

## GRCTM Fall Conference

Please join us at our Fall Conference to be held on Tuesday evening, October 17, 2006 at John Marshall High School located at 4225 Old Brook Road, Richmond. The theme of the event is "Math Investigations." We are excited to announce our keynote speaker, Linda Carne, President and Chief Operating Officer of the Virginia Institute of Forensic Science and Medicine.

For this Fall Conference, the conference registration fee will be waived for first time new GRCTM members with a paid membership and those same new members who pre-register for the conference dinner will receive \$5.00 off of their dinner as a welcome to GRCTM. This is a wonderful opportunity for

you to encourage your co-workers to join GRCTM.

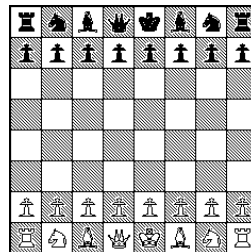
Interested speakers are encouraged to present ideas at the conference incorporating mathematics into scientific explorations, solutions to mysteries, or applications of mathematics in crime scene investigation. Other topics important to math educators are also welcome for grades K-12. Please contact Betsey Davis at

**bdavis@mathsciencecenter.info** if you are interested in presenting or presiding. Look for the speaker's, presider's and registration forms later this summer available at <http://www.grctm.soe.vcu.edu/>. Speakers will receive free conference registration and a free dinner.

Betsey Davis

## The Game of Chess

The game of chess has always fascinated mathematicians, and there is reason to suppose that the possession of great powers of playing that game is in many features very much the possession of great mathematical ability. There are the different pieces to learn, the pawns, the knights, the bishops, the castles, and the queen and king. The board possesses certain possible combinations of squares, as in rows, diagonals, etc. The pieces are subject to certain rules by



which their motions are governed, and there are other rules governing the players...

One has only to increase the number of pieces, to enlarge the field of the board, and to produce new rules which are to govern either the pieces or the player, to have a pretty good idea of what mathematics consists.

J. B. Shaw

"What Is Mathematics?" *Bull. Amer. Soc.*, **18** (1912), 386-7

as quoted in R. E. Moritz, *Memorabilia Mathematica*, Math. Asso. Amer., ©1914, 1942, #840, p. 132f

## Comments from the Past President

Another school year has ended and the time has come for me to ride into the sunset of the GRCTM presidency. The past two years have been very rewarding and I have enjoyed the challenge of each position. The Richmond area is blessed with an organization dedicated to the betterment of mathematics education and we should all be proud of our part in that group. Thank you all for your help and support during my time as President-elect and President. I look forward to new experiences and continued involvement in GRCTM under the direction of our new leaders. Please join me in taking an active roll in our organization, so we can do more and be more than we are already.

Terri Okes

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