YEAR END FINALE

As I enter my final year as Editor-in-Chief of CRUX with MAYHEM, the call has been put out by the Canadian Mathematical Society for a new Editor-in-Chief, with nominations being taken by the CMS Publications Committee. Any potential nominee should know that (if needed) I am willing to serve as a Co-Editor for all of 2011 and to serve as an Editor-at-Large beyond that.

This past year JOHAN RUDNICK took over the reins from GRAHAM WRIGHT as Executive Director of the CMS and also as Managing Editor of CRUX. I appreciate very much Johan's interest in CRUX and our discussions, and also Graham's continuing support in his role as Consultant towards the end of the year. The last Publications Committee meeting I attended marked the end of Graham's term, so it is now finally safe to say, “Graham, all the best for you in your retirement!”

DENISE CHARRON and LAURA ALYE A have done a wonderful job this past year administering CRUX at the CMS headquarters in Ottawa.

Our past CRUX editor BRUCE SHAWYER continues to contribute to CRUX and is an inspiration for me. I also thank our past CRUX editor BILL SANDS for his sound advice and fantastic proof reading (it is my theory that in a previous life Bill was an eagle that learned to read). My colleague and past CMO Chair TERRY VI SENT IN has also lent his experience to proofing the copy.

In the New Year the CRUX board warmly welcomes two new Problems Editors: DZUNG MINH HA of Ryerson University and JONATAN ARONSSON of the University of Manitoba. I hope they find the problems moderating every bit as fascinating as I do. This past year LILY YEN and MOGENS LEMVIG HANSEN came on board as Skoliad Editors. Thank you Lily and Mogens for your wonderful contributions, and for generously agreeing to continue editing Skoliad beyond your first year.

ILIYI BLUSKOV and MARIA T~RRES are stepping down at the end of 2009 as Problems Editors, and I thank them for their service. Iliya, it has been a pleasure and fun as well, may you find every design that you search for (except those that do not exist). Maria, good luck with your future projects and I am grateful for your generous offer to help with Spanish translations in the future. Gracias!

JOHN GRANT McLoughlin is stepping down as Member-at-Large to take up editing the Education section of the CMS Notes. John, best of luck in the future and thank you for your incredible effort for the JIM TOTTEN special issue this past year, which made it that much more special.

JEFF HOOPE, our Associate Editor, has pulled my bacon out of the fire more than once this past year, and I am most grateful for it! JAN VANDERBURGH, our Mayhem Editor, continues to outpace this Editor-in-Chief as he churns out yet another Problem of the Month column. Jan, let's see if I can catch up this year! A thank you is due to ROBERT WOODROW for managing the Herculean task of assembling the Olympiad Corner this past year. This was also AMAR SODHI's first year as Book Reviews Editor, and a prolific one judging from the long list of reviews in the index that follows. I am ever grateful for the work of my colleague and Articles Editor, JAMES CURRIE, who has kept CRUX with a healthy supply of articles which makes it that much easier to complete an issue.

I thank CHRIS FISHER for his myriad contributions to CRUX beyond his duties as Problems Editor. Chris' sense of humour is infectious and brings some much needed levity into the process of editing. I thank EDWARD WANG for continuing as Problems Editors this past year despite a very high workload, and for his perseverance during a reallocation of support staff within his department.
I thank MONIKA KBEIS and ERIC ROBERT for their continuing service on the Mayhem staff. I thank JEAN-MARC TERRIER for translating the problems that appear in CRUX with MAYHEM, and ROLLAND GAUDET for translations of the Skoliad contests. So great was Jean-Marc’s zeal for translating this past year that he crazily requested that copy be sent over the holiday, to which this editor instantly responded with the required certificate of insanity!

I thank JILL AINSWORTH and JOANNE CANAPE at the University of Calgary; TAO GONG, JUN E ALEONG, and LOUIS MOUSTERAKIS at Wilfrid Laurier University, for their support in producing $\LaTeX$ files. A big thank you goes to Mr. MATHIAS PIELAHN, the CRUX journal assistant, for his help with managing the mountains of information we receive as input.

Thanks go to JUDI BORWEIN, MICHAEL DOOB, CRAIG PLATT, and STEVE LAROCQUE for technical support and putting CRUX up on the net. TAM EHRICHT and the people at Thistle Printing continue to print fine quality issues of CRUX, which are always satisfying to receive in the mail.

The Department of Mathematics and Statistics at the University of Winnipeg continues to provide support, and I thank the Dean of Science, ROD HANLEY, for keeping up the commitment of the University of Winnipeg.

I especially thank LYNNE TOTTEN, for her kind words about our efforts on the JIM TOTTEN special issue, and for providing a sense of perspective when it was most helpful.

I thank my wife CHARLENE for her support during this past year, and special friends PETER ARPIN and RANDALL PYKE for their special help with CRUX.

Though this last year has seen a global recession, our subscriptions have remained almost steady. This speaks to how tremendously CRUX is valued by you, the readers. I thank all of you for your support of CRUX in these difficult financial times, and I thank you even more for all your wonderful mathematical contributions, which is the stuff that CRUX is made of.

It is an honour to partake of your contributions almost each and every day, and a wonderful source of enrichment for me.

I wish everyone happiness, peace, and fulfillment in the New Year.

Václav (Vazz) Linek

**Crux Mathematicorum**

with Mathematical Mayhem

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