

# Charles E. Connors

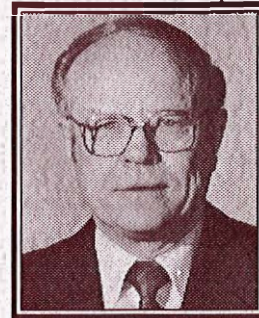
1977-84 ATA Staff Advisor

THE REQUEST TO SUPPLY memories to this special issue struck some pleasant chords of activities now quite a way back in time. There are surely names I associate with the Math Council. At the top are Joan Worth and Art Jorgensen. I suppose this might have to do with an era. I did attend the inauguration of the Council back in the 1960s; at the time, I was a math teacher at Lethbridge Collegiate. Other names that come to me from the time after I became the Mathematics Council ATA staff advisor are John Percevault, Klaus Puhlmann and Bob Holt.

I think of Saturday mornings picking up people at the Riviera Hotel en route to Lacombe Composite High School, where we

met in a round room. There was the ever-present concern whether the agenda would allow us to conclude before going for lunch, or would we have to return after. Lunch (whatever time) was at the Juniper Lodge out on the highway.

I was always amazed and impressed at the effort so many teachers would put into that exercise, the purpose of which was solely "how can we do this job of teaching math better." Just as impressive were the number of initiatives that surfaced. Those meetings and the general conferences were all carried out and organized by teachers who were often lucky to get their expenses reimbursed.



# Bruce Stonell

1978-83 Department of Education Representative

THE FOLLOWING ARE SOME OF my key recollections:

- I remember the excellent camaraderie among executive members during our Saturday morning meetings at Lacombe Composite High School in the conference room.
- Among my best recollections were the interesting discussions, joke telling and laughs we had after the meetings at the Juniper Lodge on

Highway 2. All of us would, in a convoy of cars, head out for lunch. It seemed the steak sandwich was the order of the day. Afterward, we departed in our own directions.

- I remember discussing the concept of initiating mini-conferences to help implement and maintain mathematics programs as a support mechanism for members.
- I enjoyed working with conference committees in organizing our annual conferences. I specifically

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My interest is in the future because I am going to spend the rest of my life there.

Charles F. Kettering  
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remember the one that Dick Kopan chaired in Red Deer when we had to dicker with Mr. Passuto of the Capri Centre to get a reasonable cost for use of the facilities.

- I enjoyed being a part of the conference programs in presenting various workshops over the years, including topics on calculators, problem solving and experiential learning.
- I remember having a get-together at Brian's house sometime around Christmas. Brian Chapman, from Lacombe Junior High, was our treasurer.
- I also remember get-togethers of executive members and friends at various conferences. Fellowship in hospitality rooms and dancing at Esmeralda's at the Lethbridge Lodge come to mind.

## Ron Cammaert

1980-81 *Director*

1981-82 *Monograph Editor*

1982-83 *Vice President*

1983-85 *President and NCTM Representative*

1985-86 *Past President and NCTM Representative*

I RECALL THE FIRST MEETING OF the executive I attended. During fall 1980, we gathered early Saturday morning in the conference room of Lacombe High School. At that time, all executive meetings were held in Lacombe because it was centrally located, and Treasurer Don Hinde taught at the school, so we were able to use the conference room.

Although I had met some executive members before, I was uncertain as to what to expect. Looking around the room, I realized what a real privilege it was to be associated with a group consisting of many leaders in mathematics education in Alberta. Throughout my years on the executive, my first impressions were reinforced over and over. I never failed to be impressed with the personal dedication of the executive members to improving mathematics education and learning in the

province. The executive members believed deeply in their own professional development as educators and worked to provide their colleagues with opportunities to learn about the latest trends in mathematics education.

One should not get the impression that all executive gatherings were sombre affairs. People were dedicated and the work of the Council was effectively achieved, but there was also a camaraderie among the executive members. To protect our reputation as straightlaced mathematics teachers, we often explained that we were from the Social Studies Council. This always seemed to justify any range of behavior. At times, it seemed that an interest and ability in dancing was a prerequisite for mathematics teachers.

Because the executive represents mathematics teachers from across

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If you are going  
to lead people,  
you have to  
know where  
they are going.

Camilleon Hood  
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