



THE MATH-SCIENCE CONNECTOR

Mark Your Calendars for the 2006 Convention

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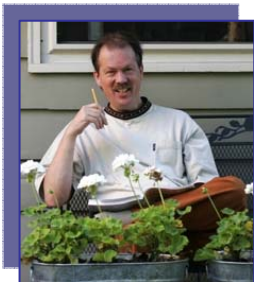
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The SSMA Board of Directors and the 2006 Convention Program Chairpersons (*Georgia Cobbs* and *Ken Miller*) have been working hard to put together a great convention for SSMA members and other mathematics/science educators. The convention promises to be a great opportunity to share projects, research, new developments in mathematics and science education as well as a chance to mix and mingle with fellow educators.



The 2006 SSMA Convention is scheduled for **October 26-28, 2006** at the **Holiday Inn Parkside** in **Missoula, Montana**. The final program will be posted online at <http://www.ssma.org> very soon. A registration form is included in this issue of the newsletter (see page 3). The hotel contact information is at the bottom of this registration form. Please plan to attend --- complete the registration form and return to *Julie Thomas & Sandi Cooper*. Make your hotel reservations with the **Holiday Inn Parkside** *today!*

Congratulations to the Newest SSMA Board Members!



The Spring 2006 issue of the Math-Science Connector included brief biographical information on the four candidates for two SSMA Director-At-Large positions. Congratulations are given here to the newest Board members. Please welcome *Cornelis (Kees) de Groot* from the State University of New York @ New Paltz and *Gil Naizer* from Texas A&M-Commerce to serve on the Board.



To learn more about nominations for future Board of Directors positions, please contact Georgia Cobbs (Georgia.cobbs@mso.umt.edu), Chair of the Nomination and Election Committee. A petition of twenty-five (25) signatures is needed to place a name on the ballot.

A NOTE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT ABOUT VISION



It has been my honor to lead SSMA for the past two years. In October, Arthur L. White becomes your new president. He brings with him years of service to SSMA, expertise that has come from his role as Executive Director, and a passion for the organization that stems from his strong commitment to the integration of mathematics and science education. Also in October, you will have opportunities to interact with the new editor of our journal, Gerald Kulm, and our two new executive co-directors, Julie Thomas and Sandi Cooper. Finally, we will introduce you to our new directors-at-large, Gil Naizer and Cornelius deGroot, who will assume elected positions on the Board of Directors. John Park will also join the Board, as he has graciously agreed to fill Julie Thomas' position as she assumes her role as new executive co-director.

SSMA is a unique organization in many ways. We are currently the only organization that brings both mathematics and science educators together to learn from one another. Annual conventions and journal publications allow our membership to share research, practice, and policies related to both mathematics and science education, as well as those related to the integration of both domains. In a spirit of learning more by bringing our separate perspectives together, SSMA invites discourse, diversity, and debate to improve the quality of K-16 mathematics and science education.

What about the past, present, and future of SSMA? As an organization, we recently honored our past and reviewed over 100 years of rich history in a wonderful celebration held in Chicago in 2001. Just six years ago, we decided to hold our own separate conventions, no longer in conjunction with the meetings of other organizations. In terms of our present and thanks to Art White's careful record keeping, we know where SSMA currently stands in terms of membership and journal subscriptions. That picture indicates slight decreases in both, which invites a discussion of the big question regarding our future. Where do we want to be in two years? In five years? What is the common dream for our organization? How can we leverage our strengths, which link the work of both mathematics and science educators, to make significant contributions to K-16 mathematics and science education?

While President, I have pondered these questions. I have been concerned that SSMA currently lacks a powerful vision that provides a solid base to guide the organization. What common dream unites our membership, links our work, creates a framework for decision-making, and establishes a platform for new initiatives?

Prior to the 2006 Spring Board Meeting in Missoula, I called past and present executive co-directors, journal editors, and board members together to begin a serious discussion about my concerns about the need of a vision of the organization. As a Vision Task Force, these individuals efficiently completed two tasks: (1) to create a first draft of a vision for SSMA, and (2) to review and simplify the 15 objectives currently listed in the By-Laws. A strong vision and coherent objectives for the organization, I believe, are critical for initiating any next big steps for the organization, which may include special conferences, membership drives, and special editions of the journal.

I invite all of you to attend the special Vision Round-Table Discussion scheduled at the Missoula meeting right after the Business Meeting on Saturday morning. The Vision Task Force will communicate its progress to date, which will include the draft of the vision and new objectives to replace those currently in the By-Laws. Please attend this session! After a very short introduction, you will be invited to join a small discussion group to provide the Vision Task Force with valuable input from your perspective as a member of the organization. Scribes will document all contributions and concerns, which will be reviewed by the Vision Task Force and submitted back to the membership via newsletter. At this critical point in the visioning process, your voices must be heard! The wisdom and power of the membership is needed to help your SSMA leaders make decisions and plan new initiatives that make significant contributions to both mathematics and science education communities.

I look forward to seeing you in beautiful Missoula in October!

Your President,

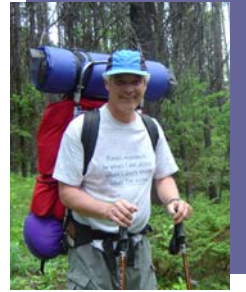
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carol L. Stuessy". The ink is dark and the signature is written in a fluid, personal style.

Carol L. Stuessy

2006 SSMA CONVENTION KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Steve Running - Friday Keynote

Steve is a University of Montana (UM) Forestry Professor and terrestrial ecologist. A member of the faculty since 1979, Running directs UM's Numerical Terradynamic Simulation Group, which crafts software for NASA environmental satellites. He also is helping write the 2007 report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Running has stated that Montana's climate has measurably warmed in the last 50 years, and is exploring how this will impact the future of traditional Big Sky pastimes, such as skiing, gardening and fly fishing.



Walt Woolbaugh – Magical Entertainer

Walt is an adjunct professor at Montana State University. He teaches research and assessment classes in a graduate science program. He is active in a national e-mentoring program and a state-wide e-learning program where he helps to train distance education teachers. He often uses and teaches magic in making presentations to groups as he believes that magic becomes a strong motivational tool when applied in the right setting.



Johnny W Lott – Closing Keynote

Johnny is a Professor Emeritus and the Director of the Center for Teaching Excellence at The University of Montana. His tentative title for his talk is: *Mathematics and Science: A Marriage of Convenience or a Divorce in the Making*. He plans to discuss issues about reasons that these two fields are often lumped together for convenience. What are differences that may make life more difficult for those of us in the field? Do we need counseling, or is it too late for that?



Passing the Torch

In the May 2006 issue of the *School Science and Mathematics* journal, you should have noted the editorial written by **Larry Flick, Norm Lederman & Jerry Kulm**. After five years of editorship by Larry and Norm, they passed the torch to Jerry Kulm from Texas A&M University. Larry and Norm are to be commended for their hard work and dedication in the production of 40 issues of the journal. Some statistics noted in their editorial include:

- ❑ Review of ~600 manuscripts with an acceptance rate of 25%
 - ~240 on science education topics
 - ~260 on mathematics education topics
 - ~100 on the integration of the two fields
- ❑ Collaborated with ~200 reviewers



Jerry reported in his comments about “The New Torch Bearer” that first-time authors will receive constructive responses and suggestions. He notes also that the journal is “an important outlet for high quality practitioner-research articles that report cooperative efforts by academe-based and K-12 educators”. International contributions will also be sought. Send your questions, comments and manuscripts for the journal to:

Dr. Gerald Kulm
Texas A&M University
Dept. of Teaching, Learning, & Culture
College Station, TX 77843-4232

SCHOOL SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS ASSOCIATION
2006 CONVENTION (October 26-28, 2006)
Holiday Inn Parkside, 200 SOUTH PATTEE, MISSOULA, MT 59802
 Phone - 1-800-315-2621 – Web: <http://www.himissoula.com/> -- Ask for SSMA rate.
REGISTRATION FORM

Date: ____/____/____

Name: _____ E-mail: _____

Affiliation—School/Department: _____

Affiliation Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Country: _____

Affiliation Telephone #: _____ Fax #: _____

Home Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Country: _____

Home Telephone #: _____

Registration Category	Full ^a	Thursday Only ^b	Friday Only ^c	Saturday Only ^d	Amount
[Please circle the appropriate amount(s).]					
Full-Time Student (**Advance)	\$130.00	\$ 70.00	\$ 70.00	\$ 45.00	
(Onsite)	\$130.00	\$ 70.00	\$ 70.00	\$ 45.00	
K-12 Teacher (**Advance)	\$160.00	\$ 90.00	\$ 90.00	\$ 55.00	
(Onsite)	\$160.00	\$ 90.00	\$ 90.00	\$ 55.00	
SSMA Member (**Advance)	\$190.00	\$120.00	\$120.00	\$ 65.00	
(Onsite)	\$190.00	\$120.00	\$120.00	\$ 65.00	
*Non-Member (**Advance)	\$240.00	\$165.00	\$165.00	\$ 75.00	
(Onsite)	\$250.00	\$175.00	\$175.00	\$ 85.00	
Total: \$					_____

^a**Full registration** includes: Thursday coffee break; evening reception with cash bar; Friday and Saturday morning breakfasts; Friday reception; admission to all Convention sessions, and a copy of the 2006 SSMA Convention Program.

^b**Thursday Only registration** includes: Thursday coffee break, evening reception with cash bar, admission to Thursday Convention sessions, and a copy of the 2006 SSMA Convention Program.

^c**Friday Only registration** includes: Friday morning breakfast and luncheon; admission to Friday sessions, and a copy of the 2006 SSMA Convention Program.

^d**Saturday Only registration** includes: Saturday morning breakfast, admission to Saturday Convention sessions, and a copy of the 2006 SSMA Convention Program.

*Includes one year SSMA Membership

****Advance Registration Deadline: (September 1, 2006)**

(Your registration will be recorded when payment is received.)

Holiday Inn Parkside

[ask for SSMA rate]

200 SOUTH PATTEE
MISSOULA, MT 59802

Hotel Phone/Fax: 1-406-721-8550 / 1-406-728-3472

Email: info@himissoula.com

Web: <http://www.himissoula.com/>

Convention Registration Payment should be made by check, money order, or cash in US\$ to:

School Science and Mathematics Association
c/o Julie Thomas & Sandi Cooper
Texas Tech University
3008 – 18th Street, Box 41071
Lubbock, TX 79409-1071



School Science and Mathematics Association

Application for Membership

(2006-2007)

School Science and Mathematics Association (SSMA) Membership

Name: _____ E-Mail: _____ Date: _____

Affiliation—School/Department: _____

Affiliation Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Country: _____

Affiliation Telephone #: _____ Fax #: _____

Home Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Home Telephone #: _____

Preferred Mailing Address: Affiliation OR Home

Area(s) of Expertise: (Please check all that apply.)

- Assessment Curriculum Informal Education Integration International
- Inquiry Learning Mathematics Research Science
- Teacher Education Teaching Technology Technology Education
- Other _____

Grade Level(s): (Please check all that apply to your students or to your pre-service/in-service teachers.)

- Pre-K K 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
- 9 10 11 12 Post-Secondary Pre-Service In-service

MEMBERSHIP RATES: (Please check one.)

- Active \$50.00/year Active International \$60.00/year
- Student \$25.00/year Student International \$30.00/year
- Emeritus.....\$25.00/year Life \$0.00/year

(Please check one.) Membership Renewal New Member

X: _____

Signature of Faculty Instructor or Advisor (Students Only)

Mail to:

Check, money order, or cash in US\$ payable to SSMA

School Science and Mathematics Association
 c/o Julie Thomas & Sandi Cooper
 Texas Tech University
 3008 18th Street, Box 41071
 Lubbock, TX 79409-1071

SSMA CONTACT INFORMATION

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**School Science and
Mathematics Association**

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The address above is for the newsletter only. Send all other correspondence including change of address to the Executive Co-Directors,

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College of Education
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Lubbock, TX 79409-1071
Phone: (806) 742-1997 x-313
Fax: (806) 742-2179
Email: ssma.educ@ttu.edu

<http://www.ssma.org>

Before You Go – Websites to Explore

- Missoula Chamber of Commerce
(<http://www.missoulachamber.com/>)
- City of Missoula
(<http://www.ci.missoula.mt.us/>)
- Missoula, Montana
(<http://missoula.montana.com/>)
- Missoulian Online Newspaper
(<http://www.missoulian.com/>)
- The University of Montana
(<http://www.umt.edu/>)
- Missoula Downtown Association
(<http://www.missouladowntown.com/>)
- Missoula County Official Web Site
(<http://www.co.missoula.mt.us/>)



Book Flights Early!

According to the Missoula International Airport website (<http://www.msoairport.org/>), the following carriers are available for flights:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Allegiant Air | <input type="checkbox"/> Northwest Airlines |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Big Sky Airlines | <input type="checkbox"/> SkyWest |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delta Connection | <input type="checkbox"/> United Express |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Horizon Air | |



SSMA Members who live in Missoula Montana report that there are few flight possibilities and recommend that you book your flights as soon as possible.

They note that

- Horizon includes a stop in Seattle
- Northwest includes a stop in Minneapolis
- United includes a stop in Denver
- Delta includes a stop in Salt Lake City

Allegiant Air does fly directly from Las Vegas to Missoula but only two (2) times each week.

Join Us in Missoula

You never know what wonders you will discover at the SSMA Annual Convention. Join us in Missoula, Montana (Oct. 26-28, 2006) and explore all the mathematics / science adventures that await you in the Big Country!

