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Chi Alpha Mu Newsletter

Spring 2015

News From the President

May is here and in a few weeks we'll be out of school for the summer. It's hard to believe that another school year has come and gone, and it's also hard to believe that my term as Mu Alpha Theta president will be over in just a few months. I have enjoyed serving as your president, and I have especially enjoyed seeing the growth of Chi Alpha Mu since Mu Alpha Theta acquired the organization in 2008. Thank you, sponsors, for your hard work—not only for helping the organization grow, but for what you do for your students!

I hope that while you reflect over your school year, that you celebrate the successes that you have had in the classroom. If you feel that you have any outstanding activities that other schools would like to hear about, send them our way. We would love to include them in the fall newsletter!

The end of school means that you may be sending many of your students off to high school. If there is a Mu Alpha Theta chapter at your high school, be sure to encourage your students to volunteer at the chapter activities until they are eligible for membership. If there is no chapter at the school, do your best to find a teacher who would be willing to start a chapter. The chapter petition can be found on the Mu Alpha Theta website. Mu Alpha Theta membership means eligibility for scholarships, contests, grants, awards, and eligibility to attend the summer national convention.

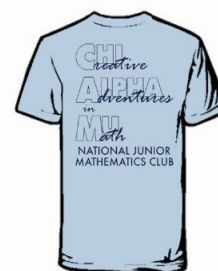
I hope that you have a wonderful summer and that you return to school ready to inspire a new group of students. Thank you again for your hard work!

Todd Taylor

Check out the website for merchandise:

t-shirts, buttons, certificates, banners and more...

www.chialphamu.org



Reminder: It is critical to remember to get permission from the National Office before using Chi Alpha Mu's name on your Facebook page or on other social networking sites. A teacher or other approved adult must have administrative oversight of any site using our name.

From the National Office

Please consider applying for one of the following grants. Applications are attached to this newsletter and can be found at:

<http://www.chialphamu.org/Merchandise>

Summer Grants

The Governing Council of Chi Alpha Mu has approved Summer Grants of up to \$500 to support middle school students in a Chi Alpha Mu chapter who will attend a summer math program. It is better not to apply for funding until the student has been accepted into the program. Middle school members may request grants through the summer after eighth grade graduation. Grant money may be used to pay tuition or fees for a summer math program but Chi Alpha Mu reserves the right to provide a maximum of funds to any one program. Funds will be provided only once per student. Funds for these grants are limited and not all grant applications may be funded or may be funded at a reduced amount depending on the remainder of money available.



Chapter Grants

The Governing Council of Chi Alpha Mu has approved up to \$1000 to be given out as Chapter Grants. Chi chapters looking for support to help pay for chapter activities may submit a grant proposal for up to \$250. The grants will be considered on a first-come/first-served basis, but not all grants may be approved as written. Chapters are eligible for no more than \$250 over a five year period. Funds may be used to purchase supplies for a math activity or for math games, workbooks, or software. They may also be used for transportation to and from a math activity or to provide support to bring in an invited speaker.

Math Competition Grants

New Competition Grants!

Approved by the Governing Council in January 2015, Competition Grants will provide up to \$250 to help a Chi Alpha Mu chapter to compete in a math competition at their school or away. Funds may be used for entrance fees, transportation, or other needed expenses. Funds are limited, but please apply. We want to support activities for your members.

Free TI-84 Plus Calculators!

The National Office has only a few free TI-84 Plus calculators to give away. The first chapters to email and request one will receive one calculator each.

****Chapters who have received a calculator in the past two years are not eligible.****

Email Kay Weiss at matheta@ou.edu

Chi Alpha Mu Coordinator - Judith Deeley

Guardian Angels Catholic Middle School, Clearwater, Florida

Congratulations! You are approaching the successful completion of another year of inspiring and motivating students in mathematics. I hope that your summer will be both rejuvenating and relaxing. As you contemplate your plans for the next year, consider reviewing all of the links, activities, grants and competitions at our website. I hope you have the chance to experience some professional development opportunities. There are a few outlined in this newsletter to consider.



I had the chance to attend the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics 2015 Annual Meeting and Exposition as both presenter and attendee. It was a most rewarding experience that I highly recommend for all of you. Next year the event will be held in San Francisco. There is a slight reduction in registration fee if you volunteer to present. I found that preparing for the presentation was a learning experience in and of itself. As I developed my workshop throughout the year, I found interesting research related to my topic that has become integrated as part of some of my units moving into next year.

Approximately 10,000 professionals in our field representing most of the United States and forty-six countries were in attendance. I met many new people who will now be a part of my network. I attended many of the over 700 sessions offered and visited as many of the over 300 exhibitors that related to what I teach as I could. I went home with a plethora of ideas to improve my methods of teaching and several discounts for purchasing supplies for my classroom.



In addition to the math conference, we toured Boston's Freedom Trail and attended Math Educators' night at Fenway Park to watch the Boston Red Sox play the Baltimore Orioles. Boston has many excellent restaurants and we tried several. In addition to our conference, Boston Marathon participants were in town gearing up for their event the Monday after we departed.

The exposition was a great time personally and professionally. I hope you consider attending the next one in San Francisco. Go to NCTM.org for more information and many resources. Apply for Raytheon's Math Hero grant or the Presidential award as a way to fund your trip.

As our President, Todd Taylor, suggested in his opening to this newsletter, please submit any ideas or activities that you have used in your classroom that you found to be most effective. We enjoy seeing what is happening around the country. We will share in our newsletter.

If you have any questions or have suggestions for any of the upcoming newsletters,
please email me at jdeeley@gacsfl.com

Opportunities for Students and Teachers

Honeywell Hometown Solutions (HHS) is now accepting applications for the 2015

Honeywell Educators @ Space Academy (HESA), a week-long, high-energy learning program for middle school science and math teachers. Hosted by the U.S. Space & Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama, HESA is designed to inspire teachers to develop a new generation of scientists in their classroom. Teachers learn new teaching practices in STEM education by participating in a series of astronaut-style exercises and simulations, build and test their own rockets, meet veteran astronauts and so much more. Since 2004, more than 2000 HESA alumni from 56 countries, have reached more than 2 million students, inspiring many to pursue STEM education and careers.



Applications for 2016 will be out in September 2015.

Scholarship includes: Tuition for the five-day program, round-trip airfare, meals, accommodation and program materials

Go to <http://educators.honeywell.com/> to apply



Raytheon's Math Moves U - all of the following are found at

<http://www.mathmovesu.com/>

Raytheon's MathMovesU is an innovative program designed to engage middle school students with math. To include algebra, geometry, decimals, fractions and word problems. MathMovesU.com can be used to supplement your classroom curriculum. There are also a variety of resources such as classroom ideas, partnerships, games and scholarships.



Math Moves U Scholarships



Do you have a 6th, 7th or 8th grade student interested in competing for a \$1,000 scholarship to either save for college or to use for a summer institute or camp?

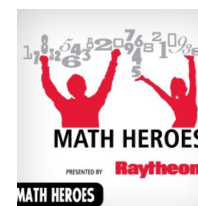
Watch for the posting of the MathMovesU scholarship

Entries will be due sometime in February 2016.

A matching grant is awarded to the math program of the school in which the student was awarded the scholarship. This past year, the prompt was Math is in the world all around us. Morning, noon, and night – how does math move you or the world around you?

Math Hero Grants

Nominate a Math Hero. Math teachers and volunteers who work with students are eligible to receive a \$2,500 Math Hero Award which is accompanied by a matching \$2,500 grant to their school or approved math-related nonprofit organization of their choice. This is awarded to individuals once per career.



Competitions

American Mathematics Competitions

<http://www.maa.org/math-competitions>



Dedicated to strengthening the mathematical capabilities of our nation's youth, the AMC program identifies, recognizes, and rewards excellence in mathematics through a series of national contests. The American Mathematics Competitions (AMC) are math competitions run by MAA. The AMC 8 Contest is for students in the sixth, seventh, or eighth grade (as well as accelerated fourth or fifth graders). See the "Give Aways" page for information about preparation materials.

Rocket City Math League

<http://mualphatheta.org/Contests/RocketCity.aspx>

If your chapter has not participated in this competition before, we highly recommend that you do. Please explore the website and when it is time to return next year, make a plan to include this on your calendar.

<http://www.rocketcitymath.org/>

Other National math contests and State competitions can be found at:

<http://www.chialphamu.org/Contests/Contests.aspx>

Mathcounts: Mathcounts offers a national team competition in May each year. It is hoped that local high school Mu Alpha Theta chapters will provide coaches or team mentors to help your school compete. Go to mathcounts.org for details. Registration for the year has begun.

Purple Comet! Math Meet: This is an annual, free, online, international, team mathematics competition for middle and high school students.

National STEM Video Game Challenge: A free youth video game making competition for students in grades 5-12 to promote skills related to science, technology, engineering, and math.

Toshiba/NSTA ExploraVision: This is a competition for students from all grade levels. The students must pick a technology and project what it will be like in the future and what discoveries will need to be made in order for the changes to be realized. Groups of two, three or four will describe their research in both a written description and five simulated web page graphics.

And many more...

Please go to <http://www.chialphamu.org/Contests/Contests.aspx> for all of the details and links.

Study Buddy—Mu Alpha Theta volunteer tutors

If a student in your class or after school club needs a tutor and has access to the internet either at home, at school or at an after school club, the qualifying student can be registered for help through Study Buddy :

<http://www.studybuddyhelp.org/>

Mu Alpha Theta is encouraging their members to participate in Study Buddy as tutors as a way to give back and to receive community service and volunteer hours. The goal for the Study Buddy organization is to seek and create partnerships with school districts, schools, and after-school organizations to reach and support those students who need math or science help. Please visit the website for full details about qualifications and registration.

New Items and Reminders

Looking for your local Mu Alpha Theta club?

It is simple. Any school can go to www.mualphatheta.org and click on the “Find a Chapter” link on the left. The name, city, and state for every chapter can be brought up by the search functions there. Any Chi chapter can then check the internet for phone numbers for those schools.

Mu Alpha Theta clubs host math competitions and could provide mentors and tutors for your Chi Alpha Mu club.



Sizzlin' Summer Suggestions

Go to www.chialpahmu.org for details about a few options available for the summer.

Many more exist in which the summer grants are available:

Residential Summer Math Camp

Residential summer math program for select 6th-8th grade students—
June 21—August, 2015



<http://www.txstate.edu/mathworks/camps/hsmc.html>



Math Zoom Academy
Transform Gifted Youth into Successful Leaders!

<http://www.mathzoom.org/camps>

The Western Camp will be held at UCLA from June 21 through July 10, the Eastern Camp will be held at Boston College from July 12 through July 31 and the Mid-Western Camp will be held at The University of Chicago from August 2 through August 15.

Chi Alpha Mu

Chapter Grant

Chi Alpha Mu is offering grants of up to \$250 per active chapter to support chapter projects that help to inspire interest in and promote the enjoyment of mathematics. No chapter will be awarded more than \$250 in a five year period. Funds are available on a first come/first serve basis until our budget for these grants is depleted. **There is no deadline for the application, but once funds are gone, further grants will not be possible for the remainder of that fiscal year.**

Please note that there is no promise that every grant will be approved nor that the full amount requested will be available.

Please apply before incurring expenses, when possible, to determine what funds we have available. Once a grant is approved, receipts or invoices for expenses should be sent no later than one month after incurring the approved expenses. Funding will be adjusted to cover actual expenses. Please estimate a bit high, since once an amount for the grant is approved, additional funds will not be available to cover excess expenses.

When sending in receipts or invoices, make sure to tell us to whom the check should be written.

An active Chi Alpha Mu chapter may use grant funds

- to travel somewhere of mathematical interest
- to pay an honorarium or provide a gift to a guest speaker
- to help defray costs for Chi Alpha Mu members to participate in a math event
- to host a math activity for students or teachers from other schools
- to run a fun math event, applied math day, or a Pi Day Celebration with math activities

You come up with the idea, we will try to help. Funds will NOT be granted for an event that is meant to be a “fundraiser”.

If possible, email, fax, or mail the completed application to:

Chi Alpha Mu Chapter Grant
c/o University of Oklahoma
3200 Marshall AVE, Ste. 190
Norman, OK 73019

If emailing, please scan or fax the signature page. No application will be considered without a signature page.

Chi Alpha Mu

Chapter Grant

APPLICATION FORM

1. Please email information or **type/print** in black ink.

Name of School: _____

School Address: _____

Street Address

City State Zip

Sponsoring Teacher's Name: _____

Teacher's Email: _____

Total dollar amount being requested: _____

2. Write a description of the project for which you are asking for funds. Include all details necessary to support your project, including what, when, where, and who will benefit from the funds. Explain how this activity will inspire interest or enjoyment of mathematics. (You may use a separate page.)

3. Please itemized expenses you would like us to reimbursed or pay.

By accepting funds from Chi Alpha Mu, we agree not to receive funds to reimburse us for the same expenses from any other source.

Teacher's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Principal's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Chi Alpha Mu

Summer Grant

Chi Alpha Mu is offering Summer Math Program Grants to Chi Alpha Mu members. Grants may be requested for up to \$500 per student and our preference is to send funds directly to the program. It is better not to apply for funding until the student has been accepted into the program. Middle school members may request grants through the summer after eighth grade graduation. Grant money may be used to pay tuition or fees for a summer math program but Chi Alpha Mu reserves the right to provide a maximum of funds to any one program. Funds will be provided only once per student. Funds for these grants are limited and not all grant applications may be funded or may be funded at a reduced amount depending on the remainder of money available.

If possible, mail all required items in the same 10" x 13" envelope to:

Chi Alpha Mu Summer Grants

3200 Marshall Ave, Suite 190

Norman, OK 73019

Envelope should include:

- Application Form
- Student Essay
- Description of Summer Program and Acceptance Letter
- One signed letter of recommendation
- Itemized list of funds being requested
- Student's official middle school transcript

There is no deadline for the application. Grant money will be available for acceptable applications until it is all distributed.

Please email the office to check on availability of funds before submitting your application:

matheta@ou.edu

Chi Alpha Mu

Summer Grant

APPLICATION FORM

1. Please type or print in black ink.

Name: _____

First M.I. Last

Home Address: _____

Street Address / Apt. Number

City State Zip

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

School Name and Address _____

City State Zip

Chi Alpha Mu Sponsor's Name and Email Address: _____

1. On a separate sheet of paper, write a short, double spaced essay describing why you wish to attend your summer math program. What caused you to apply to this program and what do you hope to gain by attending? Tell us something about math activities in which you have participated in the past. Please write legibly or type.

2. Attach one additional page telling us about other middle school activities, honors, awards, community service, or Chi Alpha Mu activities in which you have participated.

3. Provide a brochure from your summer program or a web link to their official information site. We would like to know the length of the program and would prefer proof that you have been accepted to the program. If you are concerned about time, at least provide some official indication that you have applied and are being considered for the program.

Chi Alpha Mu

Competition Grant

Chi Alpha Mu is offering grants of up to \$250 per active chapter to help pay entrance fees or expenses associated with a math competition in which the chapter members wish to compete. No chapter will be awarded more than \$250 in a five year period. Funds are available on a first come/first serve basis until our budget for these grants is depleted. **There is no deadline for the application, but once funds are gone, further grants will not be possible for the remainder of that fiscal year.**

Please note that there is no promise that every grant will be approved nor that the full amount requested will be available.

Please apply before incurring expenses, when possible, to determine what funds we have available. Once a grant is approved, receipts or invoices for expenses should be sent no later than one month after having expenses approved. Funding will be adjusted to cover actual expenses. Please estimate a bit high, since once an amount for the grant is approved, additional funds will not be available to cover excess expenses.

When sending in receipts or invoices, make sure to tell us to whom the check should be written.

An active Chi Alpha Mu chapter may use grant funds

- For expenses to travel somewhere for a math contest
- to help defray other costs for Chi Alpha Mu members to participate in a math competition
- to pay entrance fees or per student costs to compete

If possible, email, fax, or mail the completed application to:

Chi Alpha Mu Competition Grant

c/o University of Oklahoma

3200 Marshall AVE, Ste. 190

Norman, OK 73019

If emailing, please scan or fax the signature page. No application will be considered without a signature page.

Chi Alpha Mu

Competition Grant

APPLICATION FORM

1. Please email information or **type/print** in black ink.

Name of School: _____

School Address: _____

Street Address

City State Zip

Sponsoring Teacher's Name: _____

Teacher's Email: _____

Total dollar amount being requested: _____

2. Write a description of the contest for which you are requesting funds.

3. Please itemized expenses you would like us to reimburse or pay.

When sending in receipts or invoices, make sure to tell us to whom the check should be written.

By accepting funds from Chi Alpha Mu, we agree not to receive funds to reimburse us for the same expenses from any other source.

Teacher's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Principal's Signature: _____ Date: _____