



Newsletter

Chairman's Message



Robert A. Anker

Dear Friends of the Foundation:

"Enthusiasm is one of the most powerful engines of success. When you do a thing, do it with all your might. Put your whole soul into it. Stamp it with your

own personality. Be active, be energetic, be enthusiastic and faithful, and you will accomplish your objective. Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm."

This quotation from Ralph Waldo Emerson describes the mindset each of us who are involved share about The Actuarial Foundation. We have just completed intense strategic planning discussions focused on making our Foundation more effective. Enthusiasm, energy, activity and faith surfaced continually throughout our conversations about The Actuarial Foundation.

We see constant **enthusiasm** from our many volunteer mentors working within the youth education programs across the country. Our consumer education materials on retirement, disability, and annuities came from **active participation** of volunteers providing detailed background information. Our investment in research advances not only the actuarial profession but also society as a whole. We get a remarkable amount of **energy** and personal time from our Trustees, tirelessly working on the Foundation's behalf. Most importantly, the enthusiasm, energy and active participation of volunteers in fulfilling our mission are rewarded by our many contributors' **faith** in the work we do.

Each of us who is close to the Foundation ends up feeling strong enthusiasm, in part because it is in the natural make-up of those who volunteer, but primarily because we are privileged to see up close the positive impacts that come from our efforts. Personally, I derive great energy and, yes, enthusiasm from the whole-hearted active involvement of our volunteers and staff and from their unbounded faith in what we do. It is easy for me, because I am privileged to see it and feel it first-hand.

For those of you who are less directly involved, your continued enthusiastic support and the faith you show in us through your support is inspiring. We are all committed to making that faith justified through active, energetic work. Thank you for allowing us to use your generous support to make a difference in so many ways.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Anker, FCAS, MAAA
Chairman

MISSION: To utilize the unique skills and abilities of actuaries to increase public understanding, address societal problems and advance actuarial knowledge.



Calendar of Events

April 3-6, 2005
Enrolled Actuaries Meeting
Washington, DC

May 2-3, 2005
Academy Spring Meeting
Washington, DC

May 15-18, 2005
CAS Spring Meeting
Phoenix, AZ

May 23-24, 2005
SOA Spring Meeting (Life)
New Orleans, LA

June 15-17, 2005
SOA Spring Meeting
(Health and Pension)
New Orleans, LA

July 18, 2005
Actuarial Foundation Board of
Trustees Meeting
Rosemont, IL

July 24-27, 2005
ASPPA Summer Conference
San Diego, CA

August 11-13, 2005
40th Actuarial Research
Conference
Mexico City

SUPPORTING U.S. ACTUARIAL ORGANIZATIONS:

American Academy of Actuaries
American Society of Pension
Professionals and Actuaries
Casualty Actuarial Society
Conference of Consulting Actuaries
Society of Actuaries

Five New Trustees Come on Board in 2005

Welcome to our new Board of Trustee volunteers whose three-year terms began January 1, 2005. We are honored to have their expertise and enthusiasm working on the Foundation's behalf.

Executive Vice President Swiss Re Life & Health, NY



Fazli M. Dato,
FSA, MAAA

"Having come from a foreign land which offered limited opportunities, I was fortunate to discover the actuarial profession. I want others to have similar opportunities for professional success. I believe this can be achieved

through education and appropriately, the goals of the Foundation are centered on education, be it for youth, consumer or research. Many individuals have devoted countless hours to create the Foundation and now it is my turn to further their vision by contributing as a Trustee."

President & CEO Watson Wyatt Worldwide, DC



John J. Haley,
FSA, MAAA, FCA

"I've been a member of the actuarial community for nearly 30 years and still today it opens doors and provides new opportunities. I am proud to be part of this profession and very happy to be

working with the Foundation to encourage its next generation."

Do you have an interest in youth education, consumer education and/or research and actuarial education initiatives?

If so, please consider joining our efforts.

Contact the Foundation office to discuss where your volunteer services could be best utilized.

President New York Life Insurance Company, NY



Fredrick J. Sievert,
FSA, MAAA

"I am indebted to this profession for the enriching and rewarding work I have been privileged to participate in over the years. The work of the Foundation aligns well with my personal desire to give back to the

profession, but more importantly to increase the awareness of the profession among consumers (particularly young and promising math students)."

Chairman Trustmark Insurance Company, IL



J. Grover Thomas, Jr.

"I felt that as a non-actuary who has worked with so many actuaries over the years, I may be able to bring a different perspective to the valuable role that actuaries play around the world today."

Vice Chairman & CFO AXA Financial, NY



Stanley B. Tulin,
FSA, FCA, MAAA

"I am interested in giving something back to the profession that has been so good to me and I'm particularly interested in seeing us help in the development of gifted math students especially those with limited resources.

Hopefully, some of the gifted mathematicians that we aid in developing will ultimately pursue our profession."

Board Update

The Board of Trustees met in Rosemont, IL for its first meeting of 2005. Below are highlights from that meeting.

- The Trustees participated in face-to-face multiple strategic planning sessions focused on "Building Effectiveness for Our Future."
- Preliminary working groups were established to review each program area for effectiveness and growth potential as well as to review our communication, marketing operations and development efforts for effectiveness and opportunities.
- As a result of the work of the groups, and after deliberation, the Board is moving forward with a variety of initiatives:
 - The Youth Education Committee will be evaluating the reach of current mentoring programs; researching new multiple component youth education programs to reach high-level math students; and working to develop a national turnkey program. A special Board Task Force will develop a restated mission for the Advancing Student Achievement Program.
 - The Consumer Education Committee will reevaluate all initiatives for clarity of mission, distribution outlets, and partnerships. We will become more responsive to outside initiatives in lieu of developing initiatives directly. Current projects will continue.
 - The AERF Committee will continue to support its traditional research & actuarial education initiatives while exploring opportunities for additional scholarship programs. Future non-academic research will follow a partnership model with other actuarial organizations.
 - A formal Development Committee has been established to recast our development programs in line with the recommendation from our development consultants.
 - A special Board Task Force will develop a revised mission for the Foundation.

Project Updates

YOUTH EDUCATION

We're inspiring a new generation of math-skilled thinkers.

Welcome to the following schools who have joined the Foundation's *Advancing Student Achievement* program in the first quarter of 2005.

BOULEVARD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, CLEVELAND HEIGHTS, OH developed *On The Road with HIP (Hands-On, Innovative and Purposeful Math)* program for students in grades K-5. This ambitious program involves several key components and activities. It begins with three varied *Marvelous Math Clubs* that will meet during lunch periods and after school working with computers to strengthen their math skills; *Math Trails* is an activity designed for their gifted students to discover and share the math that exists within their environment; and *HIP Community Math Trips* created for 4th and 5th graders to predict the math neighborhood businesses would use in their work using Tungsten E Palm Pilots to record predictions, data and create graphs and charts.

Lead Actuary: Ted Kuss, FCAS

ANNA HOWARD SHAW MIDDLE SCHOOL, PHILADELPHIA, PA created innovative math clubs covering a wide range of activities involving 100 students from all grade levels. These math clubs will feature four components - Robotics, Math in Sports & Music, e-missions from NASA, and a First in Math Team held on Saturdays for 7th grade students participating in online competitions.

Lead Actuary: Michael Belfatti, FCAS

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer mentor working with either of these two schools, or wish to find or start a program in your area, please contact the Foundation at 847.706.3600.

CONSUMER EDUCATION

We're employing actuarial skills in the public interest.

Work is underway on a new consumer booklet entitled; *Don't Risk Your Retirement Money: Resisting the Lump-Sum Payment Temptation*, in a joint project with the Women's Institute for a Secure Retirement (WISER). This booklet will provide consumers with information they need to know when either choosing or receiving a lump-sum payment from a pension plan or retirement savings account. The booklet will take the reader through the steps of determining how much income and/or savings they need to make their money last, and will discuss many of the issues that may not be considered when deciding to take a lump-sum distribution. The consumer booklet and background paper will be available on the Foundation's Web site when completed. We'll keep you posted!

RESEARCH AND ACTUARIAL EDUCATION

We're moving boldly to handle the challenges of the future.



COMPLETED PROJECT! STUDY PANEL FINAL REPORT

Uncharted Waters: Paying Benefits from Individual Accounts in Federal Retirement Policy

This Social Security Report identifies key questions about payouts from private accounts at retirement, divorce, disability and death. The Report, produced by the National Academy of Social Insurance (NASI) and with funding from The Actuarial Foundation, Ford Foundation, TIAA-CREF, and Foundation for Child Development, addresses how people might be able to tap the funds and a number of other design issues that need to be addressed if individual accounts are added to Social Security. To view the full report, download or to order a copy, visit the Foundation site at:

http://www.actuarialfoundation.org/research_edu/unchartered_waters.htm

The 40th Actuarial Research Conference (ARC) is scheduled August 11-13, 2005 in Mexico City. This conference is an opportunity for academics and practitioners to meet and discuss actuarial problems and their solutions. The Conference traditionally has been the central meeting for North American academics and researchers interested in all aspects of actuarial science. For more information regarding the Conference, please visit the Conference site at: <http://www.arc2005.itam.mx/>

Now, in its ninth year, the **John Culver Woody Scholarship** awards up to four \$2,000 (U.S.) scholarships to undergraduate students who have senior standing during the 2005-2006 academic year. Applicants are required to have completed at least one actuarial exam. For more information, visit the Foundation's Web site at http://www.actuarialfoundation.org/research_edu/prize_award.htm#woody **Application deadline is June 24, 2005!**

Board Updates

(continued from page 2)

- In a joint effort with the Conference of Consulting Actuaries, a new Fund has been established in memory of Irwin I. "Wynn" Kent who passed away on February 2. The Kent Memorial Fund will provide an annual prize to any actuary who has materially contributed

to the communication of financial risk and the work product of the actuarial profession in some form or media to the public. More information follows in this newsletter.

- The Anderson Fund of the Foundation will provide funds to the University of Manitoba, through the Actuarial Foundation of Canada, for a

scholarship program in honor of James C.H. Anderson. Mr. Anderson was a 1952 graduate of the University's Actuarial Mathematics Program. This scholarship pays tribute to his achievements and his commitment to the development of actuarial students.

- Next Board of Trustees Meeting is scheduled for July 18, 2005.

Discovery Math Club

Viewed as a resounding success by teachers, parents, actuaries and students!



Andrew Doll, FCAS
Lead Volunteer
Mentor

PRAIRIE VIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL SUN PRAIRIE, WI

"This Advancing Student Achievement program began in a somewhat haphazard way with a 7th grade math teacher, Craig Brandl,

telling the parent organization that he would like some classroom assistance. My wife happened to be at that meeting, and she also attended the Actuarial Foundation's Clambake event with me the year before. I mentioned to her that I really thought the Foundation was a good organization, and I hoped I could get involved in it someday. Well, that someday arrived the night of that meeting in early 2003.

The ASA program at Prairie View School has provided me with many enjoyable experiences. They range from remembering what 7th grade was like to watching kids gain an appreciation for and even an enjoyment with math. The understanding of math by the 7th graders covers a very broad spectrum from very difficult and frustrating to easy and enjoyable. Each child along that spectrum looks to the mentors for different support.

The kids that find math difficult generally feel it is the Mt. Everest of subjects, something they will never conquer. So, they give up early and just hope to get through. Working with these kids and providing them some one-on-one assistance that may not be available in the classroom can prove to be invaluable. Whether it is actually helping them understand a concept or just improving their confidence, these kids are very responsive to the support the mentors bring.

For those kids that really get it, I have enjoyed being able to actually work

individually or in groups with these kids. Watching these kids latch onto new subjects and see the gears turning is very exciting. Who knows, some of them may be the actuaries of the future, someone I may be working for some day.

Going into the class each week and getting to know the kids, and them getting to know me, has been a lot of fun. They are not afraid to ask inquiring questions, nor are they afraid to share information about themselves. They look to the mentors not just as math people, but in the end someone they trust. It is a lot of fun to see kids from prior classes out in public. Many of the names have gone away, but the faces remain. And, when they do a double take and recognize me, it is nice to see the smile on their faces and have them say, "Hi."

For me, I can truly say this has been a great experience. That one simple comment at the parent meeting has provided me with two very enjoyable years as a mentor."



Craig Brandl
Teacher

a grant being offered through the Actuarial Foundation. Never in my wildest imagination did I think this one phone call would begin a once in a lifetime chance to start my own math enhancement program.

LETTER FROM STUDENT

To The Actuarial Foundation,

I am Pao Yang, member of Discovery Math Klub, thanking you for your donation. I had loads of fun, from the Karel++ to going bowling. Discovery Math Klub has been so much fun. If we didn't have your donation, we wouldn't have Discovery Math Klub. What I liked best is when we did the Strobe Light and Biz World. In the strobe light part we learned to read mathematical instructions to build the strobe lights. In Biz World we learned about the world of business by making bracelets and selling them. Because of Biz World I got to start my own business of selling candy. We made a profit of over \$100. Thanks very much.

Sincerely,

Pao Yang

NOTE FROM PARENT TO TEACHER

I understand the meetings were attended by students with a wide range of math abilities, which attests to the value of the club. Too often middle school students are afraid to try things at which they don't excel. It is valuable to have an environment where all members are comfortable and able to work within, and above, their abilities. We have had a difficult time keeping my child challenged in school. Math club activities helped focus his attention. Thank you.

Through the assistance of Rena Beyer, the district grant writer, and ideas brought to the table by several Actuaries at General Casualty, I was able to develop a successful program that would reach all levels of math abilities. Throughout the past two and a half years, the best activities have been preserved, while others have been reinvented, to fit both the vision of what Actuaries felt comfortable assisting with and what seventh grade students found most beneficial.

I will admit I did not know how either Actuaries or seventh grade students would react to such a new program. Besides, it was centered on math, a topic that would make a majority of students cringe by just mentioning the subject! With the Actuarial Foundation grant, manipulatives were obtained to help students realize how important math is when dealing with real-life situations. Eventually, students were asking, "When are those General Casualty people coming in next?" or

Discovery Math Club *(continued from page 4)*

"What are we going to be doing after we get done with this activity?" It was at this moment I knew these adolescents were interested in math, even if I had to trick them into doing it by offering several hands-on activities throughout the year. This was evident last year when I received a card by a student stating, 'Thanks, Mr. Brandl, for making me like math again.'

It never ceases to amaze me the kindheartedness brought to my classroom by participating Actuaries. Without their endless hours of volunteering, a number of activities would not have been able to get off the ground, and some teenagers would not have been challenged or had received the additional assistance in mathematical concepts they found difficult. Students were receptive to their mentors, with some finding a personal connection to

an Actuary during their process of learning new concepts or reassuring their ability in math. Words cannot express my gratitude of appreciation towards several Actuaries that have provided insight and hard work towards this program in the past years. Without their guidance, the math enhancement program would not be as successful as it is today, and students would not be as excited about math as they are today.

Overall, my experience has surpassed any expectations I had when first beginning the journey in 2003. Without the support of an Actuarial Foundation grant, the many accomplishments I have seen in the past few years would not have been made possible. The simple wish for my students was made a reality; one that I hope will be made available to others in the future."

Our heartfelt thanks to the mentors who provided time to the students of Prairie View Middle School and to their employer, General Casualty Companies, who so generously provided them the time to make a difference in the life of a student! They are:

Kevin Anderson, Tiffany Chen, Andrew Doll, Liz Hulse, Wen Kong, Meyer Lehman, Anne Moore, Michelle Morrow, Jeremy Scharnick, and Mark Schluesche.



The Actuarial Foundation

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THE ACTUARIAL FOUNDATION

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Preparing for Tomorrow's Possibilities

Corporate sponsors have helped to fund many of the Foundation's programs in youth education, consumer education and research and actuarial education. These organizations have truly stepped forth in supporting our mission, programs and initiatives in 2004 - 2005. THANK YOU!

VISIONARY LEVEL – \$25,000

Towers Perrin

INNOVATOR LEVEL – \$10,000

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Kent Memorial Fund Established



**Irwin I. "Wynn"
Kent,
ASA, FCA, MAAA**

Irwin I. "Wynn" Kent, ASA, FCA, MAAA passed away on February 2, 2005 at the age of 81. Mr. Kent was a well-known and distinguished actuary who dedicated many years to the profession. He served as President of the Conference of Consulting Actuaries from 1989-1990, was a partner with Actuarial Services Inc., and Senior Vice President of Alexander & Alexander before retiring in 1991. His educational pursuits in

actuarial science include an undergraduate degree from Iowa University, a master's degree from the University of Michigan, as well as a degree in meteorology from Cal Tech. Mr. Kent was an associate of the Society of Actuaries, a member of the American Academy of Actuaries and a fellow of the Conference of Consulting Actuaries.

To honor Wynn Kent, his family and friends have established the Kent Memorial Fund through The Actuarial Foundation. This Fund will provide for an annual prize, **Wynn Kent Memorial Prize**, open to members of the profession who have "materially contributed" to the communication of financial risk and the work product of the actuarial profession

in some form or media to the public. The Conference of Consulting Actuaries will communicate and administer the Prize. For Prize information visit the Conference Web site at: <http://www.ccactuaries.org/membership/awards/kent-memorial-prize.html>.

Contributions to the Kent Memorial Fund can be made through the Actuarial Foundation in Wynn Kent's name via online donations or you may download a contribution form at: <http://www.actuarialfoundation.org/donor/donor.htm>.