

MATH ENCOUNTERS



BAYES' *theorem*: **LOOKING *for* GOLD *all the*** **RIGHT PLACES**

Speaker: Allen Butler

Wednesday, March 12, 2025

Special introduction by **Laurence Penn**,
Founding Partner and Vice Chairman of
Ellington Management Group.

Afternoon Presentation

4:00 pm ET (New York)

Evening Presentation

7:00 pm ET (New York)

National Museum of Mathematics
225 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY

How do you find a sunken treasure ship using scientific methods? You use Bayes' Theorem (aka Bayes' Rule), which appears simple enough, but has far-reaching consequences. Join Allen Butler, former President and CEO of Daniel H. Wagner Associates and Treasurer of the Mathematical Association of America (MAA), as he provides a little of the history behind Bayes' Theorem, a derivation of its mathematical basis, and a description of the less formal basis where it is viewed as a form of evidential or inferential reasoning. Plus, hear the amazing story of how Dr. Butler's company used Bayes' Theorem in the location and recovery of the "Ship of Gold," the SS *Central America*, a side-wheel steamer carrying nearly six hundred passengers returning from the California Gold Rush, which sank in a hurricane two hundred miles off the Carolina coast in September 1857.

Register now at mathencounters.org to reserve your place!

MATH ENCOUNTERS

*A public presentation series celebrating
the spectacular world of mathematics*