1077-Q1-2590 Carolyn Connell* (cconnell@westminstercollege.edu). The Intermountain Section: an exceptionally brief history. Preliminary report.

As the 29th and newest section of the MAA, only about 40 years in existence, one would think that a complete history would be at one's fingertips. However, it's amazing how quickly facts/dates/important events disappear from records. We have a collective project in the section currently to re-create the history of these years of our section. Several of the original active MAA members of the section are no longer with us, so we are contacting all of our 'senior' members to gather as much information as possible.

The Intermountain section, which consists of Utah and much of southern Idaho, split off from the Rocky Mountain Section in about 1970, not due to any feuds or disagreement, but rather due to the geologic fact of a continental divide that made travel between the two sections difficult except in summer months. Our section encompasses an area that is relatively sparsely populated, with only 14 colleges and universities, and about 160 MAA members currently. The history project in the section has already generated interesting discussions which will hopefully result in a fairly complete history of our past forty years. (Received September 22, 2011)