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Gessel letter

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July 21, 1992

Dear Dr. Sloane,

I'm enclosing a paper on some generalizations of the Catalan and ballot numbers. The simplest case is the numbers

\[
\frac{6 \cdot (2n)!}{n! (n+2)!} \quad 3, 2, 3, 6, 14, 36
\]

They don't appear in the first edition of your book, but perhaps someday someone will find an application for them. (My paper contains some interesting formulas for these and related numbers, but I did not succeed in finding a combinatorial interpretation for them.)

Sincerely,

Ira Gessel