

American Statistical Association's Annual Holiday Gift List -- Gifts for Everyone from Your Favorite Geeks to the Littlest Kids

ALEXANDRIA, VA, DECEMBER 11, 2009 -- The American Statistical Association offers the following list of holiday gift suggestions for the statisticians, mathematicians, and others on your list, including the kids. The suggestions, listed below in no particular order, come from ASA's Media Experts.

- Clocks seem to be a favorite gift of several of our experts:

Irrational Numbers clock (so you can tell when it's pi o'clock)

http://www.signals.com/signals/Item_Irrational-Numbers-Wall-Clock_HH6134_ps_dpr.html

Geek Clock, where all the numerals have been replaced by the equivalent notation. (A cheat sheet included with each clock) More here:

<http://www.uncommongoods.com/item/item.jsp?itemId=18145>

Pop Quiz Math Clock

<http://www.perpetualkid.com/pop-quiz-math-clock.aspx>

- The **Pi Plate**, a gift we're told has been appreciated by statisticians

http://www.signals.com/signals/Home-Garden_1EA/Kitchen-Tabletop-Housewares_1EJ/Item_The-Pi-Dish_VC4603_ps_cti-1EJ.html

- A subscription to the soon-to-appear new journal , **Statistics, Politics, and Policy**. Read more about it here: <http://www.bepress.com/spp/>

- Baseball fans should enjoy the following books:

The Best Book of Baseball Facts and Stats, by Luke Friend, Don Zminda, John Mehno, Firefly Books, Limited, 2005

The Numbers Game: Baseball's Lifelong Fascination with Statistics, by Alan Schwartz, Thomas Dunne Books, 2004

A Mathematician at the Ballpark: Odds and Probabilities for Baseball Fans, Ken Ross, Pi Press (available on amazon.com)

- Books are always a favorite gift of most of our experts. Some of their non-baseball suggestions:

Teaching Statistics Using Baseball, by Jim Albert, Mathematical Association of America "...much more interesting than the standard stats textbook examples of balls drawn from urns," says our expert. Read review here: <http://www.maa.org/reviews/statswithbaseball.html>

Why Did They Do That? An Introduction to Forensic Decision Analysis, by David W. Peterson, Lulu.com. (Available on Amazon)

- Practical jokes were proposed by one of our experts:

- A pocket calculator that squirts water when one presses the "=" key.
- z-tables that are slightly wrong.

- Tee-shirts with all the statistical jokes on them (using front and back, there is plenty of room for both jokes)
- Surprise a colleague or student with the **gift of ASA membership**, a gift that keeps giving throughout the year, providing the recipient with valuable knowledge and resources. Join online at <http://www.amstat.org/membership/holidays2009/index.cfm?fuseaction=main>
- Surprise your friends and family with a unique gift from the **ASA Marketplace**. The marketplace features T-shirts, outerwear, children's clothing, mugs, and more. Some of our experts' favorites: Children's t-shirts – "Cutie Pi," "Dependent Variable" and "I'm Statistically Significant"; adult t-shirts – "I Will Derive," "Top Ten Reasons to be a Statistician" and "Statisticians Are Spatial."

About the American Statistical Association

The American Statistical Association (ASA), a scientific and educational society founded in Boston in 1839, is the second oldest continuously operating professional society in the United States. For 170 years, ASA has been providing its 18,000 members serving in academia, government, and industry and the public with up-to-date, useful information about statistics. Located in Alexandria, VA, the ASA has a proud tradition of service to statisticians, quantitative scientists, and users of statistics across a wealth of academic areas and applications. For additional information about the American Statistical Association, please visit the association's web site at <http://www.amstat.org> or call 703.684.1221.

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