

YEAR END FINALE

We have have come to the end of another volume. It has been another interesting year here at the journal. We have done some structural changes, moving from 8 issues per year, back to 10 issues per year. At the same time, we have gone from printing every issue to bundling two issues together to try to make up some of the money that the journal has been losing. On top of that, our name has changed back *Cruz Mathematicorum*.

Also, *Mathematical Mayhem* and *Skoliad* will be separating from *Cruz Mathematicorum*. The solutions to most problems from these sections that have appeared in print in *CRUX with MAYHEM* have appeared in Volume 38. The last of the solutions will appear in the first two issues of Volume 39. The original plan was that *Mathematical Mayhem* (with *Skoliad*) would carry on separately and be expanded. Unfortunately, there is neither the personnel, nor the funds to do so at this point in time. Hopefully *Mayhem* and *Skoliad* will not have to sit on the shelf too long before they are brought back.

We have introduced several new features that have received positive feedback. The new *Contest Corner* was introduced to fill in the gap left by *Mayhem* and *Skoliad*. This volume saw just problem proposals, but your solutions have been coming in and they will start to appear next issue, just as the the solutions to the new *Olympiad Corner* problems have appeared this volume.

Three new columns were also introduced this volume. Longtime *Cruz* contributor MICHEL BATAILLE started his column *Focus On ...* looking at advanced problem solving techniques. I must thank Michel for this great new column, it has received much praise. We have also introduced a related column *The Problem Solver's Toolkit* that focuses on more standard techniques. Also appearing is the *Problem of the Month* which features a nice problem and its solution.

It is our plan that, through Volume 39, each of the new columns will appear every second issue, with an article appearing every second issue as well. Through Volume 39 we are hoping to make up some time, and clear some of the backlog so that as each new issue appears, the date on the front of your journal should be getting closer to the date on your calendar!

Once the backlog of *Cruz* issues has been cleared and we are up to date, we are looking to expand some of our features. That can mean more problems in the *Contest Corner* and *Olympiad Corner*. We are also hoping that some day both *The Problem Solver's Toolkit* and *Problem of the Month* will run every issue. Until the point in time when the content is fixed, there will be some slight variations in the page count, issue to issue.

I would like to thank our readers for their patience in this time of change and delays. The kind words and encouragement that you have sent to me are greatly appreciated. I will continue to work hard to make *Cruz Mathematicorum* the best it can be.

I am not alone putting the journal together, there are a number of people that I must thank. First and foremost, I must thank the editorial staff. I thank my associate editor JEFF HOOPER and BILL SANDS, the editor-at-large, for their detailed proofreading. They always pick up many things I have missed. I thank CHRIS FISHER for his work as problems editor and for his nine part *Recurring Crux Configurations* which wrapped up this issue. His dedication and expertise are greatly appreciated. I thank EDWARD WANG for his work as problems editor as well as his continued contribution of nice problems to the problems section. Our readers greatly benefit from his contributions. I want to thank ANNA KUCZYNSKAI who has settled into her role as problems editor and provides me with great edited solutions. I thank EDWARD BARBEAU for his work as problems editor. I have known Ed for a long time and it has been great having him on the team. I thank NICOLAE STRUNGARU for his role as editor to the *Olympiad Corner*. The role involved a greater commitment of time on his part and his efforts are greatly appreciated by the readers and by me. I also thank CHRIS GRANDISON for his work as a problems editor. Chris will be leaving us at the end of this issue, thank you for your years of dedication to *Crux*.

I want to thank ROBERT CRAIGEN and RICHARD GUY who continue to give some “unofficial” help. They are a great help to me proofreading and commenting on new features.

I thank JEAN-MARC TERRIER and ROLLAND GAUDET for providing French translations. The translations are always done quickly and occasionally there are comments on how to improve the English part as well! I must also welcome ANDRÉ LADOUCEUR who will help with the translations of an increasing number of problems.

I thank ROBERT DAWSON for his work as the articles editor and for providing me with a great set of articles this year. I thank AMAR SODHI for keeping me in good supply of interesting book reviews. Amar will be leaving at the end of this issue, he will be missed. Thanks for all your work over the years Amar!

I thank LILY YEN and MOGENS LEMVIG HANSEN for their work as *Skoliad* Editors and the great job they do. The last *Skoliad* will appear next issue and Lily and Mogens will be leaving after that point. Thank you for your professionalism and the dedication you have had to the column through the years.

A special thank you goes out to my *Mayhem* assistant editor LYNN MILLER for her dedication and extra help behind the scenes. When the last of the *Mayhem* problems appears in issue 2 of the next Volume, Lynn will continue on with the journal, thank goodness!

I thank the staff at the CMS head office in Ottawa. In particular I thank JOHAN RUDNICK, DENISE CHARRON, and STEVE LA ROCQUE. Their behind the scenes support of me at *Crux Mathematicorum* is greatly appreciated. I thank TAMI EHRLICH and the staff at Thistle Printing for taking the files that I send them and turning them into the journal you have in your hands.

I must also thank the OTTAWA DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD for partnering with the CMS to allow me to work as the Editor-in-Chief. In particular I would like to thank director JENNIFER ADAMS, superintendent PINO BUFONE, Human Resources Officer JENNIFER BALDELLI and principal KEVIN GILMORE for their support and encouragement.

I also must thank my wife JULIE and my sons SAMUEL and SIMON for their continuing support. You guys always have my back, even though I am a little strange at times.

Finally, I sincerely thank all of the readers of **CRUX**. The journal is really a function of the contributions we get from our readers. I look forward to another n years of your contributions, letters and email. Now I have to start working on issue 1 . . .

Shawn Godin

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Crux Mathematicorum with Mathematical Mayhem

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