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REPORT ON THE TENTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON FIBONACCI NUMBERS AND THEIR APPLICATIONS

The Tenth International Conference on Fibonacci Numbers and Their Applications held at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, Arizona, from June 24-28, 2002, found over 70 enthusiastic Fibonacci number lovers from Australia, Canada, England, Germany, Italy, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Poland, Romania, Scotland, and the USA gathered together to hear over 50 excellent presentations. The gathering was attended by both old and new Fibonacci friends, but it was sadly noted that several regulars were unable to be with us this year. They were both warmly remembered and greatly missed. A special thanks to organizer Cal Long and all the folks at Northern Arizona University for their hospitality and generosity in hosting this outstanding conference.

Monday through Wednesday morning found us savoring a variety of talks on things theoretical, operational, and applicable of a Fibonacci and related nature, with members sharing ideas while renewing old friendships and forming new ones.

Later on Wednesday the group was doubly treated. After the morning talks, we were entertained by mathemagician Art Benjamin's most impressive presentation; displaying his skills and cleverness by mentally performing challenging mathematical manipulations and zapping out magic squares as if (yes!) by magic. After graciously sharing some of the secrets of his wizardry with us, he dazzled one and all by mentally and accurately multiplying two five-place numbers to terminate his mesmerizing performance.

That afternoon we were bussed to our second wonder of the day: The Grand Canyon. Here we were able to spend several hours gazing at nature's wondrous spectacle. Oh to be a condor for an hour! In the evening a steak dinner was catered for us as we exchanged social and mathematical dialog to the background of exquisite scenic wonder at the edge of the Canyon. On the way back to the campus, we were able to witness a magnificent display of stars but an arm length away in the clear Arizona night sky.

On Thursday and Friday it was back to many more interesting, informative presentations and during the breaks we were treated to Peter Anderson's marvelous computer display of the many photographs he took of association members and their families enjoying the Canyon.

The closing banquet on Friday night terminated with a special tribute to Calvin T. Long for his very distinguished career of 50 years as teacher, mentor, and researcher, as well as valued friend, contributor to, and supporter of The Fibonacci Association. He was both praised and roasted by President Fred T. Howard and former editor Gerald E. Bergum. After much laughter and tears, Cal received a standing ovation from this proud and grateful group of his friends and colleagues.

After over an hour of cordial good-byes, everyone eventually drifted away vowing that, Lord willing, we'll all meet again in Braunschweig, Germany, in 2004.

Charles K. Cook