

# The V<sup>2</sup>CTM Reflection



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THE VALLEY OF VIRGINIA COUNCIL OF TEACHERS OF MATHEMATICS  
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## Fall Meeting on September 29 at the new Harrisonburg High School

Meeting to feature prominent speaker Monica Neagoy



The Annual Fall V<sup>2</sup>CTM Meeting will be held at the new Harrisonburg High School on Thursday, September 29, 2005. Attendees will be treated to their choice of three evening sessions, and a delicious dinner from Mr. J's Deli, and a much-anticipated keynote presentation, *The Mathematics of Beauty and the Beauty of Mathematics*, by nationally-known speaker Monica Neagoy. To get to the new Harrisonburg High School, from I-81 take Exit 245 (JMU Exit), then turn west onto Port Republic Road. Take a right onto High Street (Route 42 North), then a left onto West Market Street (US 33 West). Follow US 33 for 1.3 miles to Garbers Church Road. Turn left on Garbers Church Road; in one mile you'll see the new school on your right. Registration is available on-line at <http://www.rockingham.k12.va.us/register>. A registration form is also available on the last page of this newsletter. Dinner registrations need to be in before September 22. Please register whether you are eating dinner with us or not. Annual membership of \$5.00 annual membership fees will be collected at the door; those who want to eat dinner will also pay their \$5.00 dinner fees at the same time. Door prizes will be given at dinner! First-time attenders and students have membership and dinner fees waived! The program is as follows:

- 4:30 – 5:00    **Registration.** Thanks to the JMU Math Department for providing refreshments!
- 5:00 - 6:00    **Keynote Address:** *The Mathematics of Beauty and the Beauty of Mathematics*, Dr. Monica Neagoy
- 6:00 – 6:45    **Dinner:** Assorted Deli sandwiches and sides from Mr. J 's Deli
- 6:45 - 7:00    **Business Meeting.** Judy Kidd, President
- 7:00 - 8:00    **K-5 Session I:** *Tesselations* Harvey Almarode, Augusta County Schools
- 6-8 Session I:** *The Golden Ratio* Kara Velez, Wilbur S. Pence Middle School
- 9-12 Session I:** *Fractals* John Marafino, James Madison University

## Nationally Recognized Speaker Coming to V<sup>2</sup>CTM

Monica Neagoy is a mathematics education consultant and the former Program Director of the Division of Elementary, Secondary, and Informal Education at the National Science Foundation. Dr. Neagoy was educated



in France, Asia and the U.S. with her Ph.D. in mathematics from the University of Maryland. Her exposure to many cultures, her mastery of several languages, and her professional involvement in both the arts and sciences give her a unique perspective on the learning and teaching of mathematics. She has served as an independent consultant in mathematics education, specializing in curriculum design, staff development, and teacher enhancement. She has worked with countless private schools and public school systems, as well as private organizations, such as The Annenberg Foundation, the Public Broadcasting System (PBS), The Cafritz Foundation, and the International Satellite Corporation (INTELSAT).

Since 1985, she has worked with in-service teachers independently and through Georgetown University. She is also a professional actor and is the artistic co-director of the professional LE NEON Theater in Washington, D.C. Dr. Neagoy is one of seven national judges for the prestigious MATHCOUNTS organization and is frequently invited to speak—often to give the keynote address—at conferences and special mathematics events in the United States and abroad.

The topic of her keynote address is *The Mathematics of Beauty and the*

*Beauty of Mathematics*. Whether beauty is subjective or objective, ephemeral or eternal, arouses the senses or charms the intellect, its definition has forever challenged philosophers and artists alike. This multimedia presentation invites you to ponder the meanings of beauty, examine the mathematics behind things beautiful, and enjoy aspects of mathematics that delight students, teachers, mathematicians, math educators, and lovers of mathematics.

### Hear Dr. Neagoy on the 28<sup>th</sup>, too...

Dr. Neagoy will make another presentation in our area that you are invited to attend. On Wednesday, September 28, she will present "Puzzles, Perplexities, and Paradoxes," a talk geared to a varied audience, at James Madison University in Burruss Hall, Room 031, at 7:30. There will be a reception beginning at 7:00.

## Upcoming Meetings

### Virginia Council of Teachers of Mathematics (VCTM)

Annual Meeting: "Reaching New Heights in Teaching Mathematics"

March 10-11, 2006

Virginia Polytechnic and State University

Blacksburg, Virginia

Contact: <http://www.vctm.org>

### National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM)

84th Annual Meeting: "Asking Questions – Generating Solutions"

April 26-29, 2006

St. Louis, Missouri

Contact: <http://www.nctm.org>

## JMU Looking for Teachers to Take Algebra Class

Consider taking the Algebra and Functions Course that JMU is offering for middle grade teachers. The class meets from 5:30-8:30 PM on Tuesdays from Sept 20 - Dec 13 at Thomas Harrison Middle School. The tuition for the course is \$450. Teachers receive a \$300 stipend and all necessary materials for the course. Interested teachers should send an email message to L. Cavey at [caveylo@jmu.edu](mailto:caveylo@jmu.edu).

## TI-Navigator Conference in Spotsylvania County

On Friday, Oct. 21 and Saturday, Oct. 22, 2005, Spotsylvania County Schools will sponsor a TI-Navigator Conference. The conference will be held at Spotsylvania High School, 6975 Courthouse Rd., Spotsylvania, VA 22553. The TI-Navigator system allows a teacher to monitor, assess, and redirect student understanding instantaneously. This conference will give participants a chance to share ideas and to learn how the TI-Navigator can be used in their classrooms. Sessions will provide opportunities for both the experienced users and those who are new to the TI-Navigator. Registration (postmarked by October 6, 2005) is \$40. Registrations from October 7 through October 22 will be \$50. Check-in will begin Friday at Noon. Saturday sessions will begin at 8 am. For more information contact Angela Hoopes ([ahoopes@hs.spotsylvania.k12.va.us](mailto:ahoopes@hs.spotsylvania.k12.va.us)), 540-582-3882

## Proposed Revisions to Licensure Regulations

The Virginia Department of Education has released the proposed revisions to the REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE LICENSURE OF INSTRUCTIONAL PERSONNEL. To see this document, visit this website: [http://www.pen.k12.va.us/VDOE/VA\\_Board/Meetings/2005/ItemB-jul.pdf](http://www.pen.k12.va.us/VDOE/VA_Board/Meetings/2005/ItemB-jul.pdf). Among other proposed changes, new designations are proposed for teacher licensure including Career Teacher, Mentor Teacher, and Teacher as Leader.

## Virginia SAT I Scores Surge

The performance of Virginia high school seniors on the SAT I improved significantly in 2005 as black and Hispanic students increased their achievement on both the mathematics and verbal portions of the college-readiness test, according to results released by The College Board. The average mathematics score of Virginia public school seniors increased by 6 points, which was the largest increase in mathematics achievement among states in which the SAT I is the predominate college admissions test. The number of Virginia students taking Advanced Placement (AP) tests and qualifying for college credit also increased sharply. The number of Virginia public high school students who took at least one AP test increased by 13.7 percent, from 34,114 in 2004 to 38,787 in 2005. Public school students in the commonwealth took 69,252 AP examinations in 2005, an increase of 13.8 percent over 2004. The number of examinations taken by public school students earning a score of 3 or above increased by 10.9 percent in 2005 to 41,854. During 2005, 60.4 percent of the AP exams taken by Virginia students earned a grade of 3 or better, compared with the national average of 57.5 percent.

### 2005-2006 V<sup>2</sup>CTM Officers

President ..... Judy Kidd, James Madison University ([kiddjb@jmu.edu](mailto:kiddjb@jmu.edu))  
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**V<sup>2</sup>CTM Fall 2005 Meeting Registration**

Return this registration form to Joe Hill, Rockingham County Public Schools,  
Suite B County Office Building, Harrisonburg VA 22801. Better yet, register on the web at  
<http://www.rockingham.k12.va.us/register>  
You may pay at the door on September 29.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Circle one:      New Member      Renewal

School \_\_\_\_\_ Annual Membership Dues \$5.00 \_\_\_\_\_

School Address \_\_\_\_\_ Dinner Fee \$5.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

**See you at HHS on Sept. 29!**

V<sup>2</sup>CTM Reflection  
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**PLEASE SHARE THIS NEWSLETTER WITH ALL MATHEMATICS TEACHERS,  
GRADES K-12**