

# BAMA 3

School Year 2013—2014  
Join us for a free talk...

## Ivars Peterson

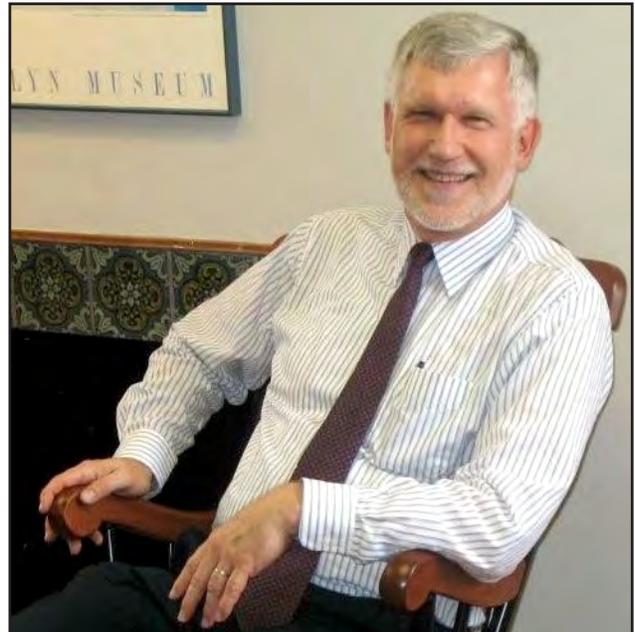
### *Pancake Sorting, Prefix Reversals, and DNA Rearrangements*



**Santa Clara University, Daly Science 207**  
**Friday, November 15, 2013, 7:30 pm**

The seemingly simple problem of sorting a stack of differently sized pancakes has become a staple of theoretical computer science and led to insights into the evolution of species. First proposed in *The American Mathematical Monthly*, the problem attracted the attention of noted mathematicians and computer scientists. It now plays an important role in the realm of molecular biology for making sense of DNA rearrangements.

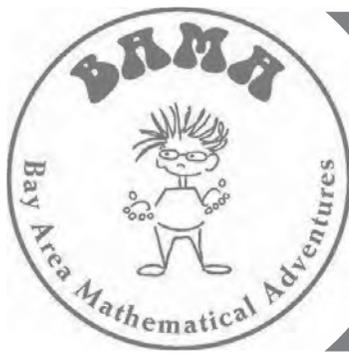
***Ivars Peterson*** is Director of Publications at the Mathematical Association of America in Washington, D.C. As an award-winning mathematics writer, he previously worked at *Science News* for more than 25 years and served as editor of *Science News Online* and *Science News for Kids*. His books include *The Mathematical Tourist*, *Islands of Truth*, *Newton's Clock*, *The Jungles of Randomness*, and *Fragments of Infinity: A Kaleidoscope of Math and Art*. He writes "*The Mathematical Tourist*" blog.



\* See back for map and directions.

Visit the Bay Area Mathematical Adventures (BAMA) at <http://mathematicaladventures.org>

To receive email notifications about BAMA talks, please contact Frank Farris at [ffarris@scu.edu](mailto:ffarris@scu.edu).



# BAMA

## Bay Area Mathematical Adventures

A series of presentations on diverse topics by remarkable mathematicians. All talks are free and open to the public.

### WHY?

BAMA aims to challenge and motivate students to think mathematically. Speakers will present real mathematics, and will share with the audience modern views of mathematics. Some talks will provide students with related problems, or will enable teachers to expand later on the topics with their students.

### WHO?

BAMA is aimed at bright high-school age students. However, all are welcome: younger or older students, teachers, parents, and the general public.

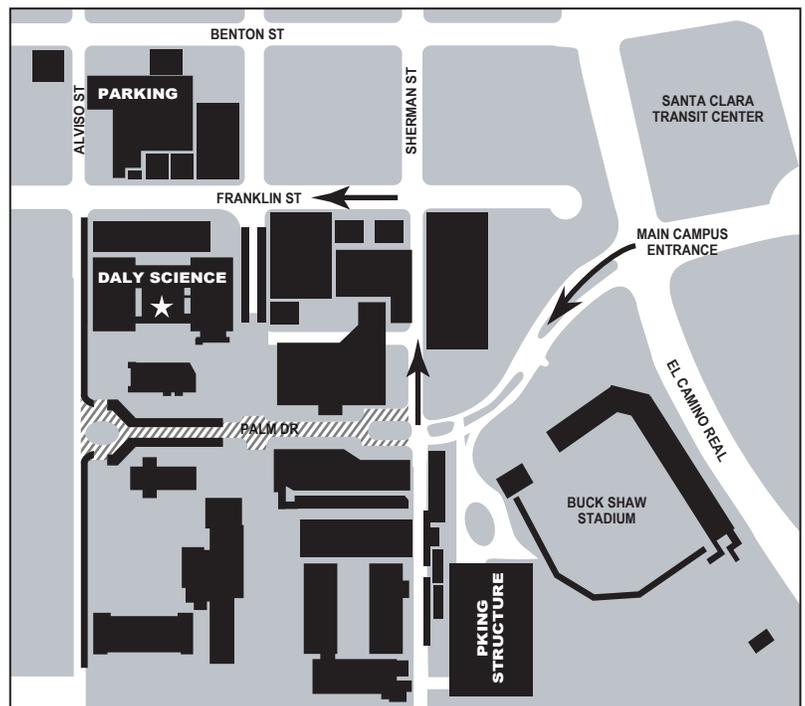
### WHEN?

Evening talks will be given approximately once a month between September and April. Each talk will be self-contained (speakers will not assume their audiences have attended previous talks).

### WHERE?

#### **Santa Clara University Daly Science, rm. 207**

- From US Highway 101, take the De La Cruz Blvd/Santa Clara exit and follow the signs to El Camino real and main campus entrance.
  - From I-280, take I-880 north toward Oakland to The Alameda exit. Turn left onto The Alameda (which becomes El Camino Real) to main campus entrance.
  - From I-880, take The Alameda exit, travel north (The Alameda becomes El Camino Real) to main campus entrance.
- Note:* If you bring your car to a talk at SCU, use the formal entrance to the University and ask the guard where to park for the BAMA talk. If you have printed a parking coupon (see website), exchange it for a parking pass; otherwise, the parking fee is \$3 for BAMA. Palm Drive is now closed, so leave a little extra time to find your way.
- If you have a disability and require reasonable accommodation, please call anyone on the steering committee, or 1-800-735-2929 (TTY—California Relay) 24 hours in advance.



#### **SPONSORS:**

**San Jose State University**  
Departments of Mathematics and Computer Science  
College of Engineering

**Santa Clara University**  
Department of Mathematics and Computer Science  
American Institute of Mathematics  
Mathematical Sciences Research Institute

#### **FOR MORE INFO:**

<http://www.mathematicaladventures.org>

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