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# American Name Society *Bulletin*

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## ANS 2023 Annual Meeting

After deliberation of an official proposal made on the 27th of May 2022, the Executive Council of the American Name Society unanimously voted to hold the 2023 Annual Conference online. All presentation sessions will be held online during the three days of the conference. This means that our conference will NOT be held in conjunction with the LSA meeting, which is still slated to be held in person, January 2023 in Denver, CO.

As in the previous two years, we considered many factors when deciding whether to attempt to hold our annual meeting in person, or virtually. The “cons” have not changed:

- a significant number of our members are in high-risk groups because of their age or pre-existing health conditions
- the international and domestic travel restrictions that have been imposed to control the viral spread will make it difficult for members to attend the conference
- the individual and institutional economic fallout of COVID-19 have made the costs connected with a traditional conference much higher (travel costs, hotel accommodation, food, etc)

The current lifting of mask mandates has resulted in a spike in COVID-19 infections and hospitalizations; many of those are

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the result of unmasked air travel and in-person gatherings.

The online format allows members to share their work without the dangers mentioned above. It also encourages people to attend our conference who might otherwise not have been able to even if COVID-19 were not an issue. Finally, there is the added bonus of holding a conference in a manner that is more environmentally sound. On the “pro” side, our 2022 meeting was again very successful. While we all miss the in-person social aspect of the conference, the virtual platform allowed international participants to present their work to the membership. Additionally, we were able to edit and share all recorded presentations via our new YouTube channel.

ANS 2023 will be held via Zoom on January 20-22, 2023. The schedule will be adjusted on each day to accommodate members in different time zones. Registration opens in September.

Laurel Sutton

# Call for Officers

## Seeking New ANS Officers for 2023

Ever thought about getting more involved with the American Name Society? Here is your opportunity! The American Name Society is currently looking for a few good people who are interested in joining the Executive Council. Starting in 2023, new officers will be needed to fill the positions of Vice President and Allied Conference Coordinator.

### Vice President (2023-2025)

The person elected to this position is primarily responsible for co-organizing the ANS annual conference in close cooperation with the ANS President. As conference co-chair, the person in this position will issue an official call for papers, organize a team of reviewers, design the program of paper presentations, and coordinate with the Linguistic Society of America and the other linguistic affiliates or “Sister Societies”: the American Dialect Society (ADS), the Society of Pidgin and Creole Linguistics (SPCL), the Society for the Study of Indigenous Languages of the America (SSILA), The Association for Linguistic Evidence (TALE), and the North American Association for the History of Language Sciences (NAAHoLS). In addition to these duties, the VP also serves as a voting member of the Executive Council and, as such, is actively involved in the legislative process of the ANS. The person selected for this office has the option of running for the office of ANS President, at the end of his/her term. Candidates for this position are expected to have superior organizational, time-management, and communication skills.

### Allied Conference Coordinator (2023-2025)

The person elected to this position is principally responsible for organizing the ANS session at the annual conference of the Modern Language Association. This activity involves issuing a call for papers, assembling a team of abstract reviewers, selecting three authors whose work will be presented at the MLA conference, and coordinating the presentation of the three winning abstracts with the MLA administration. In addition to these duties, as a voting member of the ANS Executive Council (EC), the Allied Conference Coordinator participates in the legislative decision-making of the Society.

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Although the term of service for this position is for two years, the holder of this office may be re-elected pending approval by the EC. Given the fact that this position requires close communication with the MLA, candidates who have a demonstrated expertise in literary onomastics will receive preference.

To apply for one or more of these Executive Council positions, please fill out the application form here:  
<https://www.americannamesociety.org/about/apply-to-be-an-ec-officer/>.

## Call for Papers

### CFP- 2023 American Name Society Annual Meeting

Online (via Zoom)  
January 20-22, 2023

The American Name Society is now inviting proposals for papers for its next annual conference. All presentation sessions will be held online during the three days of the conference. Abstracts in any area of onomastic research are welcome.

**The DEADLINE for receipt of abstracts is July 31, 2022.**

To submit a proposal, complete the 2023 Author Information Sheet (AIS) found here:  
<http://www.americannamesociety.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/ANS-2023-Author-Info-Sheet.doc>

Please email this completed form to ANS Vice President Luisa Caiazzo using the following address: [luisa.caiazzo@unibas.it](mailto:luisa.caiazzo@unibas.it).

For organizational purposes, please be sure to include the phrase “ANS 2022” in the subject line of your email.

All proposals will be subjected to blind review. Official notification of proposal acceptances will be sent on or before September 30, 2022. All authors whose papers have been accepted must be current members of the ANS.

Please feel free to contact ANS Vice President, Luisa Caiazzo, [luisa.caiazzo@unibas.it](mailto:luisa.caiazzo@unibas.it) should you have any questions or concerns.

We look forward to receiving your submission!

### CFP- XXV International Onomastica & Letteratura Conference



Department of Philology, Literature and Linguistics, University of Pisa, Italy  
September 16-17, 2022

The topics it will focus on are the following:

- Games, parodies, acknowledgments: the name to entertain and to reveal
- Lists, sequences, onomastic catalogs in literature
- Names and identities
- The name and the voices in the text (in literature and in particular in the theatrical genre)
- Onomastics in some authors whose significant anniversaries occur: Hoffmann, Proust, Buzzati, Meneghello

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Those who intend to participate in the Conference or who wish to submit their article to the editorial staff of the journal *Il Nome nel Testo* are requested to send Donatella Bremer <donatella.bremer@unipi.it> an abstract, not generic, but sufficiently indicative (about one page) of their contribution.

**The DEADLINE for submitting proposals is July 30, 2022.**

Please also attach a short resume.

The length of the articles to be submitted to the peer review process for possible publication in the journal *Il Nome nel Testo* must be around 12 pages.

For more information about this Call for Papers, please visit: <https://oel.fileli.unipi.it/call-for-papers-xxv-convegno-internazionale-di-ol/>.

## CFP- European Shakespeare Research Association Conference 2023: “The Evolution of Shakespeare’s Names on Screen, Stage, and Page”

Pázmány Péter Catholic University  
Budapest, Hungary, July 6-9, 2023

“What’s in a name?” is a question that has attracted much attention for many years. Although recent interest is obvious, much remains yet to be done in understanding Shakespeare’s borrowings, coinages, and influence.

The seminar “The Evolution of Shakespeare’s Names on Screen, Stage, and Page,” which will be convened during the 2023 conference organized by ESRA, thus invites contributions which include (but are not restricted to) the following topics:

- Shakespeare’s name changes within plays and from sources. From names to nicknames, a substantial number of names have been altered. The act of naming and renaming should be explored to understand the mechanisms and effects of this phenomenon.
- The evolution of names in print. How have the different editions of the playwright’s works influence the status and nature of the characters’ names? What does it tell us about the treatment of names by Shakespeare, his printers, and our contemporary editors?
- The influence of Shakespeare. Henry Fielding alludes to Shakespeare’s names: “[W]herefore art thou Tom Thumb?”[1] It would thus be appropriate to study the way in which names coined by the playwright has influenced other authors and the debate on names.
- Names on stage and screen. How do contemporary directors convey the meaning of a name knowing that its lexemes had different connotations in early modern England?
- Translating and “tradapting” names. How do non-anglophone translators and directors worldwide deal with the characters’ names?
- The mystery behind names. The authorship question and the search for the identity of some characters (e.g., John Falstaff) have triggered a flurry of interest. What are the most recent findings and more importantly, why are these questions so crucial?
- Onomastics and Shakespeare. How have the recent studies on Shakespearean names changed our understanding of the playwright’s works?

Please send a 250-word abstract, accompanied by a 100-word biography, to Charlène Cruxent (charlene.cruxent@gmail.com) and Grant Smith (gsmith@ewu.edu) by January 9, 2023. Draft essays will be due on June 5, 2023.



## YouTube Channel Announcement

The ANS is pleased to announce the launch of its official YouTube channel, home to videos from the 2021 and 2022 annual conferences. Currently we have 53 videos available, and will be adding more content from ANS events as they happen.

We are delighted that the amazing content from our conferences will now be available to everyone interested in onomastics. Please share on social media and with anyone who is fascinated with names.

Laurel Sutton

## An Interview with Alessia Battista, Winner of the 2021 Emerging Scholar Award



In 2021, Alessia Battista of the University of Naples was named the winner of the ANS Emerging Scholar Award (ANSESA) for her research in literary onomastics. She is now working with I.M. Nick to turn her presentation into a manuscript for possible publication in *Names*.

As a part of her doctoral studies, Ms. Battista would like to expand her knowledge in onomastics through a study abroad in Germany. In this interview, the 2021 ANESA winner explains how she first learned about the ANS and describes what she hopes to gain from studying in Germany.

How did you first become interested in names?

I have always been truly passionate about names ever since I was a child. As I grew older, I became curious to find out more about names connected to my birth city and my hometown. I first became aware of the field of onomastics by chance. I was about to complete my Master's Degree, when the call for the ANS Emerging Scholar Award was brought to my attention. I suddenly realized how my final dissertation could contribute to the field. I was already analyzing names, but I was not aware that my work fit perfectly into onomastics. However, once I realized that, I started learning more and more about the field, and now it is an area I am deeply committed to pursuing.

Why is it important for you to study abroad in Germany?

I am currently enrolled in an international PhD program in my home country of Italy. However, as a part of my studies, I am expected to spend several months abroad for research. I would love to spend that time in Germany. I have always wanted to move there for my studies. Its advanced education system, multicultural cities, rich culture, and musical language have always attracted me. After completing my BA and MA in Foreign Languages (English and German), now is the time I hope I can make my dream of studying in Germany come true.

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What could you offer a potential sponsor?

As an Italian PhD student in English and Terminology, I am currently seeking opportunities to carry out research which is relevant to my PhD project. My doctoral thesis is examining European Languages and Specialized Terminology. I would also welcome the chance to contribute to the research being conducted by a department willing to host me as an exchange student. I am a qualified teacher of Italian as L2/foreign language and I am currently a teaching assistant for English at the University of Naples. I have also successfully completed exams in Business Law, EU Law, Marketing, and Economic Sustainable Development.

What do you like the most about the ANS?

The ANS is the first academic society I ever joined. Having attended the annual conference last January and being awarded the 2021 Emerging Scholar Award gave me the opportunity to meet with and listen to—albeit virtually—prominent scholars in the field from around the world. As a young PhD student and an aspiring scholar, I loved how warmly and kindly I have been welcomed into the community—a community equally devoted to the advancement of onomastic studies and supporting future generations of onomastic scholars which I hope to become in the years to come.

If you would be interested in temporarily hosting this summa cum laude PhD student in Germany, or if you have a colleague who might have such an opportunity open for this self-funded emerging scholar, please contact her directly: [alessia.battista001@studenti.uniparthenope.it](mailto:alessia.battista001@studenti.uniparthenope.it). Any assistance you would be able to give would be greatly appreciated!

Iman Nick

## Names and Tourism in the City of Caiazzo

Names can really do magic in reviving and creating the identity of a place, so much so that their associative potential may turn into a gold mine for tourist sites. By peppering visitors' imagination with a myriad of narratives, names arouse curiosity, trigger memories, ultimately they may shape the identity of a place.

A resourceful example is provided by Caiazzo—a small southern Italy city in the Campania region—whose origins are said to go back to the IX century B.C., when it was probably founded by the Oscans as Caiatia in an area inhabited since prehistoric times. A more romantic explanation is offered by the legend according to which a nymph named Calatia, fled there to escape from the rage of her father Tifata, who did not approve of the god Voltumnus deep love for his daughter.

However intriguing the origin of the name may be, the focus of this short piece is rather on the power of suggestion related to two naming 'alchemies' that have recently given new energy and life to this ancient village: Pepe IN GRANI and Caiazzo itself.



the logo of Franco Pepe's project

Pepe IN GRANI is a pizzeria opened in October 2012 by Franco Pepe—member of the third generation of a Caiatian family of bakers—in a restored XVIII century building. At the time, he was considered crazy because it seemed pointless to invest money in Caiazzo, a rural area where homes and fields were increasingly abandoned.

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Today, after ten years, Franco can proudly state that he has won the bet, if we consider that each month, about 13,000 people from different nationalities walk down the narrow alleyway where his pizzeria is located to enjoy the pizza ‘experience’ that he offers. Also, he has contributed to the development of the local micro-economy by reintroducing indigenous seeds and using traditional ingredients from the area. An example is the so called pomodoro riccio (a deeply ribbed tomato variety) whose seeds have been handed down from generation to generation for over one hundred years. Unfortunately, it has not been grown since the farmland abandonment of the 1960s. Eventually, through the involvement of small local producers, to whom Pepe offered the support of agronomists, the pomodoro riccio is back again and has become the characterizing ingredient of one of the many pizzas offered, the Margherita Sbagliata. It is no wonder then that the name Pepe IN GRANI has become synonym for Caiazzo and its revitalization.

Actually, there is no gainsaying the fact that the name Pepe IN GRANI (created with the collaboration of Francesco Palladino) is almost as creative as the pizza project itself, because of its multifaceted associations with identity issues. It is an intriguingly dense noun phrase whose head is the project creator’s surname, Pepe, meaning ‘pepper’ in Italian. The post-modification IN GRANI (in grains) refers to both the grains used to make flour and the grains of the spice by the same name. So, on the one hand, it points to Franco Pepe’s research and experimentation with grains that has culminated in his own ‘O Pepe’ flour, a blend of grains that he may change several times over a year to make it better and better, following the principle that one has to ‘listen to’ the dough. It is therefore a wordplay that also mirrors his own ‘playing’ with grains and ingredients.

On the other hand, the further meaning of the word GRANI is nicely explained by the logo in the picture above, where three pepper grains are displayed. They stand for pizza, research and hospitality, the three top ingredients of Franco Pepe’s project. In his own words, the name eventually encapsulates his need to give his project a name that could preserve his surname and, at the same time, make it different from his family bakery’s name where his brothers still work after their father’s death.



the first gathering of Caiazzos in Caiazzo, July 2 2022, Piazza Santo Stefano, Caiazzo (Italy)

Along the path just outlined that has seen growing interconnections between old and new names, rediscovered and renovated identities, the other naming ‘affair’ mentioned above has to do with the toponym itself and revolves around what we could probably call the start of a relationship between the place named Caiazzo and the people named Caiazzo. A few days ago, on the second of July, an event was organized in Piazza Santo Stefano that gathered all the Caiazzos that the Mayor, Stefano Giaquinto, and his aides were able to get in touch with (including myself!) as well as the inhabitants of Caiazzo and the nearby villages and towns. The Caiazzo ‘tribe’ was welcomed with a nice key ring bearing both the Caiazzo Coat of Arms and the name of the initiative Primo Raduno dei Caiazzo a Caiazzo.

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Also, seats were reserved for them in the first rows to attend a show performed by comedian Paolo Caiazzo.



key ring celebrating the event

As Stefano Giaquinto explains, when he was re-elected Mayor of Caiazzo in 2018, two circumstances intriguingly overlapped with one another. He happened to meet more and more people named Caiazzo in his job context and, at the same time, was reminded of a television show with Paolo Caiazzo that he had really enjoyed shortly before. So, the idea was born that the name Caiazzo might work as a catalyst for local knowledge creation and development, as it allowed him to connect different layers. This threefold symphony of Caiazzo-place, Caiazzo-‘tribe,’ and Caiazzo-show has been a successful event not only because of the excellent welcoming atmosphere but also and foremost because it has been able to create a sense of belonging and arouse curiosity around that. The challenge for next year’s second gathering, the Mayor says, is to track down as many Caiazzo as possible from abroad!

Names never stop surprising us. Both Pepe IN GRANI and Caiazzo have provided several threads weaving the narrative fabric of a place with still much to discover... And I am glad to be part of this name adventure.

My thanks to Master Franco Pepe and Mayor Stefano Giaquinto, for being willing to be interviewed. The information they have provided has been truly helpful to put together this short piece.

Luisa Caiazzo



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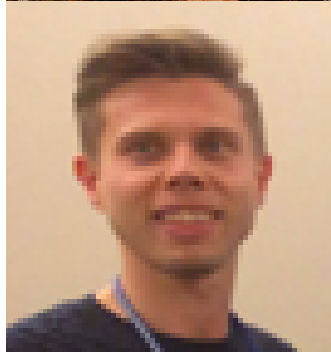
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