

DICTIONARY SOCIETY
OF NORTH AMERICA

Volume 28 ■ Number 2 ■ Fall 2004

DSNA

NEWSLETTER

Robert W. Burchfield 1923 – 2004

Robert W. Burchfield, the editor of the four-volume *Supplement to the Oxford English Dictionary* (1972-86) and former Chief Editor of the Oxford Dictionaries, died on July 5 in Oxfordshire, England, at the age of 81. Burchfield's work brought the *OED* into the modern age, and gave a scholarly grounding to several controversial aspects of the lexicon.

Burchfield was born in 1923 in Wanganui, on the North Island of New Zealand. Proud of his working-class heritage, he attended Wanganui Technical College, and then went to Victoria University College in Wellington. His stay was interrupted by service in the Royal New Zealand Artillery during WWII; in 1946 he returned to finish his studies. A skilled rugby player, Burchfield won a Rhodes Scholarship to Magdalen College, Oxford, in 1949, where he studied with such eminent scholars as C. S. Lewis, J. A. W. Bennett, Gabriel Turville-Petre, J. R. R. Tolkien, and C. T. Onions, one of the four editors of the original *OED*. With Tolkien he spent two years working on the *Ormulum*, a collection of Early Middle English verse homilies on the Gospels, known for its linguistic difficulty.

On Onions' recommendation, Burchfield was hired by Oxford University Press in 1957 to edit a supplement to the *OED*. With typical optimism, OUP planned for a single volume of 1,275 pages to be finished in seven years. The prime original goal had been to update the dictionary with new words, but Burchfield ambitiously wanted to expand the coverage and range of the *OED*. When it was finished in 1986, the project had expanded to some 6,000 pages that had taken 29 years of work.

Burchfield's great achievement was to bring a scholarly rigor to the modern study of the English vocabulary. He re-established the reading programs that had been largely dormant since the completion of the *OED* several decades previously. He was, despite his background in medieval studies, keenly aware of the importance of scientific vocabulary, and took strides to ensure its accurate coverage. While the first edition of *OED* had relied on the general knowledge of its editors for technical terms, Burch-

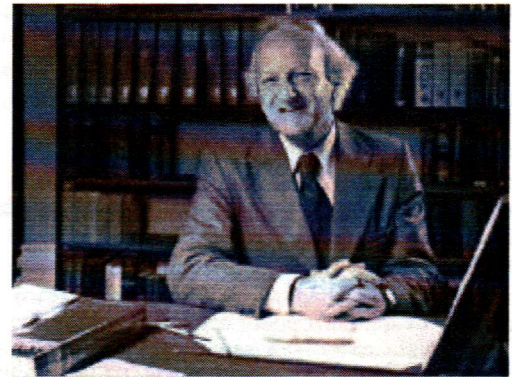


Photo courtesy of Oxford University Press

field enlisted a range of experts to consult on specialist entries.

World English was another area of keen interest: where the original *OED* had been quite focused on the English of the British Isles, Burchfield brought in much evidence and numerous entries from North America, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and other regions where English is spoken. Finally, Burchfield argued for the importance of slang and vulgar language in the lexicon. His scholarly background had been crucial in his efforts to convince OUP that such words were an integral part of the language, worthy of detailed treatment. The words *cunt* and *fuck* appeared in the first volume of the Supplements, generating great publicity.

Burchfield's last major project reflected his long interest in H. W. Fowler: a new edition of Fowler's great *Dictionary of Modern English Usage*. Burchfield's version was really an entirely new book, not a revision, and it brought a reliable, modern, citation-based, and historically grounded treatment to Fowler's often uninformed musings. However, fans of Fowler were upset by the replacement of his flair with Burchfield's more pedestrian prose, and by what they regarded as a liberal attitude to usage. (Ironically, most linguists and lexicographers consider the book flawed by Burchfield's prescriptivism.)

Burchfield's other works include *The Oxford Dictionary of English Etymology* (1966), with Onions and G. W. S. Friedrichsen; *The English Language* (1985), a short survey; *The New Zealand Pocket Oxford Dictionary* (1986); and *Unlocking the English Language* (1989), a collection of essays on various aspects of English. He also held various academic positions at Oxford, and was honorary secretary of the Early English Text Society from 1955 to 1968.

John Simpson, the current Chief Editor of the *Oxford*

DSNA XV

See page 7 for detailed information on the next DSNA biennial meeting, in Boston, June 8-11, 2005.

Continued on page 8

News of Members

Julie Coleman has just published the second volume of her history of slang dictionaries, entitled *A History of Cant and Slang Dictionaries*. The two volumes, published by Oxford U. Press, are divided as follows: Volume I deals with the period from 1567 to 1784 and Volume II deals with 1785 to 1858.

Craig Conley's whimsical "Dictionary of One-Letter Words" was unexpectedly honored with a tribute song fifteen years after his dictionary was first published. Swedish musician Kristofer Ström (whose band is called "Ljudbilden & Piloten") composed the ambient-rock-style tribute using guitar, bass, zither, trumpet, strings, drums, human voice, and field recordings. The piece is entitled, appropriately enough, "The Dictionary of One-Letter Words." Reviewers have called it a strikingly beautiful and emotionally uplifting recording. The tribute was released by the Barcelona label Nosordo Records in 2004, and it is still receiving worldwide radio play. Craig is interested in compiling a list of other musical recordings about dictionaries. Anyone with information can reach him via e-mail at solution@pobox.com.

Johnathon Green is working on the second edition of his *Cassell Dictionary of Slang*. It is due out in 2005.

Reinhard Hartmann has recently published volume 3 of *Lexicography, Metalexigraphy, and Reference Science*.

Belated congratulations to **Bill Kretschmar** on the publication in 2003 of the *Oxford Dictionary of Pronunciation*, which he co-authored with C. Lipton and R. Konopka.

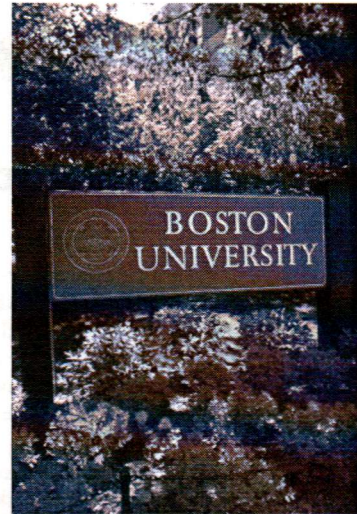
Jessica Lasak is a very new DSNA member. **Erin McKean** reports: "There are fewer lexicographers in the country than there are congresspeople, but you can add one more to our rolls: Jessica Lasak, who was awarded the first Francis March Research Internship at Oxford University Press. In September she finished a summer at the publisher's New York City office, where she worked as a researcher on the newly revived *Historical Dictionary of American Slang*, as well as helping with the new *Oxford American Writer's Thesaurus*. Jessica will graduate from Lafayette in 2005. Members interested in recommending their students for the March internship or other unpaid lexicographical research internships at OUP are urged to contact Grant Barrett or Erin McKean."

Erin McKean has edited a sequel to her *Weird and Wonderful Words*. *More Weird and Wonderful Words* was published by OUP in New York in 2003.

Joe Pickett & Steve Kleinedler are the editors of a new book, *100 Words Every High School Freshman Should Know*, recently published by Houghton Mifflin.

Michael Quinion's *Ballyhoo, Buckaroo, and Spuds: Ingenious Tales of Words and Their Origins*, a book about folk etymologies, was recently published in the U.S. by Smithsonian Books. It tells the "real stories" about such words and expressions as *the Big Apple*, *hot dog*, and *jazz*. Michael mentions several DSNA members who he says were very

helpful in the creation of the book, "both directly and through the results of their research"; for example, **Fred Shapiro**, **Jesse Sheidlower**, **Frank Abate**, **Barry Popik**, and **Gerald Cohen**. The book had been published earlier this year in the UK. □



Editor's Notes

Erratum: On page 11 of the last issue of the *Newsletter*, in the report on the Journée québécoise des dictionnaires in Montreal, the last sentence should read as follows: "It was organized by a committee led by Monique C. Cormier, Professor, Université de Montréal." Assistant Professor Aline Francoeur, who sent in the notice, was a member of the committee. We apologize for our error.



Be sure to read David Vancil's column (Cordell Corner, on page 4), concerning a current lack of funding for the Cordell Collection, the very cornerstone of our Society. The ISU library, which has maintained an acquisition budget for the Cordell Collection since the Collection's inception in 1969, has recently stopped providing support for purchases. Note also the Collection's new URL.



Is there any member (or members) out there who would like to take on an assignment for the *Newsletter*? That is to write short descriptions of selected books of lexicographical interest, so that we would have a kind of annotated bibliography instead of merely a listing of recently published books. We would appreciate hearing from any members, whether or not they might be interested in taking on such a task, about what they think of the idea. It would mean fewer publications listed, but more information on those selected. Contact information is on the back page.

— Victoria Neufeldt

Louis Milic 1922 – 2003

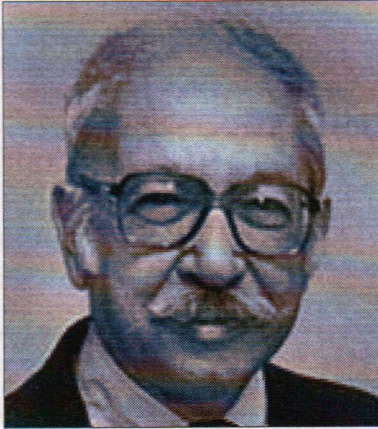


Photo courtesy of Columbia College Today Online

Louis T. Milic, former DSNA secretary-treasurer, died December 31, 2003 in Cleveland, Ohio at the age of 81. Below is a tribute by Ed Gates, Lou's predecessor as secretary-treasurer. The first part is reprinted from Ed's tribute to Lou on Lou's retirement from the position of secretary-treasurer in 1998. Ed's article is followed by a personal remembrance by the editor.

From the DSNA Newsletter, Spring 1998, by Ed Gates:

On July 1, 1998, Louis Milic, Professor Emeritus and former Chairman of the Department of English at Cleveland State University, retired from the office of secretary-treasurer of the DSNA after eight years of devoted service. He agreed to undertake the responsibilities, which require more time and effort than most members appreciate, at a point when new headquarters needed to be found, and the Board had been looking for a year. He fought hard for adequate facilities and perquisites for the Society at Cleveland State University, hammered out the agreement between them, and facilitated the relocation. He got the Society incorporated for the first time and helped make the new Code of Regulations (the Constitution) which that entailed. He found a new editor for the Society's journal. He labored to publish a newsletter that would be a credit to the Society and obtained a logo for its cover. He got status for DSNA as a non-profit organization and copyrights for the journal and newsletter. In 1994 he won admission for the Society to the American Council of Learned Societies — a privilege and honor requiring proof of qualification in seven categories, with five pieces of documentation. DSNA was only the 54th organization to be admitted. From 1994 through 1997 he attended the annual meetings of ACLS as chief administrator of the DSNA. In 1995 he created a web site for DSNA on the Internet. Louis Milic promoted DSNA at every opportunity and worked hard and effectively for it. The Society extends its thanks.

Ed Gates' tribute written on the occasion of Lou's death:

Louis Milic was born in Split, Yugoslavia, on September 5, 1922 and came to the United States with his American mother at the age of thirteen. After learning Arabic during World War II, he served as a translator for the U.S. Army Air Corps in Iran. After the war, he attended

Columbia University, where he earned three degrees, culminating in a Ph.D. in 1963. He taught there before joining the faculty of Cleveland State University in 1969 as chairman of the English Department. During his nine years in that position he built an outstanding department. After stepping down from the chairmanship, he continued to teach and to serve on university committees until his retirement in 1991.

He was a distinguished, internationally respected scholar, pioneering in the computer analysis of style. He was author or editor of a number of books on stylistics and more than 50 articles on linguistics, stylistics, and 18th century literature. Among his publications were *An Analytical Bibliography of Style and Stylistics* (1967); *A Quantitative Approach to the Style of Jonathan Swift* (1968); *Stylists on Style: A handbook with Passages for Analysis* (1969); (as editor) *Studies in Eighteenth-Century Culture* (1971); (with William S. Chisholm) *The English Language: Form and Use* (1974).

With his colleague Leonard Trawick, he founded and edited *The Gamut*, a journal of ideas and information, published at Cleveland State from 1980 to 1992.

Leonard Trawick in a eulogy before the CSU faculty spoke of Milic's "strong sense of values and his willingness to make — and act on — decisions that he thought were right" and remembered him "as a man of remarkable generosity, unwavering devotion to duty, and unflinching loyalty to friends."

During the past four years, he suffered a series of disabling strokes. He died on December 31, 2003. He is survived by his wife, Jan. His death is a loss to the DSNA, Cleveland State University, and the scholarly world.

— Edward Gates

I remember Lou from the time I was at Webster's New World Dictionaries in Cleveland. I got to know him several years before the transfer of the DSNA's headquarters there. As a member of the advisory board of *The Gamut*, I was made aware early on of his scholarly abilities and high standards for research and writing. And when I served on the organizing committee he chaired for the 1989 biennial meeting of DSNA in Cleveland, I learned that he was also a very able and tireless organizer.

Even after I left Cleveland, we kept in touch. In 1997, he gave up his position as editor of the *Newsletter*. However, we corresponded and talked by phone as I worked my way into the job of *Newsletter* editor and he seemed at the time to be still involved in many things. He was an active member of the Rowfant Club in Cleveland, a venerable club for serious bibliophiles, established in 1892, with a reputation well beyond the borders of Ohio. In his position as organizer of their program of speakers one year, he invited me to come to Cleveland speak to the club about dictionaries. I saw this as an example of Lou's mischievousness and outside-the-box thinking, because the Rowfant Club was strictly a men's club. Not only were there no women members, but women weren't even invited as guests. So to have a woman as guest speaker . . . well, I accepted with alacrity! Again, Lou had organized everything beautifully, and I was treated royally by the membership. This is my fondest memory of Lou.

— Victoria Neufeldt

Cordell Corner

by David Vancil

Funds Cut for Cordell Collection

Finally, what has happened to so many other special collections departments throughout the United States is happening to Special Collections at Indiana State University. The faucet handle has been turned off. The department has been acquiring an average of 60 to 80 titles a year, but an unforeseen disruption of funding has made that rate of acquisition impossible to continue. I hope that the fiscal picture will improve by next year, but I have no crystal ball with which to foretell the future.

Sometimes by acquiring books in bulk like the legendary founder of the collection, Warren Cordell, I have been able to "grow" the collection at a tremendous rate, on more than one occasion adding titles in the hundreds in particular years, resulting in since 1993 the addition of more than 1,400 titles both in the pre-1901 and the post-1900 parts of the collection. Because of the approximately 1,000-title growth in pre-1901 titles, both Bob O'Neill's and my later 1993 catalog are severely out of date. Bob's great work, however, continues to sell well — the library just received a royalty check thanks to Bob's generous decision to designate Indiana State University's Cordell Collection as the recipient of these funds when he published his book in the late 80s — because it provides a cornerstone listing of the better-known and most important English-language dictionaries published prior to 1901. But of course, Special Collections does continue to provide up-to-the-minute access to our holdings through online databases, which users may search at the following URLs:
<http://panther.indstate.edu/rbsc/cordell> for pre-1901 holdings and
<http://panther.indstate.edu/rbsc/cordell20> for post-1900 holdings.

A number of years ago, working with the English Department and with the approval of the library administration, I was able to find seed money to create the Cordell Research Fellowship. We believe that the account has reached a sufficient level that we will be able now to provide at least some funding at a slightly reduced level for weekends, when Special Collections is normally closed to the public. As of now, ISU is still providing support for up to two weeks at a maximum of \$200 a research day and \$100 a day on weekends and holidays. The fellowship has been able to support on a case-by-case basis a third week of support at \$100 a day arranged beforehand or during the actual visit. Of course, as collection curator, I have been hoping we will have raised \$100,000 in the accrual portion of the account by the time I retire, with a corresponding gradual increase in the funding provided by the fellowship, but I am sorry to say that the build-up of this account is lagging behind my hopes for it.

What about buying books without a Cordell-Collection-appropriated budget? I can use fees and donations related to the Cordell Collection for purchases or book repairs. Unfortunately this doesn't amount to much each year. By the same token, I have access to the interest from a small savings account created nearly two decades ago,

but taken together, these funds probably won't amount to as much as \$1,000 this year. I will not be able to select or repair many books this year, I am sorry to say.

Warren Cordell Documents

Recently, I was reading some documents written by Warren Cordell, as he wrestled with the scope of the Cordell Collection. It is a privilege to be privy to Cordell's intellectual growth. What began as a fairly modest activity eventually became a kind of self-admitted obsession with Cordell.

For example, I have read letters and other documents that pinpoint the time he agrees or decides to add, for example, encyclopedias. The most ambitious goal, and one with which I was unaware until recently but have been in unknowing compliance with for many years, was his desire to represent every known language, living or dead, in the collection by at least one published dictionary. This is a goal which we are a long way from achieving, and one for which we lack sufficient resources. Recently, I was particularly saddened as I perused a 2004 LINCUM catalog, containing dictionaries, grammars, and other linguistic works of languages for which we completely lack representation. Our lack of funds makes it impossible to take advantage of the many low-priced offers found in this 123-page catalog.

Miscellanea

To the donors out there: I have greatly appreciated the donation of books to the Cordell Collection. I have either added them to the collection or set duplicates aside for trade with other collectors or vendors. I have also appreciated the occasional cash donations I have received. Therefore, I entreat you to please think of the Cordell Collection charitably, particularly this year. Send books or cash!

On a different note, I mention the current state of the online cataloging activity. Unfortunately, it has been severely curtailed, as another project, having to do with digitizing regional material for an online memory project, has taken a toll on the cataloger's time. I am hopeful that the Cordell online cataloging project will resume soon, but I have no way to predict when it will happen.

A few of you have complained about the unevenness of the post-1900 database. Dennis Vetrovec, a Special Collections staff associate who has been with the department for almost nine years, will begin the revision of this database to establish main entries based on the original compiler rather than following the current approach, which willy-nilly accepts the main entry established by OCLC. If all goes well, this work should be completed sometime in the summer of 2005.

I am happy also to report that Dr. Barbara Cordell has assumed family responsibility for the Cordell Collection. She is showing great interest in the holdings and the mission of the collection her father created. I know we are all gratified that the love of books has passed from one generation to the next.

Rima McKinzey 1945 – 2004

Rima Elkin McKinzey died August 18, 2004 at her home in Albany, California, ending a five-year battle with breast cancer. She died in her husband Kim's arms, on their 25th wedding anniversary. She is also survived by her father and sister. Rima held a degree in linguistics from Queens College and worked as a pronunciation editor for several dictionary publishers, contributing to a total of 21 dictionaries. At the time of her death, she was a member at large on the board of DSNA. Below are tributes to her from good friends, all also members of DSNA. — ed.

From Frank Abate:

The news of Rima's death came as a shock, not so much because those of us who knew her were unaware of her serious illness, but because it is hard to imagine such a vibrant and joyful spirit being gone from us. In fact, I choose to believe that Rima's vitality continues to give us all an example of how to live life and be a good friend.

I first met Rima about 20 years ago, after a paper session at a dictionary conference. We were exchanging business cards, and hers was particularly distinctive because, aside from identifying her as a pronunciation editor, it had her name respelled in IPA. I came to learn that Rima had studied phonetics with Prof. Arthur Bronstein at Queens College, and that she was hired and trained by Enid Pearsons at Random House dictionaries. Those uniquely impressive credentials benefited all the projects that we worked on over the years. Rima specialized, in her dictionary work, on pronunciations. Several times I tried to get her to take on some other assignment, but Rima stuck to her expertise. As with etymological work, pronunciation and phonetics requires training and experience beyond what most lexicographers can claim. And the application of phonetic principles to a general dictionary of American English is a formidable challenge, there being no standard for the language we speak in the U.S., and various hard-fought theories and approaches as to how to explain and represent it. Without even a hint of preciosity, Rima was able to ensure that our pronunciations accurately represent, for example, the "frawg/frahg" distinction (for the word *frog*), and that we carefully delineate the 'Mary/marry/merry' vowels, despite the fact that (my) Midwestern dialect generalizes these to one vowel.

Amid such exacting and scholarly lexicographic work, Rima was never difficult or prideful. Yes, the work was important, she took it seriously, and she was very good at it. But Rima's easygoing manner was ever-present, and laughter never far away. Rima had the rare gift of being able to make people feel relaxed in her presence, to lighten up, and to share a smile. Through many years, at DSNA meetings in locations around the nation, Rima was the gracious hostess of informal parties, and somehow or another, even if the meeting was thousands of miles from her Bay Area home, a case of very cold, very good California champagne was there for all to enjoy. At functions like these Rima, displayed a rare social gift. A roomful of travel-weary lexicographers who have been through a day of listening to papers is not what most people would think of as a fun bunch, but Rima's gatherings were unfailingly successful and memorable occasions.

It is not enough to grieve, and to say that we shall miss our friend and colleague Rima McKinzey. In addition



Rima noshing and visiting with friends at DSNA in Durham, NC, in 2003. Photo courtesy of Rima.

to the enduring legacy of her work, I hope that the happiness, kindness, and courage that Rima exemplified will serve as a lasting example to us all.

From Elizabeth Knowles:

I first met Rima at the 1993 DSNA Conference in Nevada. She was one of the first people I did meet, and I shall never forget the warmth and kindness, and the ready hospitality, immediately offered to a slightly jet-lagged unknown from overseas. In the subsequent eleven years, I've had the happy experience of building on the friendship, and seeing her every two years when I came over for DSNA. Each conference has its own identity, but Rima's fun and verve has been a constant.

When I came over for the second time, her hospitality extended to inviting me to spend a few days with her and Kim before we emplaned (plus obligatory champagne) for Cleveland. Subsequently her generous welcome and friendship was extended to other Oxford colleagues.

Between conferences we kept in touch by e-mail, and I know I will be only one of many who have found her courage, and her determination to savor life even on a very hard road, incredibly inspiring.

She was gifted, intelligent, and often achingly funny, and it has been a great privilege to have her as a friend.

From Enid Pearsons:

It's difficult to write about my friend Rima and almost impossible to believe that she has died. Friends of ours, even some who knew her only casually, were struck by how thoroughly, vibrantly alive she was. Her husband, Kim, once told me that his first awareness of her, before they even met, was that incredible infectious laugh; he was on his way into a fencing class as she emerged from the previous one, and I think he fell in love on the spot. I too can still hear that sound of utter delight in my mind when I think of her.

But for all her charm, Rima was much more than that. We first met when she was sent to Random House for a job as a pronunciation editor (for what was to become *The*

David Shulman

1912 – 2004



David Shulman in the New York Public Library where he worked on his research almost every day.

Photo by Danielle Haas; courtesy of *The Jerusalem Report*, May 10, 1999

David Shulman, who died October 30, 2004, was an independent scholar who researched various subjects in lexicography and for the past 30 years was prolific in contributing antedates to the *Oxford English Dictionary*. He was a fixture at the New York Public Library, which he visited daily for the past 50+ years whenever it was open, and his focus on earliest attestations led him to the correct conclusion that the origin of *hot dog* is to be sought in college slang.

This observation led ultimately to the preparation of the book *Origin of the Term 'Hot Dog'* (authors: David Shulman, Barry Popik, Gerald Cohen). I telephoned him to give him the news that the book was finally at the print shop and was informed he had just passed away. Popik and I are therefore dedicating the book to his memory with profound gratitude for his years of friendship with us and for his long and very productive life. With respect to Shulman's work on language, he would probably like most to be remembered for his antedates sent to the *Oxford English Dictionary*. A relevant note on this came from *OED* editor Jesse Sheidlower (Oct. 31, 2004), gently correcting my comment that Shulman was an unsung hero of lexicography: "David was indeed an extremely prolific contributor

to *OED*, and of important citations. While he wasn't perhaps the best-known one, I will point out that his name appeared in the front-matter to *OED2*, each of the Additions Series volumes, and is currently on the *OED's* staff page on the Web."

Back to *hot dog*: Barry Popik, starting in 1991, followed Shulman's lead on this term and unearthed an extensive amount of relevant material that occupies some three quarters of the present book. Shulman no doubt would have been delighted to see this project come to fruition.

Among his many contributions: with excellent word-sleuthing he showed that *OED's* 1909 citation for *jazz* is really from 1919. *OED*, in all fairness, simply entered Peter Tamony's information; Tamony heard *jazz* on a 1919 record, noticed that the earliest version of the record was 1909, assumed that this earliest version also contained the term *jazz* (it didn't), and sent the non-existent 1909 attestation to *OED*. Shulman checked out the matter by listening to the 1909 record.

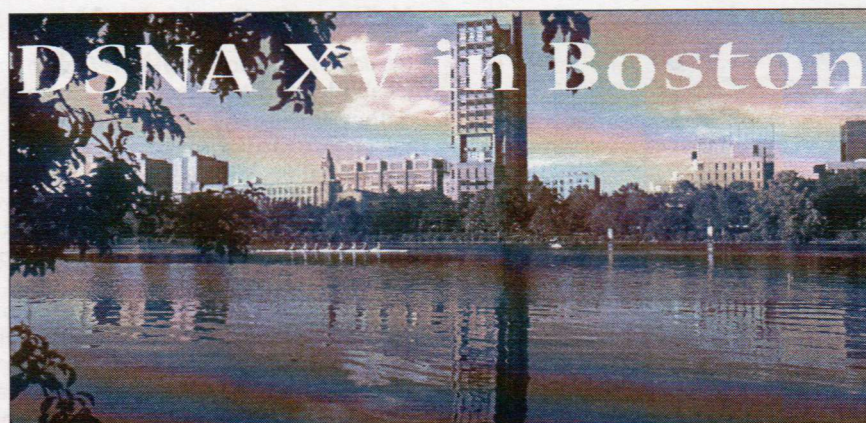
Also, Shulman was the first scholar to question the derivation of *shyster* from the name Scheuster (supposedly a lawyer who irritated a Judge Osborne in NYC, who then referred to "Scheuster practices"; a shortened version of this etymology is presented in *Webster's Third*). Scheuster the *shyster* turns out to be non-existent.

Shulman wrote on *The Great White Way, Big Apple, doozy, Let her go Gallagher!, dude, hoochie-coochie, wildcat*, and on baseball terminology, etc. He wrote a highly important article on *hot dog* and also provided *OED* with two of the earliest three attestations of that term (1896, 1900) prior to Barry Popik's extraordinary work.

He was interviewed by Bob Simon on *Sixty Minutes 2* and by Leonard Lopate on Public Broadcasting Radio. Douglas Martin did two profiles on him for *The New York Times*. During World War II he served in Military Intelligence, 2nd Signal Corps Battalion, working on Japanese codes. As for his large collection of cryptography books, he donated them to the New York Public Library.

At the time of his death Shulman had no family, but if it's possible for someone to be a surrogate relative, Barry Popik would fit that bill. Shulman admired Popik's work enormously (with good reason), and Popik showed Shulman the concern that a loving grandson would show his grandfather. Two years ago (at the age of 90), Shulman mentioned to me that Popik ('Barry,' as everyone calls him) had offered to pay all expenses for Shulman to accompany him on one of his numerous globe-trotting jaunts. Shulman politely declined, and explained to me with a wistful smile that his traveling days were over. Except his daily trips to the NYPL, of course.

— Gerald Cohen



Boston University from across the river. Photo courtesy of Boston University.

The Fifteenth Biennial Meeting of the Dictionary Society of North America offers members an opportunity to join with Boston University, Houghton Mifflin, and Merriam-Webster at a conference in the New England area where American lexicography began.

When and where:

The DSNA meeting will take place at Boston University June 8 – 11, 2005. Registration for the conference will begin on Wednesday, June 8. The program will run from 8:30 a.m., Thursday, June 9, through the late afternoon of Saturday, June 11. The final afternoon (Saturday 3:15 – 4:30 p.m.) will offer a forum on usage, open to the public.



"Student Village" lounge. Photo courtesy of Boston University.

Registration:

Advance registration will be \$20 for students and \$40 for non-students. Registration at the meeting will be \$30/\$50. Registration forms will be included in the Spring 2005 issue of the *Newsletter*.

Accommodation:

A new dormitory on Boston University campus will be available for conferees, at a very reasonable rate, probably under \$60. You will have to share a bathroom (one bath for every two rooms), but this small inconvenience will be made up for by the spectacular view of the city from the top-floor common room (see photo above). For those who prefer a hotel, we have made arrangements with the Boston-Brookline Holiday Inn near the university, for a special rate of \$139 per day. The code you will need, in order to take advantage of this rate, is available, beginning January 3, from David Jost at davidarthurjost@yahoo.com. The hotel's web site is <http://www.bos-brookline.holiday-inn.com/>

We recommend that you make reservations as soon as you can; there will be a limited number of rooms at conference prices.

Two important extras:

On Wednesday the 8th, the day before the meeting proper, we have arranged for a trip out to Springfield in western Massachusetts for a tour of Merriam-Webster offices, with a stop in Worcester on the way there, to visit the American Antiquarian Society. Costs and how to sign up will be announced soon.

On Friday afternoon, June 10, there will be a tour of Harvard University's Houghton Library and the Boston Public Library's Rare Book Room to see exhibits on lexicography.

Meeting web site:

<http://polyglot.lss.wisc.edu/dsna/DSNABostonMtg.html>

For information on the university: <http://www.bu.edu>

To check out the residence: <http://www.bu.edu/ocs/residential/10buick/10Buick.htm>

— David Jost



Central campus and towers.
Photo courtesy of Boston University.

Call for Papers

Papers are now being sought for the meeting. The deadline for receipt of abstracts is February 1, 2005. The Society invites papers on any topic in lexicography or lexicology. Presentations will be 20 minutes, followed by 10 minutes for discussion. Abstracts should be no longer than 400 words. Send your abstracts to davidarthurjost@yahoo.com. Those who prefer hard copy can send their abstract to: David Jost, PO Box 1481, Boston, MA 02117. □

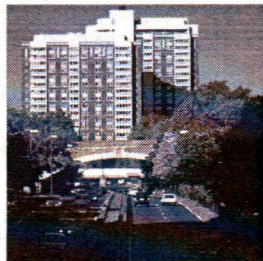
Burchfield Continued from page 1

English Dictionary, who was trained by Burchfield, wrote in the *OED* Newsletter:

"The death of Bob Burchfield (or "RWB" as he was always known to his staff, in the manner of those days) has robbed English lexicography of a scholar of international stature. He was a mixture of Johnson and Fowler, recording and documenting the vocabulary of English with painstaking detail, a scholar's neutrality, but with occasional tinges both of linguistic purism and of humour.

"He was single-handedly responsible for re-establishing a tradition of historical lexical research on the *OED* which had evaporated with the disbanding of the original *OED* staff on the completion of the first edition of the Dictionary (1884-1928). As an academic colleague of C. T. Onions (one of the editors of the first edition) in the 1950s, he ensured editorial continuity between the early editors of the Dictionary and their modern successors. The editorial traditions of the *OED* today owe much to Bob Burchfield's no-nonsense, practical approach to a task of gargantuan proportions. He didn't suffer fools gladly; he didn't suffer fools at all."

— Jesse Sheidlower



Boston U. Residence Hall.
Photo courtesy of Boston University.

New Lexicography organization in Taiwan

Taiwan's first lexicography organization — the Dictionary and Corpus Research Center (DCRC) — was founded on 7 March 2004 in Taipei. This formation was initiated at the plenary meeting of the Taiwanese Association for Translation and Interpretation, held on 20 December 2003, and the DCRC will function as an interest group within the Association. Founding members include lexicographers, corpus linguists, and publishers. The DCRC aims to become an active organization of lexicography theorists and practitioners, and to serve as a confluence of dictionary and corpus resources. Its short-term goals include making the general readers and specialized researchers in Taiwan aware of the different kinds of dictionaries and corpora that are available, advising the public on dictionary purchases and use, and evaluating dictionaries and related reference books that are on the market. Its long-term goals include publishing newsletters, books and academic journals, and hosting conferences. The DCRC intends to hold quarterly meetings with keynote lectures. The current coordinator is Dr. Hugo T. Y. Tseng of the English Department of Soochow University, Taipei. The contact person is Ms. Meihua Sun, meihua@bookman.com.tw.

[From the *Kernerman Dictionary News*, No. 12, July 2004; e-mail: kd@kdictionaries.com. Submitted by Edward Gates.] □

McKinzey Continued from page 5

Random House Dictionary of the English Language, Unabridged Edition) by our mutual phonetics professor, Arthur Bronstein. I, who had arrived at the beginning of the project, thereby snagging the job of senior editor for pronunciation, interviewed her. She was nervous, still an untried undergraduate, but her talents were obvious. I said yes in a flash ("A Bronstein student? You're hired!"), and we almost immediately became friends as well as colleagues. That began what was to be her amazingly productive career as lexicographer-orthoepist-pronunciation editor, a career that, as a peripatetic freelancer, ultimately took her into most of this country's major dictionaries. I felt privileged when she thought of me as a mentor, but it became a mutual thing. I certainly counted on her editorial advice and counsel over the years as often as she counted on mine.

It was no secret that Rima was delighted to be part of DSNA. She felt comfortable, at home, and surrounded by kindred spirits at the conferences. Helping to arrange events at the Berkeley conference was a highlight of her life. She had already begun her incredibly gallant fight against her illness, with Kim supporting her in every conceivable way. A people magnet, Rima was always surrounded by bright and funny friends (that's 'funny-humorous,' although charming eccentricities were not out of the question). She brought champagne to the conferences, so that friends could gather and bask in bubbly conviviality. At the conference celebrating the completion of the *Middle English Dictionary*, she hosted her little party appropriately costumed. Rima *was* a party. Let's hoist a glass in her honor. To Rima — we miss you. □

Web Site of Lexicographical Interest

DSNA members might find the following web site useful.

The United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names has put out a glossary of toponymic terms. The version currently available is version 4.1 from February 2000. The URL is <http://www.ngi.be/NL/glossary/glossang-inf.htm> □

Members' Classified

Dr. Henry G. Burger's binary add-on is the only full-language branching dictionary:

To raid & plunder = To maraud.

To plunder & export = To loot, etc.

Hardcover, \$149.00. Foreign, add \$6. Free brochure.
www.wordtree.com Wordtree®, 10876 Bradshaw W58,
Overland Park, KS 66210-1148, U.S.A.

ACLS Report

The American Council of Learned Societies meeting was held May 6-8 in Washington, DC. I attended as delegate (substituting for Michael Adams) and Luanne von Schneidmesser attended as member of the conference of administrative officers of ACLS. The ACLS is an incredibly diverse group that aside from including representatives of disciplines you would expect such as the College Art Association or the German Studies Association also counts as members the Association of American Law Schools and the American Numismatic Society. What came through to me however was that it does not currently sponsor much lexicographical work and the president, Pauline Yu, agreed with me on this. Of course lexicography tends to be looked at as linguistics but it would seem that lexicographers should be applying for support to this group. Pauline will be attending our meeting in June and I'm going to urge her further to look closely at requests from lexicographers,

who of course need to be urged to apply in the first case.

I came to realize also from hearing various talks and discussions that lexicographers have some interesting lessons in cooperation in the humanities for other humanities scholars who tend to be loners. This point will be made as well next June. The high point for me came when we broke down into small groups in which scholars had a chance to share opinions with those who judge applications. There were also fine presentations by President Pauline Yu, by Bruce Cole, Chairman of the NEH, various recipients of awards, and a panel on The Idea and Ideals of the University.

The annual Charles Homer Haskins Lecture recipient, who talked about his life in learning, was Peter Gay, emeritus of Yale.

— David Jost

Lexicographers Help Dr. Who Save the World!

Lexicographers who are fond of the Gallifreyan Time Lord, Dr. Who, might want to check out a recent audio adventure featuring the sixth Doctor (played by Colin Baker). In this radio play (which runs for nearly two hours), the Doctor and his helper, Peri Brown, arrive at the intergalactic equivalent of a DSNA meeting — a symposium concerning the compilation of the most comprehensive dictionary ever written. Things go terribly wrong, however (no surprise to lexicographers) when the lexicographers, the project, and the Doctor are threatened by the longest word, the Omniverbum, in whose presence meaning itself is destroyed. Exposure to even one part of the Omniverbum, the syllable *ish*, causes strong lexicographers to lose their "fundamental language skills." The Doctor, Peri, and some brave lexicographers (including a computer-based artificial intelligence) defeat the power of the Omniverbum by concentrating the power of all the speakers of the English language on it. In the process, the dictionary is completely destroyed, and the Doctor and Peri leave the lexicographers to start compiling it all over again.

The CD is available from http://www.doctorwho.co.uk/drwho/bf035_ish.shtml for about £14 in the UK and about £16 everywhere else.

— Erin McKean

Slang Discussion Group

DSNA member Dr. Julie Coleman invites people who have a professional or scholarly interest in slang to take part in a discussion group about the subject. She asks interested parties to send an e-mail to <listserv@le.ac.uk> with the following content:

subscribe slang Your Name

Julie is a senior lecturer in the English Department at the University of Leicester, University Road, Leicester. LE1 7RH UK. phone: + 44(0)116 252 2635; fax: + 44(0)116 252 2065 (See News of Members for information on her *History of Slang and Cant Dictionaries*. — ed.) □

Early Dictionaries Online

Two major databases which include early dictionaries and are available by subscription are described below.

Early English Books Online (EEBO)

EEBO is based on the Bell & Howell microfilm collections of Early English Books 1475-1640 and Early English Books 1641-1700. The bibliographies behind these collections are the Short Title Catalogues compiled by Pollard and Redgrave (STC I) and Wing (STC II). The later collection also includes the Thomason Tracts.

Access to images: The publishers are in the process of scanning every page image that makes up this important collection. They have completed STC I and most of STC II (Wing) and the Thomason Tracts.

System Features: The complete database of MARC records is loaded and can be searched online.

Years of Coverage: 96,000 titles listed in Pollard & Redgrave's Short-Title Catalogue (1475 - 1640) and Wing's Short-Title Catalogue (1641-1700)

Eighteenth Century Collections Online (ECCO)

ECCO consists of digital images of English-language titles and editions published between 1701 and 1800 and will be made available online over the course of the next two years. When complete, the product will allow full-text searching of more than 33 million pages of material; in essence, every significant English-language and foreign-language title printed in the United Kingdom, along with thousands of important works from the Americas in the fields of history, literature, religion, law, fine arts, and science.

These may be accessed through one's university library's online resources, if the university in question subscribes to the resource. A few very large public libraries also subscribe to one or both of these.

— Fred Shapiro

Publications of Lexicographical Interest

Books received by DSNA through November 2004

- El Pequeño Larousse Ilustrado: Edición Centenario 2005*. 11th ed. Mexico: Larousse, 2004.
- Klepsch, Alfred. *Westjiddisches Wörterbuch: Auf der Basis dialektologischer Erhebungen in Mittelfranken*. 2 vols. Tübingen: Max Niemeyer Verlag, 2004.
- 100 Words Almost Everyone Confuses and Misuses*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2004.
- Oxford Large Print Thesaurus*. New York: Oxford U. Press, 2004.
- Pickett, Joseph, & Steven Kleinedler, eds. *100 Words Every High School Freshman Should Know*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2004.
- The Riverside Dictionary of Biography*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2005.
- Speake, Jennifer, ed. *The Oxford Dictionary of Proverbs*. Oxford: Oxford U. Press, 2004.
- Stedman's Medical Dictionary*, 2nd ed. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2004.
- Strumpf, Michael, & Auriel Douglas. *The Grammar Bible: Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Grammar but Didn't Know Whom to Ask*. New York: Henry Holt and Company, 2004.
- Word Histories and Mysteries: From Abracadabra to Zeus*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2004.
- Lexicographica** (Tübingen: Max Niemeyer Verlag):
- Chan, Sin-wai. *Translation and Bilingual Dictionaries*. Series Maior 119, 2004.
- Chromá, Marta. *Legal Translation and the Dictionary*. Series Maior 122, 2004.
- Drude, Sebastian. *Wörterbuchinterpretation: Integrative Lexikographie am Beispiel des Guaraní*. Series Maior 120, 2004.
- Herbst, Thomas et al. *Lexikografie, ihre Basis- und Nachbarwissenschaften: (Englische) Wörterbücher zwischen »common sense« und angewandter Theorie*. Series Maior 118, 2004.
- Hollós, Zita. *Lernerlexikographie: syntagmatisch..* Series Maior 116, 2004.
- Thumb, Jenny. *Dictionary Look-up Strategies and the Bilingualised Learner's Dictionary: A Think-aloud Study*. Series Maior 117, 2004.

Other Recent Publications

- Awde, Nicholas & Duska Radosavljevic. *Serbian-English / English-Serbian Dictionary & Phrasebook*. New York: Hippocrene Books, 2004.

- Barrett, Grant, ed. *Hatchet Jobs and Hardball: the Oxford Dictionary of American Political Slang*. New York: OUP, 2004.
- Blake, N.F. *Shakespeare's Non-Standard English: A Dictionary of His Informal Language*. Continuum International Publishing Group, 2004.
- Braun, Peter, Burkhard Schaefer, & Johannes Volmert. *Studien zur interlingualen Lexikologie und Lexikographie*. Niemeyer, 2003.
- Cormier, Monique C., A. Francoeur, & J.-C. Boulanger, eds. *Les dictionnaires Le Robert: Genèse et évolution*. Montreal: Les Presses de L'Université de Montréal, 2003.
- Cruz, Luis Hernández, Moisés Victoria Torquemada, & Donald Sinclair Crawford. *Diccionario del Hñähñu (Otomi)*. Mariano Silva y Aceves dictionary series, #45. Tucson, AZ: Summer Institute of Linguistics, Inc., 2004.
- Dent, G.R. & C.L.S. Nyembezi. *Scholar's Zulu Dictionary (English-Zulu / Zulu-English)*. New York: Hippocrene Books, 2004.
- Dent, Susie. *The Language Report*. Oxford: OUP, 2004.
- Encarta Webster's Dictionary of the English Language*, 2nd ed. (title of 1st ed.: *Encarta World English Dictionary*). Bloomsbury U.S.A., 2004.
- Gottlieb, Henrik, Jens Erik Mogensen, & Arne Zettersten, eds. *Proceedings of the Eleventh International Symposium on Lexicography, May 2-4, 2002 at the University of Copenhagen*. Niemeyer, 2003.
- Grimes, William, ed. *Eating Your Words: 2000 Words to Tease Your Taste Buds*. New York: OUP, 2004.
- Koester, R. *Eigennamen im deutschen Wortschatz. Ein Lexikon*. Berlin and New York: Walter de Gruyter, 2003.
- Lee, John A. *History of New Testament Lexicography*. New York: Peter Lang, 2003.
- Lynch, Jack, ed. *Samuel Johnson's Dictionary*. New York: Walker & Co., 2003.
- Pride, Kitty & Leslie. *Diccionario Chatino de la Zona Alta: Panixtlahuaca, Oaxaca y otros pueblos*. Mariano Silva y Aceves dictionary series, #47. Tucson, AZ: Summer Institute of Linguistics, Inc., 2004.
- De Schaetzen, C., ed. *Terminologie et Société*. Paris: La Maison du Dictionnaire, 2004.
- Smead, R.N. *Vocabulario Vaquero / Cowboy Talk: A Dictionary of Spanish Terms from the American West*. Norman: U. of Oklahoma Press, 2004.
- Ui Bhraonáin, D., ed. *FIONTAR Dictionary of Terminology: English-Irish / Foclóir FIONTAR*. Gaeilge-Bóarla. Dublin: FIONTAR, Dublin City University.
- Wallraff, Barbara. *Your Own Words*. Cambridge, MA: Perseus Books, 2004. □

Calendar

Hel-Lex — New Approaches in English Historical Lexis, a symposium organized by the Research Unit for Variation and Change in English (VARIENG), Dept of English, U. of Helsinki, **March 17–19, 2005**. Purpose: to discuss recent research in English historical lexicography, lexicology, and lexical semantics. VARIENG is a National Centre of Excellence funded by the Academy of Finland and the U. of Helsinki. Plenary speakers: Ian Lancashire, Zoltán Kövecses, Gabriele Stein. Contact: Dept of English, U. of Helsinki, P.O. Box 24 (Unioninkatu 40 B), FIN-00014 University of Helsinki, Finland. Organizing committee: Rod McConchie, Leena Kahlas-Tarkka, Matti Kilpiö, Heli Tissari, Jukka Tyrkkö, Alaric Hall, Seija Kerttula.
E-mail: hel-lex@helsinki.fi
Web site: <http://www.eng.helsinki.fi/varieng/main/Hellex/hellex.htm>

Asialex 2005, biennial conference of the Asian Association for Lexicography, **June 1–3, 2005**, Singapore. Jointly organized by the Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences, the Dept of English Language and Literature, and the Asia Research Institute at the National U. of Singapore. It is one of the centennial celebrations of the National University of Singapore. Theme: Words in Asian Cultural Contexts; to examine the functions and representations of words, hoping to bring together scholars of language, linguistics, and literature in an interdisciplinary forum. Topics: lexicology and lexicography; sociolinguistics and language pedagogy; information and communications technology; literary, cultural, and postcolonial studies. All presentations in English. Organizing committee: Anne Pakir, Peter Tan, Lynn Tan, Vincent Ooi, Ismail Talib, Mark Donohue. Website: <http://asialex.nus.edu.sg>. E-mail: asialex@nus.edu.sg

Methods XII, 12th International Conference on Methods in Dialectology, **August 1–5, 2005**, Université de Moncton, Moncton, NB, Canada. Theme: Innovative Approaches in Dialectology, addressing recent theoretical and methodological trends. A sub-theme, Identity and Contact, highlights language contact situations such as those found in New Brunswick. Invited speakers: J.K. Chambers, U. of Toronto; Jacques Durand, U. de Toulouse–LeMirail; Hans Goebel, U. Salzburg; Natalie Schilling-Estes, Georgetown University.
Web site: <http://www.upei.ca/methodsxii>
E-mail: methodsxii@umoncton.ca
Phone: (506) 858-4057 Fax: (506) 858-4568
Methods XII Organizing Committee: Centre de recherche en linguistique appliquée, Faculté des arts et des sciences sociales, Université de Moncton, Moncton, NB, Canada E1A 3E9.

6th International School in Lexicography, Ivanovo State University, Russia, **September 12–15, 2005**. Theme: Semantics, Lexicography, and Terminography in Russian, American, and Other Cultures. Guest-lecturer of the conference is Prof. Heribert Picht, Copenhagen Business School, Denmark. The sessions are: Cognitive Linguistics, Terminogra-

phy and Lexicography; Non-verbal Communication in Different Cultures; Dictionary in the New Millennium; Projects of New Dictionaries; American Studies. The working languages of the conference are Russian and English. Publication of conference proceedings is planned. Contact: Conference Manager Katerina A. Shaposhnikova, tel.: +7 (0932) 37 54 02; e-mail: lexico2005@ivanovo.ac.ru or karpova@interline.ivanovo.ru
Fax: +7 (0932) 32 66 00.

Or write to Chairman of the Organizing Committee, Vice-Rector, Head of English Philology Department, Prof., Dr. Olga Karpova, Ivanovo State University, English Philology Department, Ermak St., 39, Ivanovo, 153025, Russia. □

The DSNA E-Mail List Needs YOU!

If your e-mail (like mine) is full of mysterious spam promising everything from untold African wealth to bigger body parts, you may be leery of signing up for yet another e-mail list.

However, as a member of the DSNA, you are eligible to join the DSNA Yahoo Groups e-mail list, and you should. The list has been in existence since early 2000, and has turned into a low-noise, low-traffic, high-value resource for lexicographers and academics interested in dictionaries. Only DSNA members are allowed to join the list, so spam and irrelevant messages are very rare. You do not have to have a Yahoo e-mail address to join, and every message has a [DSNA] header for easy e-mail filtering.

Messages to the list have included valuable professional information, such as job postings for freelance and full-time work, information about training classes, and links to web sites that have search tools of interest to lexicographers. Members have offered older dictionaries for sale and sent out wanted-to-buy notices. You'll see links to online newspaper articles about dictionaries and members of the DSNA, and get calls for abstracts and information about the DSNA meetings, notices about the DSNA-Urdang awards, and urgent legislation-pending calls for support from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Members post queries (and answers) about particular dictionaries, publishers, or words, which often lead to serious discussions about defining, pronunciation, etymology, and other lexicographical topics. It's like a mini-DSNA meeting in your mailbox!

Of course, it's not all serious, all the time. The occasional joke gets through, like this one:

Did you hear about the newspaper ad saying to send \$10 for instructions on how to write a successful book for publication? A dictionary was sent back with the note: Some assembly required.

To join the DSNA e-mail list, send an e-mail to DSNA-subscribe@yahoogroups.com or go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/DSNA/join>. If you have any problems, please e-mail me, Erin McKean, the list administrator, at editor@verbatimag.com.

— Erin McKean

DSNA Newsletter

Return Address (for Post Office use only):

Luanne von Schneidemesser
Secretary-Treasurer, DSNA
University of Wisconsin-Madison
6129 Helen C. White Hall
600 North Park St., Madison, WI 53706

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 658
Madison, WI

Advertising Rates

Advertisements in the DSNA's publications (*Dictionaries and DSNA Newsletter*) are limited to offers of dictionaries and related reference works or of publications, services, etc. relating to lexicography and dictionary publishing. All copy is subject to approval.

DISPLAY ADVERTISEMENTS in *Newsletter*:

	full page 7" W x 9" H	half 7 x 4.5	quarter 3.3 x 4.5	eighth 3.3 x 2.2
1 issue:	\$200	\$110	\$60	\$35
3 issues:	\$500	\$300	\$150	\$85

Rates apply to camera-ready hard copy or finished electronic form. Extra charge for keying, formatting, etc.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS in the *Newsletter*:

Available only to members: 10 words free once per year; additional words 30 cents each; maximum 60 words.

Flyers may be inserted in the *Newsletter*. Ask editor for rates.

ADVERTISEMENT DEADLINES: Feb. 15 for the Spring *Newsletter* issue and Oct. 15 for the Fall issue.

DSNA Web Site

<http://polyglot.lss.wisc.edu/dsna/>

Webmaster Luanne von Schneidemesser invites members to send news for publication on the site. She will also be happy to add a link to a member's web site that is of lexicographical interest.

Publishing Information

The *DSNA Newsletter* is published two or three times a year: Spring and/or Summer, and Fall. The editor is Victoria Neufeldt. News of members and other items of interest to our readers are welcome. Please send **all *Newsletter* correspondence**, copy for ads, items for publication, etc. to the editor.

Victoria Neufeldt, Editor

DSNA Newsletter

727 9th Street East

Saskatoon, Sask.

S7H 0M6

Canada

e-mail: v.neufeldt@sasktel.net

This issue: Vol. 28 No. 2 (Fall 2004). Cumulative Issue #60.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES (U.S. \$)

	U.S., Canada, & Mexico	Other countries
regular, joint, institution:	\$30	\$40
student or retired	\$20	\$30

Send **correspondence re membership**, etc. to Luanne von Schneidemesser, Executive Secretary, DSNA, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 6129 Helen C. White Hall, 600 North Park St., Madison, WI 53706.

Fax: (608) 263-3817

Tel: (608) 265-0532

e-mail: LvonSchn@wisc.edu