



FOCAL POINTS

Geography Teacher of the Year

Lyn Groves

Guest Speaker

*Russ
McCabe
of
Delaware
Archives*



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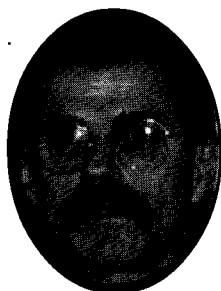
ALLIANCE DINNER A HIGHLIGHT OF SPRING

From beginning to end, the forty-four people who attended the Alliance Spring Dinner on March 15 enjoyed themselves. As they arrived, they found pictures of historical markers on their tables; they tried to put the markers on the county maps where they belong. Later the key was displayed. This game is housed in the Alliance office and may be borrowed.



The festivities opened with a welcome from **Peter Rees**, who thanked some of the people who had helped prepare for the dinner.

Maple Dale provided its usual excellent meal, following which the awards winners were announced.



Neil Webster and **Annie Neubauer** helped with the presentations, which were a high point, as always.



Lyn Groves, a social studies teacher at H. B. duPont Middle School, was the recipient of the Delaware Geographic Alliance Geography Teacher of the Year award.

It's always a high point of the dinner when the award(s) for Distinguished Service

are given out, partly because they are a closely kept secret before the presentation. The Alliance gave three Distinguished Service awards this

year to three very deserving TCs.

All three have been active and have contributed greatly to the Alliance:



◀ **Cindy Baker** (ASGI-98),



Terry Kopple ▶ (ASGI-92),



◀ **Becky Reed** (ASGI-98)

and

Congratulations, all.

Happily, Sam Felicia of Rand McNally was able to join us this year; he is always generous to and supportive of Alliance efforts.

After the honors had been taken care of, the guest speaker, Russ McCabe, described some of the resources in the Delaware State Archives and how they have been used in the past to teach geography. He was at once entertaining and informative. Since one of his duties is overseeing the historical marker program, he was pleased to see our marker game. He also shared some history of the new building and explained the repair work that needs to be done.

Mary Alice Aguilar, Pat Killalea, Annie Neubauer and Neil Webster all helped.

MEET TWO DELAWARE TEACHERS

Brenda S. Treherne

(ASGI-00) holds degrees from Millersville University and Wilmington College. A seventeen year veteran, she is part of the Seaford High School social studies department.

Seaford operates on a block schedule, and Brenda loves it. She says she never feels herself to be rushed and believes her students attain a greater depth of understanding than they did before block scheduling, and she is able to get to know them better as well.

Brenda teaches one section of twelfth grade comparative government and three sections of ninth grade American government. In all her classes she makes heavy use of maps.

Her students followed the presidential election closely last fall. Along with students across the state, they participated in a straw vote. They also mapped the electoral college results at home on election night. Wite-out was a popular Florida color. However, Brenda says that by and large her students are not fundamentally engaged by politics. They were, in fact, nonplused by her pointing out that they would be voting in the next presidential election.

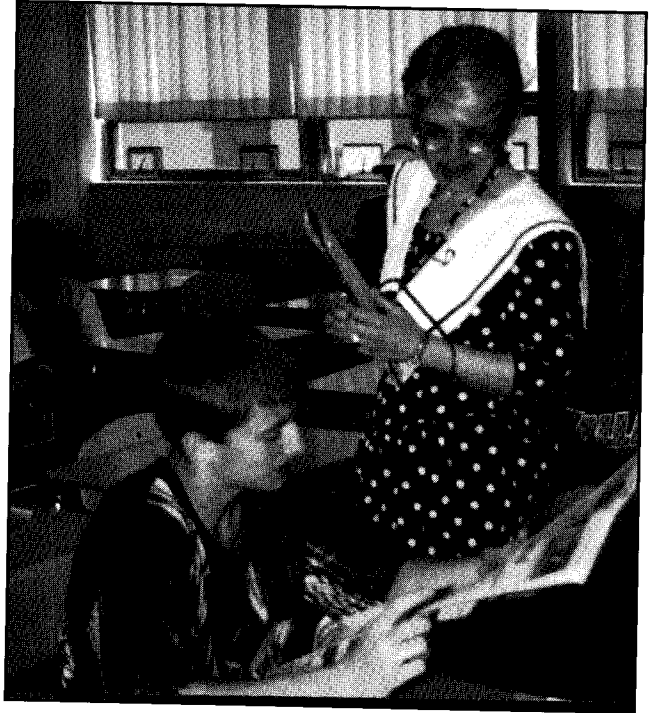
Brenda hopes that she'll soon have an opportunity to teach geography. She plans to take the AP institute this summer along with a Seaford colleague.

Cheri F. Bragg holds a B.S. from New York University and is bringing her career to a close after thirty-three years. She'll retire in June from her seventh grade social studies position in the Lake Forest District.

The first quarter of the year is devoted entirely to geography, but Cheri stresses it all through the year. The class we observed began with current events reports. Half were delivered orally and half in written form. The oral reports took a short time, but in the follow-up period students used atlases to find physical and political features involved. They continued using map-reading skills to answer questions such as "Why did the plane take off from that city?" or, "Which

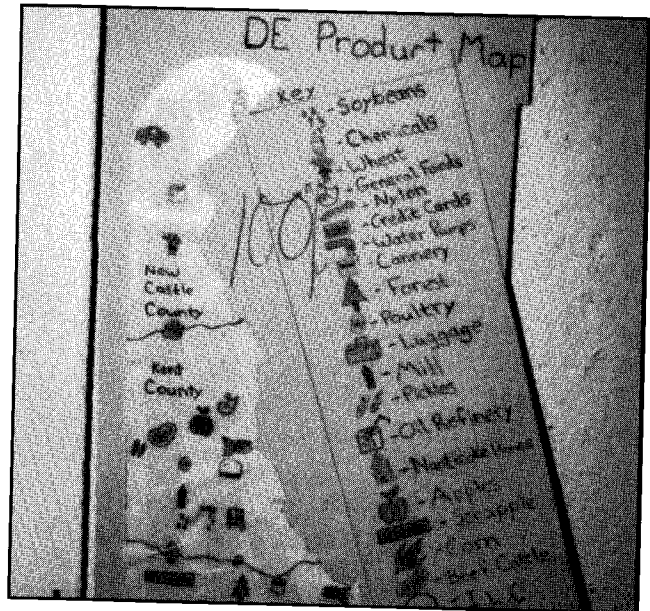
coast of South America were they on?" The students were engaged and volunteered confidently. After current events, the class moved on to their continuing study of George Washington. Again using atlases, they picked out possible routes from Mt. Vernon to New York City for Washington's inauguration. Again the students were clearly comfortable in

their skills. There was an interesting discussion about whether he would have gone Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York or, crossing the Chesapeake, Baltimore, Wilmington, New York.



Cheri listens to Danny Hazel give a current events report

It is through exercises like this that Cheri is able to integrate geography heavily into the three quarters of the year devoted to history.



You may wonder why we are highlighting a social studies teacher who is not a TC. Cheri was very active and instrumental in the formation of the Alliance and was an enormous help in putting out the first few issues of the newsletter. In 1989, she was also a force behind the drive to find and mark the geographic center of Delaware. The marker for that spot is on Rt. 12 east of Felton.