

THE NUMBER LINE

April 2009

www.lamath.org



Message from the President of LATM

In this issue of *The Number Line*, you will receive information on upcoming events and points of interest that affect our organization. Although the school year is winding down, the LATM Board is hard at work getting ready for our upcoming joint conference, finalizing the submissions of our student scholarship program, and accepting teacher awards nominations throughout our state.

The call for applications to the **Carol Meyer Scholarship** has a deadline of April 27. This award for high school seniors who plan to major in mathematics is for \$500.00. Applications are also available for the **LATM Math Teacher Awards**. Information about the awards was sent to school administrators early in March. If you know of someone at your school that deserves this recognition, please ask your administrator to nominate that person. Each school and university is allowed one nomination.

In this issue you will find a copy of the position paper concerning **Algebra I** that LATM presented to the BESE Board in January. There has been a push in the legislature to do away with the Algebra I requirement. We feel strongly that such a decision is not in the best interest of our students. Contact your legislator to voice your concern.

Make plans to be involved in the fourth **LATM/LSTA Joint Math/Science Conference**. This joint conference is to be held in Shreveport November 2-4, 2009. Joint LATM/LSTA conferences are designed to provide a quality professional development opportunity for PreK-12 teachers of mathematics and science. Elementary teachers will be able to engage in a variety of sessions focusing on math and/or science rather than having to make a choice between one of the two state conferences typically held each year. Middle and high school teachers will not only be able to attend sessions in their content specific areas, but will also have access to sessions which emphasize the integration of the skills and concepts in the two disciplines. In addition the joint conference allows LATM and LSTA members the opportunity to present together.

Proposal forms for Conference Sessions and Extended Sessions are now available. This year all proposals must be submitted online through the LATM website.

NCTM is hosting its annual **Leadership Conference** in New Orleans this summer. Several LATM EC and Affiliate officers will be attending. Because of the location, we are able to send more representatives than usual.

In the fall of 2010, **NCTM** is bringing its **Southern Regional Conference** to New Orleans. There will be many opportunities for our teachers to assist and present at each of these conferences. Contact an Executive Council member if you are interested in being involved.

Please remember to check the LATM website on a regular basis. You will find current information that is updated frequently. The website is <http://lamath.org>

Thanks for all that you do to support education in our state.

Maryanne W. Smith



2009 Outstanding Mathematics Teacher Award

The Louisiana Association of Teachers of Mathematics honors outstanding elementary, middle school, high school, and college mathematics teachers from participating schools each year. One of the goals of our organization is to honor and recognize those individuals who model and promote standards-based mathematics teaching and learning for their students. We need your assistance in identifying worthy candidates for the **2009 LATM Outstanding Mathematics Teacher Awards Program**. Please select one nominee for this award to represent your school.

A link to the application form is located at the end of this letter. Please forward it to your nominee. **The nominee should complete all portions of the application and return it to LATM by May 22, 2009.** A panel of outstanding Louisiana educators will evaluate the applications and select finalists and overall awardees for each grade level based on the following criteria: professional experience, professional development activities, professional memberships, essay, and professional references. **The panel will not score incomplete applications.**

During the banquet at the annual fall conference, November 2-4, 2009 in Shreveport, all nominees will be recognized and receive a recognition certificate. The Awards Committee plans to feature spotlights on the nominees during the conference, as well. The three finalists in each category will receive additional gifts. These include one ticket to the awards banquet, a one-year membership to LATM, and a commemorative plaque. The four overall awardees will also receive a one-year membership to NCTM (the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics) with one journal, a commemorative plaque, as well as other gifts!

We look forward to hearing from your nominee soon.

Sincerely,
Sharon Thomas
LATM Awards Chairman

To download a copy of the Outstanding Mathematics Teacher Award application form, go to:
<http://www.lamath.org/Awards.htm>

LATM Outstanding Elementary Mathematics Teacher Correction

LATM wishes to apologize to Jennifer Pastor of Pineville, who is the LATM Outstanding Elementary Math Teacher for 2008. In the February 2009 issue of The Number Line, she was listed as a finalist, not as the award winner. Jennifer was recognized at the LATM Banquet on Thursday, November 6 at the Hilton Capital Center in Baton Rouge. She teaches at J.I. Barron Elementary School. Jennifer, please accept our sincerest apology for the error. We congratulate you as our 2008 Outstanding Elementary Mathematics Teacher.

LATM's Position on Algebra 1

The BESE Board was considering a proposal to drop Algebra I as a requirement for graduation in Louisiana. The Louisiana Council of Supervisors of Mathematics discussed this proposal and decided to write a letter to the BESE Board to inform them that LCSM felt this would be a great disservice to our students in Louisiana. The Louisiana Association of Mathematics Teachers agreed strongly with LCSM and wanted to present our position to the BESE Board also. Both LCSM and LATM sent members to present their positions on this matter to the BESE Board. Following is the position paper of LATM that was presented to the BESE Board.

LATM Algebra I Position Statement

The Louisiana Association of Teachers of Mathematics (LATM) is a state organization of approximately 1800 mathematics educators, primarily Pre-K –12 classroom teachers. Its goals are to promote excellence in the teaching and learning of mathematics in Louisiana's schools, and to assist and collaborate with other organizations promoting interest in mathematics in Louisiana.

The association holds its long-standing, working relationship with the Louisiana Department of Education in high regard and reserves a position on its Executive Board for the State Supervisor of Mathematics to ensure that its members are fully apprised of state initiatives and policies. The association's 2008 Annual Conference provided over 150 sessions to approximately 1300 mathematics educators on the Louisiana Comprehensive Curriculum, GLEs, literacy strategies for the mathematics classroom, assessment, technology, and best practices for the teaching of mathematics.

The LATM Executive Board, on behalf of its membership, unanimously supports the position presented today by the Louisiana Council of Supervisors of Mathematics that completion of Algebra I should remain as a graduation requirement. The Board further supports the need to examine the course content of all math courses PreK – Algebra I and offers the assistance of both its members and that of the organization in recruiting committee members to do this work.

Maryanne W. Smith, President
Louisiana Association of Teachers of Mathematics
January 9, 2009

LATM Goes Green!

2009 Joint Conference Speaker Proposals for Regular and Extended Sessions Now Being Accepted Online



Science and Math: Tools for the 21st Century
LATM/LSTA Joint Conference
Shreveport, Louisiana

November 2-4, 2009



Louisiana Science Teachers
Association

We are now accepting proposals for the 2009 LATM/LSTA Joint Conference in Shreveport. Extended Session proposals (otherwise known as Short Courses and Field Trips) are due by June 1, 2009.

Regular Session proposals are due by July 15, 2009. Lead presenters will be given a reduced registration rate. All submissions must be made online.

Visit the LATM (<http://www.lamath.org>) or LSTA (<http://www.lsta.info>) website to submit your proposal.

For questions regarding the submission process, please email Beth Smith at bethsmith1124@gmail.com or Charlotte Bihm at BIHM8@aol.com.

More Green in 2010...

Starting with the first issue in 2010, The Number Line will be distributed *only* in electronic form to members' email addresses. Make sure we have your correct email address.

Send corrected or updated email information to:

Suzanne Moyers: smoyers@bellsouth.net OR Vicky Hand: vicky.hand@cpsb.org
Newsletter Editor Membership Chair

Summer Technology Workshops

T³ Hands-on Workshops 2009 Summer Workshops

Soak up some TI-Nspire™ training this summer. Bring the potential of TI-Nspire™ technology into your classroom instruction. Register to attend your choice of TI-Nspire and TI-Nspire CAS workshops. Get valuable, hands-on training led by T³ certified instructors. Choose from multiple workshops. They're an easy drive away.

- **"Getting Started with TI-Nspire" 1.5-day workshop** is ideal for beginners. Learn how to use TI-Nspire technology in one of the following courses: Algebra 1, Algebra 2, Geometry, Advanced Math, Middle Grades Math, and Physics. *Includes a TI-Nspire or TI-Nspire CAS handheld and Teacher Edition computer software in the course cost of \$225.*
- **"Using TI-Nspire in Your Classroom" 3-day workshop** on TI-Nspire or TI-Nspire CAS technology. For experienced users who want a deeper understanding of how to use TI-Nspire technology in one of the following courses: Algebra 1, Algebra 2, Geometry, Advanced Math, and Physics. Cost \$250 (*does not include the TI-Nspire handheld or Teacher Edition computer software*). The pre-requisite is attendance at a previous 3-day TI-Nspire summer workshop or at the 1.5-day "Getting Started with TI-Nspire" workshop.

[Baton Rouge, Louisiana](#)

(Click to Register => <https://baskowsecure.com/ei/getdemo.ei?id=247&s=59O0R0H3W>)

1.5 Day "Getting Started with TI-Nspire™"

June 15, 2009: 8:00am - 3:00pm / **June 16, 2009:** 8:00am - 11:00am

Algebra 1 Algebra 2 Geometry Middle Grades Math Advanced Math

3 Day "Using TI-Nspire™ in Your Classroom"

June 17-18-19, 2009: 8:00am - 3:00pm

[Shreveport, Louisiana](#)

(Click to Register => <https://baskowsecure.com/ei/getdemo.ei?id=247&s=3PC0S3OWV>)

1.5 Day "Getting Started with TI-Nspire™"

Aug 3, 2009: 8:30am - 3:30pm / **Aug 4, 2009:** 8:30am-11:30am

Algebra 1 Algebra 2 Geometry

3 Day "Using TI-Nspire™ in Your Classroom"

August 5-6-7, 2009: 8:30am - 3:30pm

Algebra 1 Algebra 2 Geometry

Affiliates in Action

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

BRAC TM held their final meeting of the year on Saturday, March 7, 2009. We began with the presentation by our guest speaker, Annette Breaux. She spoke on the topic of Improving Student Achievement. She shared her five simple secrets! Next we had lunch refreshments along with our business meeting that included election of officers. We had several officers move to different positions and we also had 2 new volunteers join the board. Below is a list of our new board for next year. We concluded with door prizes.

Office	Name
President/Past President	Ellen Daugherty
President Elect	Shannon Hannaman
VP College	Catriona Anderson
VP High School	Maria Ludu
VP Middle School	Laurie Piker
VP Elementary	John Sims
Membership	Kelly Kelly
Secretary	Trisha Fos
Treasurer	Sharon Besson
NCTM Rep	Julie Nall
Newsletter Editor	Angee Burd

Any questions or comments, contact Ellen Daugherty, BRAC TM President at edaugh1@lsu.edu

Northeast Louisiana Association of Teachers of Mathematics (NELATM)

The third annual Northeast Louisiana Association of Teachers of Mathematics (NELATM) Mini-Conference was held Saturday, February 28 in the Airway Science Building at the University of Louisiana at Monroe with a record attendance of 333 mathematics educators. Attendees from Region VIII and beyond shared, learned, and discovered unique techniques that will mathematically inspire their students in the classroom.

Numerous talented speakers from northeast Louisiana focused on various strands of mathematics including Algebra, Geometry, and Probability and covered a wide range of grade level expectations. Highlighted was keynote speaker, DesLey V. Plaisance, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Mathematics and Coordinator of Graduate Studies in Mathematics at Nicholls State University, who addressed the topic of "Understanding Math Anxiety." Mini-Conference participants were able to select from 34 presentations focusing on many interesting session topics such as: understanding math anxiety, game shows in the classroom, family math night, hands-on mathematics activities, and much more. This was an exciting networking opportunity for elementary and secondary teachers as well as mathematics teachers from institutions of higher education. Also, participants were able to earn up to three one-hour Certificates of Participation which they may contribute to their continuing education requirements.

More information about the NELATM can be found at <http://www.nelatm.org>.

SouthEast Area Teachers of Mathematics (SEATM)

SEATM's spring dinner meeting recognized teachers who have made a difference. All teachers who achieved National Board Certification this year, LATM Math teachers of the year, Presidential finalists, PTA Educators of Distinction and individual schools Teachers of the Year were invited to the dinner meeting and were recognized with a SEATM Certificate.

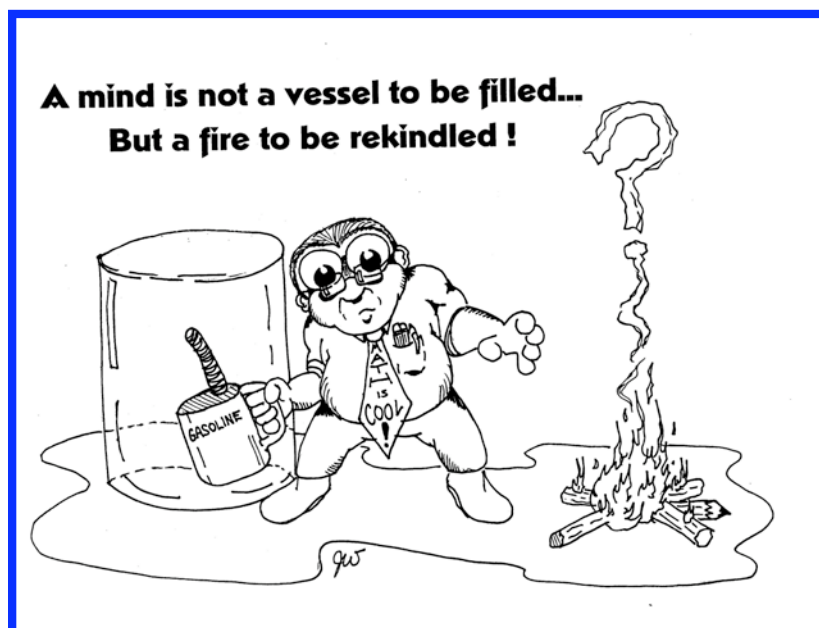
SEATM member and LATM president, Maryanne Smith, will be delivering a MET donation from our affiliate to the NCTM president at the annual NCTM Conference.

The NCTM Leadership Conference will be held in New Orleans this summer. Five SEATM board members will be attending the conference. They hope to learn a lot to make SEATM even better.

LATM Executive Board

Email contacts for Officers or Local Affiliate Representatives...

Maryanne Smith President smith70471@yahoo.com	Vicky Hand Membership Chair vicky.hand@cpsb.org	Tina Armand LCSM Representative tarmand@avoyellespsb.com
Jeremy Muse Past President musej@apsb.org	DesLey Plaisance Community Relations desvp@aol.com	Jean Ware NCTM Representative jware@caddo.k12.la.us
Beth Smith VP Colleges bsmith@ulm.edu	Carolyn Sessions LDE Representative carolyn.sessions@la.gov	Pam Martin NELATM Representative pmartin@ulm.edu
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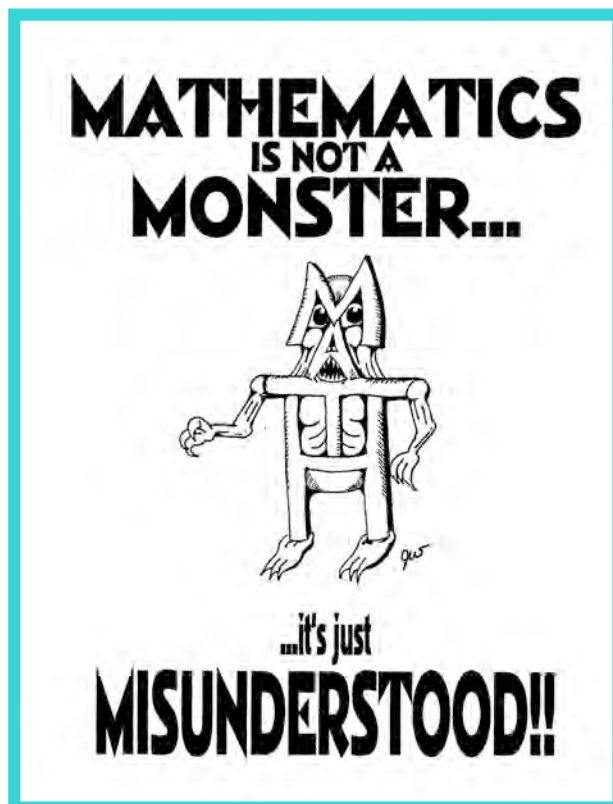
Read the *LATM Journal*!

The *LATM Journal* is a refereed online publication of the Louisiana Association of Teachers of Mathematics. The purpose of the journal is to provide an appropriate vehicle for the communication of mathematics teaching and learning in Louisiana and across the world. Through the *LATM Journal*, all teachers of mathematics may share their mathematics knowledge, creativity, caring, and leadership.

As many people are aware, Louisiana is known for its great flavors such as jambalaya, crawfish pie, and file' gumbo. The "flavor" of the journal is no exception. The focus of the journal is on student-centered, standards-based articles that are easy to read and contain ideas that can be easily implemented in the K-16 classroom.

The journal offers teachers the opportunity to read about mathematics education within the state and beyond. It also offers teachers the opportunity to share their knowledge with other teachers. Each issue includes feature articles with regular columns about technology and preservice teacher knowledge.

Please take the time to read the current issue and back issues. Visit the *LATM* website at <http://www.lamath.org/> and click on the *LATM Journal* link in the upper right hand corner of the webpage.





LATM
Suzanne Moyers
198 Arthur Avenue
Shreveport, LA 71105

Inside News:

- **LATM Algebra 1 Position Statement**
- **Carol Meyer Scholarship**
- **Mathematics Teacher Awards**
- **LATM Goes Green!**
- **Constitution & Bylaws**
- **Affiliate Updates**
- **LATM Journal**

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: \$15.00 _____ *Full time, Non-teaching Student: \$5.00 _____*

Renewal New Membership

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