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George F McNulty (mcnulty@math.sc.edu), **Nieves F McNulty** (nmcnulty@columbiasc.edu) and **Douglas B Meade*** (meade@math.sc.edu). *On the creation of a Mathematics Teachers' Circle, and why you should get involved too.*

The South Carolina High Energy Mathematics Teachers' Circle (SCHEMaTC) was created as a novel and fragile partnership of mathematicians and mathematics educators from Columbia College, the University of South Carolina, and middle school teachers from at-risk schools. Many concerns were addressed, and resolved, through the team's participation in the How to Run a Math Teachers' Circle workshop at AIM in summer 2011. By the time SCHEMaTC officially started in summer 2012, a common theme was identified (problem solving) and funding had been obtained. Each academic year a new cohort of about 15 middle school teachers is welcomed into SCHEMaTC. The year begins with an immersion workshop, continues through the academic year with a four-hour session one Saturday almost every month, and concludes with an emmergence workshop. In this presentation we look back and ahead to address issues such as: Why did we want to start an mathematics teachers' circle? What benefits have been realized by the leaders, the teachers, and their students? Why do we encourage others to consider getting involved with, or starting, a local mathematics teachers' circle? (Received September 16, 2014)