

1163-01-1116      **Della Dumbaugh\*** (ddumbaugh@richmond.edu), Math and Computer Science, 221 Richmond Way, Richmond, VA 23173. *"Extensive cooperation with rugged individualism": George Mackey's guide for practitioners of mathematics.*

The mathematician George Mackey (1916-2006) is often remembered for his academic contributions and his methodical, solitary work habits, tempered by an eager affinity for discussing mathematics with all who took an interest. His broad view of the subject inspired his contributions in infinite dimensional group representations, ergodic theory and mathematical physics. He adhered to a disciplined lifestyle that began with focus on his mathematical research each morning. In the afternoons, he would often walk the mile or so to Harvard (to his office or the faculty club for lunch). He ended his days with an early bedtime. He carried a clipboard at all times. He wore a seersucker jacket in warm months and a tweed jacket in cooler ones. For Mackey, the advancement of mathematics hinged on what he described as an "extensive cooperation with rugged individualism." He seemed to protect time for the "rugged individualism" in the morning and foster "extensive cooperation" in the form of teaching and mathematical discussions later in the day. This talk provides an introduction to George Mackey, including the critical geography of his youth that set his mathematical education in motion, and aims to shed new light on the life and contributions of this celebrated American mathematician. (Received September 14, 2020)