

Join MATH CLUB!

Next meeting on Tue Nov 24, 9pm, Math Learning Center; contact Emily Dietrich at dietri95@students.rowan.edu



<http://www.instructables.com/id/giant-fractal-pecan-pie/>

Important Dates!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Putnam Competition

Sat Dec 5, 2009 10am-6pm
Math Learning Center

CLAS Assembly

Fri Dec 11, 1:45-3pm

Finals Week

Tue-Sat Dec 15-19

Joint Math Meetings

Wed-Sat Jan 13-16, 2010
San Francisco, CA

Math Contest in Modeling (MCM)

Thu-Mon Feb 18-22, 2010

DEADLINES

Fall course grades

due Jan 6, 2010

DEPARTMENT MEETINGS

Spring 2010

Feb 3
Mar 3
Apr 14
May 12 (Retreat)

HOLIDAYS

Thanksgiving Recess

Thu-Sun Nov 26-29

Winter Recess

Sun Dec 20-Mon Jan 18

Spring Semester

Mon Jan 18 (MLK Holiday)
Tue Jan 19 (Classes begin)

Email newsletter comments to:

nguyen@rowan.edu

OSLERFEST April 16-17, 2010

The Math Department is proud to announce that it will host **Oslerfest**, a special math conference in honor of Dr.

Thomas Osler's 70th birthday on April 16-17, 2010 (Fri-Sat). The conference will feature two plenary speakers, Prof.

Bruce Berndt (Univ. of Illinois at Urbana- Champaign) and Prof. **George Andrews** (Penn. State Univ.), and several talks by Dr. Osler's former students. Dr. Osler has taught for 35 years at Rowan and published over 100 papers, 30 of them co-

authored with students.

Oslerfest is a celebration of Dr. Osler's many honors and achievements in mathematics.

There will be a opening dinner on Fri April 16 to kick off the celebration. Oslerfest is open to the public and all are invited. More details about Oslerfest will be posted on the Math Department website beginning in Jan 2010.



Thomas Osler

Eric Milou Receives Teaching Award

The Association of Mathematics Teachers of New Jersey (AMTNJ) has awarded Dr. **Eric Milou** the 2009 Max Sobel Outstanding Mathematics Educator Award.

Originally named the AMTNJ Outstanding Mathematics Educator Award, the award was first given in 1990 to Max Sobel, who soon became the model for subsequent choices. In 1993, the name was changed to the Max Sobel Outstanding Mathematics

Educator Award. It is awarded annually to an educator who has rendered distinguished services to AMTNJ and to New Jersey mathematics education.

Dr. Milou, a former president of AMTNJ, is the second professor from Rowan to receive this prestigious award. Dr. **Janet Caldwell** received the award in 1994.



Eric Milou

Noteworthy Achievements

Five Historic Formulas for Pi¹: PUBLICATIONS

Vieta

$$\frac{2}{\pi} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{1+\frac{1}{2}}{2}} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{1+\frac{1}{2+\frac{1}{2}}}{2}} \cdots$$

Wallis

$$\frac{2}{\pi} = \frac{1 \cdot 3}{2 \cdot 2} \cdot \frac{3 \cdot 5}{4 \cdot 4} \cdot \frac{5 \cdot 7}{6 \cdot 6} \cdot \frac{7 \cdot 9}{8 \cdot 8} \cdots$$

Gregory-Leibniz

$$\frac{\pi}{4} = 1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{9} - \cdots$$

Brouncker

$$\frac{4}{\pi} = 1 + \frac{1^2}{2 + \frac{3^2}{2 + \frac{5^2}{2 + \frac{7^2}{2 + \cdots}}}}$$

Archimedes

$$a_1 = 2\sqrt{3}, b_1 = 3$$

$$a_{n+1} = \frac{2a_n b_n}{a_n + b_n}, b_{n+1} = \sqrt{a_{n+1} b_n}$$

¹ **Thomas Osler**, *Five historic formulas for pi*, Math. and Computer Education, **43** (2009), pp. 250-258.

Lee Collins and Thomas Osler, *Conjectures from a historic table by John Wallis*, Mathematical Spectrum, **42** (2009/2010), pp. 14-19.

Thomas Osler, *Five historic formulas for pi*, Math. and Computer Education, **43** (2009), pp. 250-258.

Jay Schiffman, *Divisibility and Periodicity Ideas in the Fibonacci Sequence*, to appear in *Mathematical Spectrum*.

Sanae Tashiro (Economics), *Differences in Food Preparation by Race and Ethnicity: Evidence from the American Time Use Survey*, Review of Black Political Economy, **36** (3) 2009, pp. 161-180.

PRESENTATIONS

Olcay Ilicasu, *Odd vs. Even: A Study on the stability of Five Numerical Techniques*, Intern. Conf. Applied Modeling & Information Security Systems, University of Alabama, Birmingham, AL, Oct 2009.

Jay Schiffman, *Exploring Limits, Continuity, and Differentiation with the VOYAGE 200 CAS in Calculus*, TTT Regional Conf., WPI, Worcester, MA, Oct 2009; *Some Fibonacci Number Tricks; Exploring the Number of Divisors and the Sum of the Divisors of Positive Integers*, KCTM Annual Meeting, Bourbon County High School, Paris, KY, Oct 2009; *Exploring the Greatest Common Divisor and Least Common Multiple via Multiple Perspectives; A Plethora of Student Misconceptions in and Pre-Calculus and Calculus*, 21st AMTNJ Annual Meeting, Somerset, NJ, Oct 2009; *The Sum of the Divisors of an Integer-Abundant, Deficient, and Perfect Numbers*, NCTM Eastern Regional Conf., Boston, MA, Oct 2009; *Some Varieties of Graphs*, PCTM Annual Conf., Pittsburgh, PA, Nov 2009.

AWARDS

Eric Milou, AMTNJ 2009 Max Sobel Outstanding Mathematics Educator Award.

Robert Buonpastore, Mathematical Spectrum student prize for article *Triangles and parallelograms of equal area inside the ellipse* (with **Thomas Osler**), 41 (2008/2009), pp. 23-26.



Robert Buonpastore

Previous issues of **Math Newsletter** are available on the Math Department website at:

<http://www.rowan.edu/colleges/las/departments/math/Newsletters/Rowan%20Math%20Newsletter%20Archive.htm>