

Mu Alpha Theta



February 2023

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY FEBRUARY 2023



**DANA C. WADE,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

There is a lot going on in the National Office – scholarships, Math Minutes, and national convention preparations! We are excited to have so many great things happening in 2023!

Have you jumped on the Student Delegate Officer Zooms, yet? January 8 and February 5 are done, and we have March 5 and April 2 coming up. The officers have discussed the National Convention, scholarships, chapter events, and fundraising. The Zoom link is the same for all the meetings and can be found below in this newsletter. Please join in with your questions!

February is the month of Math Minute videos! We encourage every active chapter to submit a video – be sure to check out the rules. You can find more information and our past winners at <https://mualphatheta.org/mathematical-minutes> Chapter voting will begin on April 1, and winners will be announced on May 1.

Graduation 2023 will be here before you know it. For sponsors who are planning to send their Mu Alpha Theta members across the stage with MA Θ recognition, ***we HIGHLY suggest that you purchase cords, stoles, and tassels NOW!*** We want to ensure that all our members have what they need from us on graduation day. **Don't wait!**

Good luck to all of our scholarship and contest applicants! —Dana



STUDENT DELEGATE OFFICER ZOOMS:

Join us: On February 5th, we had about 40 members. The next meetings are scheduled for March 5 and April 2, both at 4 pm ET. There is no requirement for attendance—other than a little bit of your time.

Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/97590034980?>

SPECIAL SHOUT-OUTS TO...

2023 Convention Co-Host: Tonia Crow & Kim Woolfenden * **Test Coordinator:** Will Frazer * All the dedicated **sponsors** who have spent more than two years planning the 2023 Convention in Fayetteville. Because it was postponed for a year, Tonia and Kim have been through the entire planning process twice now. They have planned great activities for your chapter members and hope to see you soon! We hope you have a great time at convention!*

*This year's convention: Fayetteville, AR June 25-30, 2023
Registration is now open! Forms are available at the conventions tab in your chapter page. Rob Snow recommends you use MS Edge and gather all the information before you begin to avoid entering everything twice. We can't wait to see you!*

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Tell us about your chapter's incredible activities and we may feature your chapter in one of our upcoming newsletters or on our website and social media.



Is there an equation for a heart?
Share your ideas on social media!

We regret to inform you that Amazon has ended the Amazon Smile program. Thank you to those who have donated in the past with your purchases!

RITA RALPH, PRESIDENT

On behalf of MAT, welcome back from our holiday break and Happy New Year!

I am constantly reminded of the hard work and dedication that you all bring to students in your many roles each day. You have a commitment to inspiring and supporting students in mathematics and their lives. The Governing Council members are grateful for all you do in students' lives. We realize you are more than a mathematics teacher. The many different roles you take upon cannot be described easily. These past few years have presented unique challenges, but you have persevered and grown as a teacher. It is my wish (and the governing councils' wish) for you that 2023 brings you opportunities to make a positive impact in your students in math and in life! Excellence begins with you! If you need assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Governing Council or the National Office. We are here to support you!

Aside from Kathy, Editor of the Newsletter: Recently I ran into a student at Sam's Club. She remarked that I look exactly like I did thirty years ago. She didn't. Anyway after we'd been talking for a while, a second student came up and started talking. Their message was that I had made a big impact on their lives. Amazing!

MC3 MathWorks Math Modeling Challenge
A program of **siam**
A contest for high school juniors and seniors in the U.S. and sixth form students in the UK



Register by February 24
Challenge Weekend March 3-6

\$100,000 in
SCHOLARSHIPS

FREE TO REGISTER
& PARTICIPATE!

WATCH YOUR EMAIL FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.



The Governing Council proposes that the Mu Alpha Theta Constitution and Bylaws be amended by inserting, "(current or former sponsor)" following "person" to Article VII, section 10.

Current wording, "Affiliates shall designate a person within their organization as a liaison with the National Office."

Proposed Wording, "Affiliates shall designate a person (current or former sponsor) within their organization as a liaison with the National Office."

AMERICAN HERITAGE—BROWARD COMPETITION BY ROSA WU

On December 17th, the American Heritage School - Broward chapter of the Association for Women in Mathematics (AWM) welcomed all 3rd, 4th, and 5th-grade girls and gender minorities to participate in our 1st Annual AWM Elementary Invitational.

The competition consisted of a one-hour, 30-question multiple-choice math test, squishmallow plush raffles, awards, goodie bags, and more. Trophies, purchased using a Mu Alpha Theta grant, were given to the top 5 winners in each grade, with the 1st place champions each also receiving a unicorn squishmallow plush.



After the test, the high school AWM members played a few games with the kids before going over how to solve each problem, making it an educational experience for all. We held a raffle between every 5 questions reviewed to give out 6 total plushes. As encouragement, each participant also went home with a goodie bag, hand-packed by our high school volunteers.



CONVENTION GRANTS

Mu Alpha Theta will award a limited number of **convention grants for first-time attendee chapters** to attend its in-person National Convention. Members who attend must not have graduated before the convention. Each grant covers registration for a minimum of three members and a sponsor. The remaining funds may be used for additional student registration costs and/or other travel expenses. To be eligible for a grant, a chapter cannot have previously attended a national convention. The intent of the grant is to allow the teacher and students to experience our National Convention for the first time. Only schools with a mathematics sponsor attending and three or more eligible students attending (cannot be graduated seniors) should complete the application.

The sponsor of each chapter attending the national convention may nominate up to two members for a **need-based convention scholarship**. For 2023, each scholarship will provide free registration for an active member in good standing, the standard dorm room cost of one student in a room with two students for the five nights of the convention, and up to \$300 of the student's travel expenses. Travel will be reimbursed after attending the national convention.

We also have **2023 convention mini grants** for schools that attended last year and want to go again this year.

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SPONSOR'S PAGE



Meet Rob Snow, President-Elect of Mu Alpha Theta.

Rob Snow, President-Elect, is the sponsor in Deerfield Beach, Florida. He is in his 25th year as a Mu Alpha Theta sponsor and teacher at Deerfield Beach High School. He was a Mu Alpha Theta member at Deerfield Beach High from 1989-1993. He earned his bachelor's and Master's degrees from Florida State University.

He has served as a member of the Florida Association of Mu Alpha Theta, FAMAT, since 2005. He has been a regional director, Vice President in charge of Regional and Statewide Tests, and the President of FAMAT since 2011.

He has co-hosted the 2014 National Convention in Orlando, the 2020 National Convention in Myrtle Beach before it was postponed by COVID, and he will be the host of the 2025 National Con-

vention in Orlando. He looks forward to working with students and sponsors across the country as we continue to grow as an organization.

Rob has a 5-year-old adorable son and is a huge sports fan. He told us that we could meet on Christmas Day since there were no football games. We doubt his family would have agreed with his plan!

—Dana, Karen, and Kathy

Tennessee MAO Convention is April 14-15 at
Hardin Valley Academy in Knoxville, TN

T-SHIRT DESIGN APPROVAL

Mu Alpha Theta will approve your T-shirt design quickly if you follow the copyright rules. If your design includes Mu Alpha Theta, MA Θ or our logo, it must include your school's name or initials. Including your chapter ID speeds the process, too. We have had a number of cute designs already this year, and we hate to have to send students back to the drawing board. Some were really, really cute, but didn't include a school identifier. These are two that were approved on the first submission. Elkins HS satisfied the rules in an amazingly clever way!



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Be one of the first five sponsors to tell Ms. Kating the sum of the prime factors of 2023 or that 2023 is a prime number, and you will be sent ten Mu Alpha Theta decals.

Email the answer to Ms. Kating at info@mualphatheta.org



If you share information about your chapter, it may be featured in the next newsletter!

SPONSOR'S PAGE

GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- The 2023 Mu Alpha Theta and Foundation budgets were approved.
- The Constitution and Bylaws committee approved for a vote by the membership that the Mu Alpha Theta Constitution and Bylaws be amended by inserting, “(current or former sponsor)” following “person” to Article VII, section 10. The Proposed Wording follows: “Affiliates shall designate a person (current or former sponsor) within their organization as a liaison with the National Office.”
- Karen addressed State Affiliates and reported that she will be working more closely with the liaisons.
- The 2023 Fayetteville Convention budget was presented and discussed. The University of Arkansas will no longer require a background check. All adults attending must watch a video.
- The Governing Council reviewed a proposal for the 2026 convention from Todd Taylor. Kim Woolfenden, Convention Coordinator, will investigate his proposed sites.

CLASSROOM TEACHING GRANTS will provide up to \$1,500 in funding to a limited number of applicants each year. Any former Mu Alpha Theta member who is in their first, second, or third year of teaching mathematics may apply for funds to supply their classroom with mathematics materials or for membership in a professional mathematics organization.

Applications will be accepted throughout the year. Reimbursements may be requested, but we prefer to pay before purchases have been made. For instance, we prefer to pay for mathematics professional memberships directly to the organization, and we prefer for grantees to build Amazon wish lists, which we can purchase for them and have shipped to them.

The grant may be used for materials such as math games, math resource books, math software, algebra tiles or other manipulatives, rulers, protractors, posters or other math display items, math videos, calculators, other classroom mathematics materials, and mathematics professional memberships. Consumable supplies such as paper, pencils, etc. may also be covered by this grant. The grant may not be used for a personal computer or tablet. Non-consumable materials, once purchased, remain the teacher's property, unless the teacher decides to donate them to their school.

A few more details are available at <https://mualphatheta.org/classroom-teacher-grants>

IMPORTANT DATES

- 2/24 M3C registration closes
- 2/28 Math Minutes Video Submission closes
- 3/1 Rubin, Andree, and GLSA award applications due
- 3/3 Newsletter deadline
- 3/3-6 M3C Challenge Weekend
- 3/14 Pi day
- 3/15 Regional Sponsor of the Year Award apps due
- 5/1 Arrival by Snail Mail—Convention Materials
- 5/15 Sister Scholastica Award
- 6/15 Huneke Award
- 6/25 Convention begins

