

## *The Problem of the Fortnight*

Each fortnight, a new and challenging mathematical problem is posted on the department website.

See current Problem of the Fortnight online:

[http://www.sci.sdsu.edu/math\\_stat/FortnightProblems\\_files/fortnight.htm](http://www.sci.sdsu.edu/math_stat/FortnightProblems_files/fortnight.htm)

Any undergraduate submitting a correct solution before the deadline receives a Problem of the Fortnight T-shirt. The most elegant mathematical solution and computer solution each also receive a book from the department's collection. The most elegant solution submitted by a graduate student also wins a T-shirt.

Students submit their solution in an envelope, including their name, RedID number, date, address, phone and email, indicating whether they are a graduate or an undergraduate student. Solutions are submitted to the Math & CS Dept Office in GMCS 413, and evaluated by faculty committee who selects the awardees. Solutions are posted in a display cabinet located in the foyer of the Business Administration building. Faculty are encouraged to inform their students of each Problem of the Fortnight, and entice their students to participate by awarding stimulating incentives for participation. The newly designed Problem of the Fortnight t-shirts should suffice as an incentive for the ongoing PO4N mathematical contest.

## In Memoriam

Alma Morosz died on July 2, 2007. Alma started at SDSU as a part-time instructor in 1958. In 1966 she became full time and won a Distinguished Teaching Award from the Trustees. In 1970 she received tenure and was promoted to Associate Professor. She was an active member of the Math Ed group. She used her organizational skills by coordinating the Math Field Day. In 1977 she became executive assistant to acting SDSU President Trevor Colburn. She stayed in that position continuing under Thomas B. Day until her retirement in 1986. She was a highly respected colleague.

The family suggests donations to the Alma Marosz Memorial Scholarship at the Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, P.O. Box 93303, San Diego, CA 92163.

Dr. R. Deanne Branstetter was on our faculty from 1955 to 1981. Dr. Branstetter was born on June 29, 1918 and died March 12, 2007. He grew up on an 80 acre farm in Curryville, Missouri. Deanne graduated from NE Missouri State Teachers College in 1940 with a BS in Mathematics. It was there that he met Geraldine Gehrke whom he married and celebrated 62 years of marriage before her death in 2005.

During WWII, Deanne served as a navigator in the Army Air Corps. After the war, he continued his graduate studies, completing his Masters at Vanderbilt University and his PhD in Mathematics at Iowa State University. His career then took him to Colorado Springs where he worked for the Air Defense Command as an Operations Analyst. After two years, he made a career change and moved his family to San Diego, where he taught mathematics at San Diego State College for 26 years. In 1967 he was honored with the Distinguished Teaching Award by the State of California.

The students at San Diego State also awarded him with an Outstanding Teacher Award. Professor Branstetter served as a member of the Statewide Academic Senate and served as Chairman of the San Diego State College Senate.

Besides teaching, he served for a time as the Mathematics Department Chairman (1964-67) and as Dean of Undergraduate Studies for the College. He retired from teaching at San Diego State in 1981. Retirement led to touring much of the world and teaching as a guest professor at many universities.

He taught Probability and Statistics for 10 years at Brigham Young University and also had assignments for teaching a semester in Hawaii and at Kansas State University. At BYU he was active as a volunteer in helping students prepare for their actuarial exams. BYU granted him the rank of Professor Emeritus and recognized him for outstanding service to the university. Burial was in Derby, Kansas.