

# Looking back ...

## The History of Indiana Section of the MAA

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The Indiana Section of the MAA has been in existence since 1916, and the activities of the MAA or of our section since then has in some way, either directly or indirectly, had some impact on us as mathematicians, teachers of mathematics, and personally. The Indiana Section Executive Board has invited me to serve as the Section Historian, and I am pleased to accept that invitation.

As the section historian I plan to undertake two activities. The first is to collaborate with the section secretary to collect, organize, and archive items of historical interest, such as paper records, that are relevant to our section. Examples of items of interest are INMAA Newsletters and meeting programs (especially those that were distributed in earlier years before we began publishing them on the section webpage), copies of section award citations, etc. If you or your colleagues possess such items and wish to contribute them for inclusion in the archives, your contributions would be very helpful. As our collection grows, the Executive Board may opt to send some of the documents to the Archive of American Mathematics at the University of Texas, which collects and preserves records of mathematical organizations.

While building a collection of records of our section is a worthwhile task, simply storing such items for preservation will not have much impact on section members. Thus, in addition to archiving records of the section, I plan to regularly share topics of historical interest by contributing short articles for publication in the INMAA Newsletter. Each such article will focus on some specific topic relevant to the history of the MAA and/or the

Indiana Section. The first such contribution is included in this edition of the INMAA Newsletter!

Please feel free to share any ideas related to the history of the Indiana MAA Section or the role of the section historian by contacting me by e-mail at [carlson@rose-hulman.edu](mailto:carlson@rose-hulman.edu) .