

Bing Speaker Series



Dr. Michael Starbird
Dept. of Mathematics
University of Texas-Austin
Wednesday, April 8, 2015
5:00-6:00 PM
DERR 113

Life and Legacy of R H Bing

In this talk, I share personal anecdotes of the life and legacy of R H Bing. Bing was an undergraduate mathematics major at Southwest Texas State Teachers College (now Texas State University) and graduated 80 years ago. He went on to become a mathematician of international renown and served as president of both the American Mathematical Society and the Mathematical Association of America. He made significant contributions in the area of topology including nurturing future topologists as the mathematics genealogy tree well attests. I will also share some strategies of thinking drawing from the book, *"The 5 Elements of Effective Thinking"*, co-authored with Edward B. Burger, which Bing exemplified.

Bio: Professor Michael Starbird is a University Distinguished Teaching Professor of Mathematics at The University of Texas at Austin. He has received more than fifteen teaching awards including the Mathematical Association of America's 2007 national teaching award, the Minnie Stevens Piper Professor statewide award, the UT Regents' Outstanding Teaching Award, and most of the UT-wide teaching awards. He has given hundreds of lectures and dozens of workshops on effective teaching and effective thinking. He co-authored, with Edward Burger, the textbook *The Heart of Mathematics: An Invitation to Effective Thinking* and has co-authored two Inquiry Based Learning textbooks.