigate efforts to improve teaching through policy, reform initiatives, and teacher education. <http://hub.mspnet.org/entry.cfm/12703>

GREAT JOB!

Congratulations to the 2005-06 Quality Science and Math (QSM) grant recipients.
The complete list may be viewed at www.cain.lsu.edu (click on the QSM link).

LATM 2005 Make Math First: Go for the Gold

A warm welcome greeted the 828 conference participants as they registered.



President Elect/Acting President Jeremy Muse with 2005 State Presidential Finalists



The Exhibit Social was enjoyed by all!!!



There were smiling presenters.



Rooms were filled with math educators sharing ideas, materials, and resource information.



Thank you 2005 Conference Planning Committee!

Chair	-	Jeremy Muse
Registration	-	Carolyn Sessions
Program	-	Jean May-Brett
Hospitality	-	Nell McAnelly
Shirts	-	D.L. Clark
Evaluations	-	Stacey Jamison
Awards	-	Tina Armand
Exhibits	-	Cynthia Sullivan
Signs	-	Angee Burd
Certificates	-	Kay Kussman
Welcome Bags	-	Donna Arbour



News from the Louisiana Department of Education

By Carolyn Sessions, Mathematics Program Consultant

Greetings from the Louisiana Department of Education! As official representative to the LATM Board, I am happy to provide you with short summaries of information from the Louisiana Department of Education and from other groups within the state that ask me to inform our members about their programs. I have provided contact information or websites from which you can get greater detail should you need it. Please feel free to contact me at Carolyn.Sessions@la.gov if you have questions.

Proficiency Tests

Proficiency tests for Grade 8 GLEs and Algebra I have been developed by teacher committees and are available for use by schools and districts. Per *Bulletin 741*, the Grade 8 test is to be administered to 7th grade students who wish to take Algebra I in 8th grade and who have not been enrolled in an advanced 7th grade course which covers both Grade 7 and Grade 8 GLEs. The Algebra I proficiency test is primarily used to give credit to students who take Algebra I in Grade 8, but are not taught by a teacher certified to teach high school mathematics. Local mathematics supervisors have been provided information about the process for requesting the test.

Algebra I Online

This exciting pilot project, a part of the Louisiana Virtual School (LVS), is a Department of Education initiative that provides Louisiana students with a certified Algebra I instructor and with a high quality Algebra I curriculum through a web-based course. To find out more about the Algebra I Online project or to view a demo lesson, contact Dianne Gauthier (dianne.gauthier@la.gov) or Hall Morrison (hmorrison@la.gov) at (225) 763-5575. You can also visit the project's website at <http://lvsportal.doe.state.la.us/?algebra>.

Comprehensive Curriculum

The Comprehensive Curriculum Feedback System has been online since December. **Teachers are encouraged to submit suggestions which will help improve the curriculum and to note which activities and units work well.** Feedback may be provided on units and activities. Click on the Comprehensive Curriculum Feedback link on the department's home page at www.louisianaschools.net (lower right hand corner of the page, black and white icon).

The project to conduct an External Review of the Comprehensive Curriculum was delayed due to the freeze on state spending. We have just received notice that the funds for this project have been exempted from the freeze. A new timeline is being developed by the department for both the review project and the revision of the curriculum.

Math Science Partnership Programs

The existing Math Science Partnership (MSP) projects have been refunded for next year. These projects target middle school teachers of mathematics and science. For a listing of the projects to be held in your area, visit LATM's website, <http://www.lamath.org/calendar.html>. A Request for Proposals is under development for the implementation of a professional development program for teachers of Algebra I and high school Physical Science. More information will be forthcoming about this new project. Jean May-Brett coordinates the MSP program for the department; you may contact her by e-mail at Jean.May-Brett@la.gov.

See You in St. Louis!

NCTM Annual Meeting and Exposition
April 26-29, 2006

Topics for Algebra Leaders and Instructors (TALI)

Topics for Algebra Leaders and Instructors (TALI) is an online mathematics course that will be offered this summer through Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, Louisiana, for the Louisiana Virtual School.

The online course is designed to provide teachers with effective instructional strategies for implementing the Grade-Level Expectations (GLEs) when teaching Algebra I, awareness of Algebra I topics and issues, opportunities to explore ways instructional technology can be used to support student achievement, and instructional learning activities that will give teachers a better understanding of the content and methods of the Algebra I class. For more information, please contact Algebra I Online Coordinator Dianne.Gauthier@la.gov.

LINCS/LaSIP/LA GEARUP Funded Professional Development Projects

Eleven professional development projects are available in mathematics through the LaSIP office. Each project targets specific grade spans and serves teachers in a particular geographical area of the state. Additional information is available at www.lasip.org the LaSIP website. You may also contact Lynne Tullos, Assistant Director for Math, at ltullos@regents.state.la.us.

Presidential Awards

Nominating forms and application packets for the 2006 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching are found at: <http://www.paemst.org/page.cfm?pageID=3>. The 2006 award will go to a K-6 teacher. Recipients of the 2005 award will be recognized at ceremonies to be held in Washington, D.C. from May 1-6, 2006.

High School Redesign

The High School Redesign Commission established by Governor Blanco has prepared a draft of its recommendations for Phase I of the project. A short *Powerpoint*® can be found at www.louisianaschools.net/ide/uploads/8399.ppt This presentation was used during forums held around the state in January to receive input from the public.

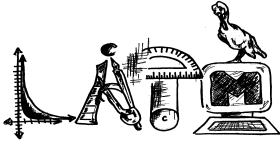
ADVANCE Program for Young Scholars

The ADVANCE Program for Young Scholars is held at Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, Louisiana and is the only program in Louisiana that is affiliated with Duke University's Talent Identification Program for gifted students. The program accepts students 12-17 years of age, typically rising 8th - 12th graders for a three-week residential program. Students may apply for financial aid. For more information, visit www.advanceprogram.org or contact Harriette Palmer, palmerh@nsula.edu.

Project district directors and mathematics instructors at work at the MSP Regional Meeting



Conference Extended Session/Field Trip Proposal Form



Energize Learning with Math and Science
LATM/LSTA Joint Conference
Shreveport, Louisiana
October 19, 2006



Please Print or type

Lead Presenter Name:		Agency/School:		
Preferred Mailing Address:		City:	State:	Zip:
Work Phone: () Fax: ()		Home Phone: ()		
E-mail (required):		Alternate E-mail:		
Co-Presenters: Attach a separate sheet to this form and include the above information for each person.				
Content Area (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> Math <input type="checkbox"/> Science <input type="checkbox"/> Math and Science		Intended Audience (check only one): <input type="checkbox"/> PK - 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3-5 <input type="checkbox"/> 6-8 <input type="checkbox"/> 9-12 <input type="checkbox"/> 12+ <input type="checkbox"/> General Interest		
<p>All Extended Sessions/Field Trips will be held on Thursday, October 19, 2006. Please indicate the length of your proposed session. For 3 hour presentation, please indicate the desired time slot. Presenters will be paid a stipend of \$50 for a 3 hour session and \$100 for a 6 hour session.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 3 hours I prefer <input type="checkbox"/> 8:30 – 11:30 AM <input type="checkbox"/> 12:30 – 3:30 PM</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 6 hours All six hour sessions will be held from approximately 8:30 – 3:00 with ½ hour for lunch.</p> <p>Note: Program chairs will notify proposers of the acceptance of the proposal. Once advertised, there must be a minimum of 10 registrants or the presentation will be canceled.</p>				
Focus Strand (Check All that Apply):				
<input type="checkbox"/> Number/Number Relations <input type="checkbox"/> Algebra <input type="checkbox"/> Geometry <input type="checkbox"/> Measurement <input type="checkbox"/> Patterns, Relations, Functions <input type="checkbox"/> Data <input type="checkbox"/> Science as Inquiry <input type="checkbox"/> Physical Science <input type="checkbox"/> Earth and Space Science <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Science <input type="checkbox"/> Life Science				
Session Title:				
Description (30 words or less):				
<p>Equipment and Site Location: Please indicate 1) the equipment needed for your presentation, 2) the number of participants that you can effectively manage, 3) the location if the presentation is a field trip. The program committee has access to PC labs for computer workshops and can order loaner sets of calculators, if needed.</p>				
<p>Mail form by June 1, 2006 to: Jean May-Brett, La. Dept of Education - Rm 4-209, P.O. Box 94064, Baton Rouge, LA 70804. You may also e-mail the completed form to Jean.May-Brett@la.gov or to Carolyn.Sessions@la.gov or fax it to their attention at 225-342-9891. Please note that this deadline is earlier than the deadline for one hour presentations as accepted Extended Sessions will be advertised in advance of the conference.</p>				

Conference One Hour Presentation Proposal Form



Energize Learning with Math and Science
LATM/LSTA Joint Conference
 Shreveport, Louisiana
 October 19-21, 2006



Please Print or type

Lead Presenter Name:		Agency/School:		
Preferred Mailing Address:		City:	State:	Zip:
Work Phone: () Fax: ()		Home Phone: ()		
E-mail (required):		Alternate E-mail:		
Co-Presenters: Attach a separate sheet to this form and include the above information for each person.				
Content Area (check one): ___ Math ___ Science ___ Math and Science		Intended Audience (check only one): ___ PK – 2 ___ 3-5 ___ 6-8 ___ 9-12 ___ 12+ ___ General Interest		
<p>You may indicate a preferred time slot, but it will likely be impossible to honor all requests. The program chairs reserve the right to assign different time slot with the intent of providing the most balanced program possible.</p> <p>60 minute demonstration or workshop: ___ Friday AM ___ Friday PM ___ Saturday AM ___ No preference</p> <p>Would you be willing to present this session more than once? ___ Yes ___ No</p> <p>Number of participants you can accommodate: ___ 30 ___ 50 ___ 100 ___ 200</p> <p>Note: The sizes of the conference facility and individual meeting rooms will allow for larger sessions than in past years.</p>				
Focus Strand (Check All that Apply):				
___ Number/Number Relations ___ Algebra ___ Geometry ___ Measurement ___ Patterns, Relations, Functions ___ Data ___ Science as Inquiry ___ Physical Science ___ Earth and Space Science ___ Environmental Science ___ Life Science				
Session Title:				
Description (30 words or less):				

Equipment: All rooms will have a screen on which to project images. **With the exception of an overhead projector, presenters must provide equipment (computers, LCD panels and other items) needed for the presentation.** You will be provided an overhead projector ONLY if you indicate this need by checking below. **Presenters are asked to request an overhead projector only if it will be used.** This will help to avoid unnecessary costs.

_____ I will need an overhead projector for my presentation.

Mail form by July 15, 2006 to: Jean May-Brett, La. Dept of Education - Rm 4-209, P.O. Box 94064, Baton Rouge, LA 70804. You may also e-mail the completed form to Jean.May-Brett@la.gov or to Carolyn.Sessions@la.gov or fax it to their attention at 225-342-9891.

You will be notified of the acceptance of your proposal at which time you will receive information regarding registration for presenters.

LATM Membership Form

All information provided is confidential and not available to outside sources without the express written permission of the LATM Executive Council. Please PRINT or TYPE. Use the address (school or home) at which you wish to receive LATM correspondence.

Name _____ Street Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

LATM needs at least one working e-mail address. This allows us to get information to you quickly.

E-mail address 1: _____ E-mail address 2: _____

School Name _____ Parish _____

Home Phone (_____) _____

Annual Dues: \$10.00 _____ *Full time, Non-teaching Student:* \$5.00 _____

Make checks payable to LATM. Mail membership form and check to:
*Maudry Alfred, Calcasieu Parish Schools – C&I, 600 South Shattuck Street,
Lake Charles, LA 70601.*

LATM

JeanMay-Brett
1627 Taylor St
Kenner, LA 70062

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