

Bicentennial Celebration of Mathematics Journals in America

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American Philosophical Society
427 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106-3386

David E. Zitarelli, Department of Mathematics, Temple University

Title: A mathematical community in the Age of Jefferson

Abstract: This talk describes the community of mathematical enthusiasts who contributed to, and participated in, George Baron's journal, *The Mathematical Correspondent*. It portrays the major contributors by examining their formal education, training in mathematics, primary interests, and geographical spread. Also, the subscription list is scanned to depict the wide range of individuals who subscribed to the journal.

Thomas N. Baker, Department of History, SUNY Potsdam

Title: Trouble at West Point: The stormy tenure of George Baron, teacher of mathematics

Abstract: This talk will survey George Baron's brief and stormy career as the first teacher of mathematics at the soon to be established United States Military Academy at West Point. Along the way we will learn something of Baron's personality and professional experience, as well as of the travails of early military education in the United States.

V. Frederick Rickey, Department of Mathematics, United States Military Academy

Title: George Baron, an early American mathematician

Abstract: George Baron (1769-1812) was the zeroeth mathematics professor at the United States Military Academy because he was at West Point in 1801-1802, before the Academy was founded. He taught from Charles Hutton's *A Course in Mathematics* but we do not know precisely how he taught. The contents of this text will be described in order to give a feeling for the level of mathematics involved. In addition, *The Mathematical Correspondent* will be examined in order to make a judgment about Baron's mathematical ability and contributions to mathematics.