



Founded 1951

American Name Society *Bulletin*

Number 1 – Spring 2016

In this issue

The American Name Society 2017 Conferences

- Guest speaker 1
- Call for Papers 2
- Panel “Names and Multilingualism” 2

An Update from the President 3

- ANS Membership 3
- Sponsor a student 3
- Want to get more involved in the ANS? ... 4

ANS online 4

2016 ANS Annual Conference Washington, D.C.

- Washington D.C. 2016 in Review 4
- Emerging Scholar Award 2015 6
- Award: Best Article in Names 2015 6
- Name of the Year 2015 7
- Washington D.C. 2016 in Pictures 8
- New officers for 2016 10

Onomastic Research Worldwide

- A New Scholarly Society for Onomastic
Research 10
- The Names Institute: Call for Papers 10

In Memoriam

- W.F.H. “Bill” Nicolaisen (1927-2016) 11
- Dwan Shipley (1947-2016) 11

ANS Executive Council for 2016 12

Editor’s Message 13

Editor’s Note

ANS Bulletins are distributed electronically. Please contact me if you would like a paper copy.¹

The American Name Society 2017 Conferences

Next year’s Annual Meeting will be held in Austin, Texas, in conjunction with the Linguistic Society of America and the American Name Society Panel “Names and Multilingualism” will take place in Philadelphia, PA, during the Modern Language Association Convention.

Although closer in time to the successful conference in Washington D.C., we feel even closer to the upcoming conferences with great news about the first guest speaker and inspiring call for papers!

Guest Speaker for 2017 ANS Annual Conference

The ANS is pleased to announce that the first guest speaker for our annual conference in Austin, Texas will be Dr. Zenzi M. Griffin.



Dr. Zenzi M. Griffin

A faculty member of the Department of Psychology at the University of Texas at Austin, Dr. Griffin’s research centers upon the psychological processes involved in the retrieval and articulation of speech. For the 2017 conference, Dr. Zenzi will present on cutting-edge psycholinguistic

research conducted on the successful or unsuccessful retention and retrieval of personal names. As she described in a recent interview: “In particular, I’ll talk about factors that lead us to call the people (and animals) we know best in the world by the wrong names”. The title of the

scheduled presentation is “Cognitive Processes in Name Retrieval”.

Iman Nick

Calls for Papers for the 2017 ANS Annual Conference, January 5-8, 2017, Austin, TX

The American Name Society is now inviting abstract submissions for the 2017 Annual Conference to be held in Austin, Texas. Abstracts in any area of onomastic research are welcome.

Please send proposals by e-mail attachment (.doc or .docx format) to Dr. I. M. Nick using the following address: <mavi.yaz@web.de>.

For organizational purposes, please be sure to include the phrase "ANS 2017" in the subject line of your email. Presenters who may need additional time to secure international payments and travel visas to the United States are urged to submit their proposal as soon as possible.

All proposals will be subject to blind review. Official notification of proposal acceptances will be sent on or before September 30, 2016. All authors whose papers have been accepted must be current members of the ANS and register for both the ANS and the LSA.

Please feel free to contact Dr. I. M. Nick at the above address if you should have any questions. For information about the American Name Society, see www.americannamesociety.org. For information concerning the Linguistic Society of America, see www.lsadc.org.

Deadline for proposals: June 30, 2016.

Special Session: Texas Names

The 2017 annual meeting of ANS will be January 5-8 in Austin, TX. In recognition of this occasion I am organizing a special session devoted to Texas names. Abstracts on any aspect of Texas names are welcome: place names in Texas, personal names in Texas, regional or ethnic names in Texas, changes of names, pronunciation of Texas names, street names in Texas, ranch names, Texas brands, folk etymology in Texas names, fanciful stories attached to Texas names, names of Texas radio and TV stations, Texas highway names, names

of Texas politicians, Texas formal vs. colloquial names, Texas names in media, names of Texas newspapers, New England names in Texas, and on and on.



Austin, Texas

And you need not live in Texas nor be a native or even a naturalized Texan to participate. Texans, former Texans, closet Texans, Texas wannabees, Texans from all parts of the world are welcome. If you are interested in presenting a paper at this special session, I need nothing now but an email message from you expressing your interest and a general idea of your topic.

Please send your message as soon as convenient but no later than April 30 to me at: <callary1@hotmail.com>. See you in Austin!

Deadline for proposals: April 30, 2016.

Edward Callary

ANS Panel Names and Multilingualism January 5-8, 2017, Philadelphia, PA

The American Name Society has also invited proposals for a panel under the theme of “Names and Multilingualism” that will be held at the Modern Language Association conference in Philadelphia, PA. The initiative, proposed by Andreas Gavrielatos, has aroused a great deal of interest as shown by the innovative proposals received. Here is an excerpt from the Call for Papers (now completed) for this intriguing panel: “Multilingual and multicultural communities have been developed since the ancient world. The linguistic and cultural contacts within these communities have attracted the interest of a broad range of disciplines, where in some cases different strands have emerged. Personal as well

as place names mirror the interactions and the subsequent changes in those communities, thus modern scholarship often emphasizes their significance.” For further information, see www.americannamesociety.org/conferences/.

An Update from the President



Although it was only a few months ago that the 2016 Conference in Washington, D.C. took place, so many events have taken place.

Immediately after the conference, the ANS Executive Council (ANS-EC) regained its

work to streamline, modernize, and improve the services it offers to the ANS and the larger community. This work has involved the formation of several sub-committees. From updating our presence in Wikipedia to updating the ANS membership/subscription process, the members of the ANS-EC have working hard to increase the scholarly and popular presence of the ANS. I am very pleased to report that these efforts continue to pay-off greatly. Already this year, I have given interviews to reporters from international magazines and newspapers such as The Chicago Tribune, Time Magazine, The Globe, The Voice of America, and The Mail on the work of our Society as well as the importance of onomastic research.

Our growing success is also reflected in the growing number of people and institutions who are official ANS followers around the world. Although there is still more to do, the changes we have made in such a short period of time have been wonderfully exciting and inspiring. For that reason, I would like to take the opportunity to thank once again the members of the ANS-EC for all of their incredible dedication, enthusiasm, creativity, time, and energy.

This year has not only brought with it a number of important successes. It has also been marked by a number of significant losses. This

year, the ANS and international onomastics community have lost two cherished members: Dwan Shipley who died on the 12th of February 2016 in Washington State, USA; and W.F.H (Bill) Nicolaisen who died on February 15, 2016 in Aberdeen, Scotland. In this newsletter, we have provided more information about these two extraordinary scholars, whom many of us were proud to call our colleagues, mentors, and friends. As these two men exemplified, at the end of the day our greatest legacy is not measured by the number of papers published, lectures given, or books written. It is measured by the kindnesses shared, the ethics followed, and the strength of character shown.

Iman Nick

ANS Society Membership

After the past year and a half, the ANS Executive Council has been working hard to streamline and update the services offered to its members. One of the major projects currently underway is improving the subscription and renewal process. With that aim in mind, the ANS Information Officer (Lisa Radding), Membership Officer (Jennifer Moss), Treasurer (Michael McGoff), and President (Iman Nick) have been working intensively to design a new system of management. The aim is to have a system in place which will allow people to quickly and easily gain or renew their membership and automatic subscription to the ANS Journal, NAMES. Should you have any difficulty, questions, or concerns, please feel free to email our ANS Membership Officer, Jennifer Moss <jennifer@americannamesociety.org>. She would be more than happy to help you with your membership/subscription needs.

Sponsor a Student

As we all know, the study of names and naming can make an important contribution to not only the scholarly investigation of language. Onomastic research can also play a powerful role in increasing our collective understanding of and appreciation for the society at large. Given the enormous scholarly and societal importance of onomastics, it is critical that we work to increase awareness of this fascinating field of research amongst the next generation of researchers.

With that goal in mind, please do consider sponsoring the membership of a talented young scholar whom you think would be interested in pursuing research in onomastics. For only 33 dollars (30 Euros), you can ensure that a deserving student not only receives access to *NAMES*, one of the world's best known scholarly journals for onomastic research.

With official membership, a student can also receive regularly updates on scholarships, internships, conferences, calls for papers, and workshops throughout the international onomastic community. Finally, student members are also eligible to present their original research at one of the ANS annual conferences and to compete for the ANS Emerging Scholar Award. If you would like to like to open up the world of onomastics to a young scholar, simply send an email to our Membership Officer, Jennifer Moss <jennifer@americannamesociety.org>.

Want to Get More Involved in the ANS?

The ANS is always looking for volunteers. For example, we are currently in need of people to serve as an abstract reviewer for the 2017 conference in Austin, Texas. If you are interested, please email your full name, areas of onomastic expertise, and contact details to our ANS Vice President, Dorothy Dodge Robbins <d Robbins@latech.edu>.

Starting with the academic year 2017, we will also need new officers to fill upcoming vacancies. For example, starting this January, we will need a new **Information Officer** once Lisa Radding steps down. If you are highly computer literate, have excellent writing skills, and are a frequent and AVID user of social media, please do consider applying for this office. More details about this position will be announced by the ANS Nominating Committee via the ANS website SOON.

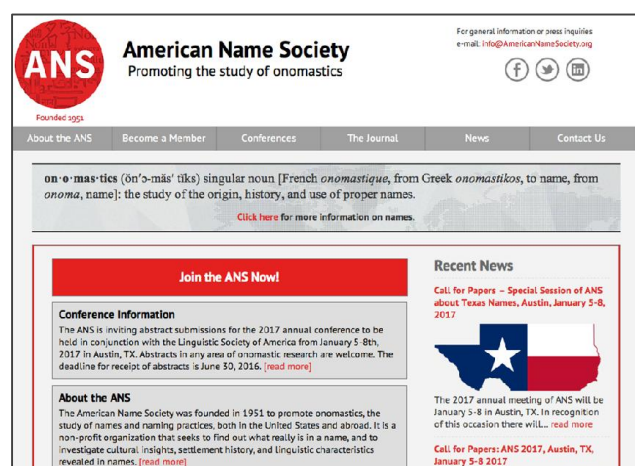
The ANS is also looking for volunteers interested in writing **book reviews** to appear in the ANS journal, *NAMES*. If you enjoy writing, are keenly interested in reading the newest publications in onomastics, and have no problem meeting deadlines, please do consider becoming an ANS book reviewer. Simply send your name, areas of onomastic expertise, affiliation, and contact details to our ANS journal Book Editor,

Chris De Vinne <cdevinne@ursuline.edu>. Reviewers who are fluent in Spanish, French, German, and Italian in addition to having native-speaker level proficiency in English are strongly encouraged to apply.

ANS online

ANS website

Last year, following the 2015 ANS Conference, Lisa Radding (Information Officer) began working on the new website, in conjunction with Iman Nick (ANS President) and Jennifer Moss (Website Designer).



The American Name Society website

Their accomplishment is truly valuable, both graphics and content are enticing. There is a great deal for name scholars, students and enthusiasts to enjoy! The news items, posted almost daily, include member news, calls for papers, conference information, articles posted by media outlets, journal information, onomastic research, and Name of the Year information.

As of December 24, 2015, there were 299 posts, 14,950 views, and 5,671 visitors!ⁱⁱ Definitely rewarding and more than encouraging!

ANS on Wikipedia

In order to further modernize the American Name Society and promote its visibility online, it was recently decided to update the ANS Wikipedia page. An ad hoc Committee was appointed last February with the specific aim of

rewriting some of the pre-existing ANS wikipedia sections and adding in quite a few new sections. The Committee is coordinated by Mirko Casagrande and includes Jan Tent and Sandra Wright, who all volunteered to be part of the project.

Together with the ANS President, Iman Nick, the Committee agreed to include the following sections: Nature and Mission of the ANS; History of the ANS; Members of the Executive Council; A General Introduction to Onomastics; NAMES: A Journal of Onomastics; Past and future conferences of the ANS; Special panels in other conferences; A History of Names of the Year; Important ANS Contacts; and External links. While the first draft is still under preparation, the Committee would like to request information from members, past and present. If any member of the American Name Society would like to suggest other sections to be added or would be willing to share particular piece of information to be included in the above-mentioned sections, please feel free to contact either ANS President, Iman Nick (mavi.yaz@web.de); the Information Officer, Lisa Radding Spira (lisarspira@gmail.com); or the Committee Coordinator, Mirko Casagrande (mirko.casagrande@unical.it).

The ANS Executive Council truly believes in team work and any suggestion would be highly appreciated! The new ANS Wikipedia webpage is expected to be online later on this spring. Since Wikipedia can be updated constantly, the committee will be periodically reviewing this site. If in the future any member of the Society would like to have something added, please send the material along for consideration and possible inclusion.

Mirko Casagrande

2016 ANS Annual Conference Washington, D.C.

This section provides an overview of our annual meeting in Washington D.C. that will certainly trigger very pleasant memories in those who were there, and offer those who could not attend

an opportunity to share the wonderful atmosphere the permeated our eventful meeting.

Washington D.C. 2016 in Review

Names reigned at the annual meeting of the American Name Society held in Washington, D.C. at the Marriott Marquis from January 7-10.

Highlights of the conference included two keynote addresses, fourteen panel sessions, the word of the year vote, and the ANS banquet. Names and science fiction, names and identity, names and literature, names and Africa, names and patterning, names and religion, names and place, and names and business were among the topics explored in panel presentations.

The conference attracted attendees from around the world including the United States, Russia, England, South Africa, Nigeria, Germany, Poland, and Albania.



Sara-Joelle Clark and Laura Ivanov



Jacqueline Pata

The first of two keynote speeches examined “Research and Preservation of Names at the United States Holocaust Museum Memorial.” Laura Ivanov and Sara-Joelle Clark of the USHMM shared with the audience their methods for recovering and preserving the names of both

victims and survivors of the Holocaust. They described the types of name-based collections available for public search at the USHMM.

Jacqueline Pata of the National Congress of American Indians focused on “Reclaiming Identity: Indigenous Stereotypes and Misperceptions” in the second keynote address. Ms. Pata noted that racist and derogatory “Indian” sports mascots, logos, and symbols continue to stereotype rather than honor the diverse cultural heritages of Native peoples.

Two awards were given at the conference. Dr. Michael Adams, Professor of English at Indiana University, Bloomington, received the award for the Best *NAMES* Article of the Year, and Maryann Parada, a doctoral candidate in Hispanic Linguistics at the University of Illinois at Chicago, received the Emerging Scholar Award.

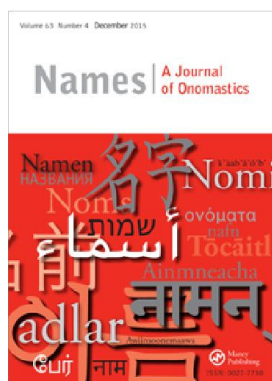
New friendships formed and old friendships were rekindled at the ANS Banquet held at Clyde’s on “Eye” Street. Good food, good atmosphere, the best conversation, and even better company were enjoyed by all. The spirited dinner was only slightly dampened by an unanticipated downpour, which found members sharing umbrellas and cabs as they headed back to the conference hotel.

Dorothy Dodge Robbins

Award for Best Article 2015

Names: A Journal of Onomastics

At its annual meeting in San Francisco January 8-11, 2009, the American Name Society agreed to provide an annual award for the best article in



Names: A Journal of Onomastics. This award is now in its sixth year. Receipt of this award is a significant honor for the recipient(s) and it signifies the highest academic achievement in the field of onomastics.

The 2015 Award Committee for Best Article in *Names: A Journal of Onomastics* consisted of the following individuals:

1. Michael F. McGoff, Binghamton University, SUNY, USA

2. John Algeo, Professor Emeritus, University of Georgia, USA

3. Kemp Williams, IBM, USA

The Award Committee members deserve special mention for their exceptional work and dedication in reviewing all of the articles that appeared in volume 63 (2015) before making their final decision on this year's winner. The Award Committee operates completely independently of the Editor. The award is given to only one article per year. The criteria include: (1) the significance of the article, and (2) the significance of the article to the science of onomastics. The decision of the Award Committee is final. The award consists of a plaque that reads as follows:

The American Name Society
Recognizes
Name(s) of Author(s)
For the Best Article to Appear in
Names: A Journal of Onomastics
For the Year 2015

The Award Committee has informed me that this year's Award winner is Michael Adams whose article entitled "'The Course of a Particular': Names and Narrative in the Works of Joseph Mitchell" appeared in *Names: A Journal of Onomastics* 63 (1): 3-15.

Frank Nuessel

Emerging Scholar Award 2015

Maryann Parada, a doctoral candidate in Hispanic Linguistics at the University of Illinois at Chicago, received the Emerging Scholar Award 2005 for her paper, “Ethnolinguistic Identity and the Names of Bilingual U. S. Latinos.” Her paper explored the name-language interface in the attitudes and identity stances of Latinos raised in the U.S.

The Emerging Scholar Award (ANSESA) is an annual award provided by The American Name Society, which recognizes the outstanding scholarship of a names researcher in the early stages of his/her academic or professional career.

To be eligible for this award, applicants must meet the following criteria: (1) be an entry-level professional, an untenured academic, or a student; (2) have had his/her single-authored abstract accepted for presentation at the ANS

annual conference; and (3) be a member of the ANS. (When submitting a paper, please refer to the ESA Style Guidelines).

The awardee receives a cash prize and mentoring by a senior onomastics scholar who will assist the awardee in preparing his/her paper for submission and possible publication in *NAMES: A Journal of Onomastics*.

For additional information, please contact ANS at info@AmericanNameSociety.org.

Dorothy Dodge Robbins

Name of the Year Vote 2015

More than a decade in, the Name of the Year Vote has become a beloved tradition at the ANS Annual Meeting, a real treat for all members. Over the years, this initiative proposed by Cleveland Evans back in 2003, has gained popularity and contributed to calling positive attention to the Society's activities also in the media (the News section of our website provides a recap of the event and links to articles that have been published)ⁱⁱⁱ.

Hosted by Cleveland Evans, the name competition was held on Friday, January 8, from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. In a warm atmosphere, the stimulating discussion about the several names nominated for 2015 was animated by insightful and humorous comments.

The names that won the floor for each of the four categories – fictional name, personal name, place name and trade name – were chosen as highly representative of the social significance and power of naming on several grounds.

Fictional Name: **Rey, Finn, and Poe**, the names of three new characters from *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* (2015). It was voted that all three should be treated as a single nominee because of a number of features they share, giving them onomastic and cultural significance. As noted by the crowd, their onomastic appeal ranges from how the names were created and represent a character to the influence they are likely to have on the choice of baby names.

Personal Name: **Caitlyn Jenner**, the name chosen by the athlete and reality television celebrity formerly known as Bruce Janner to rename herself. The very act of renaming was highlighted in her series *I Am Cait* and given further emphasis by the magazine *Vanity Fair* in

its cover line *Call me Caitlyn*. The name became known worldwide during 2015 as highly symbolic of a wide range of issues related to names and (re)naming.

Place Name: **Denali**. The official national name of Mount McKinley, the highest peak in North America, that was changed to Denali last August. This put the federal designation in line with the official state of Alaska designation, but was criticized by many in Ohio, original home of President McKinley. The onomastic debate surrounding that change shows the power of naming.

Trade Name: **Charlie Hebdo**, the name of the French satirical magazine attacked by terrorists, which gave rise to the hashtag “#jesuischarlie”.

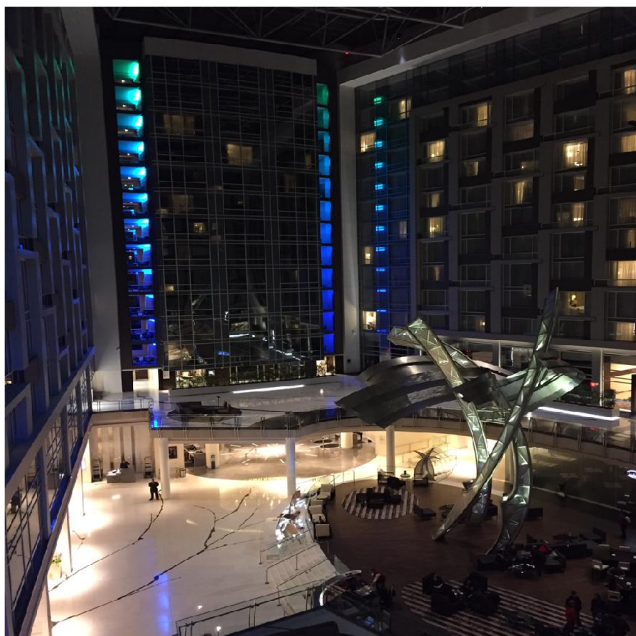


Caitlyn Jenner

Caitlyn Jenner gained the title of Name of the Year 2015. As Iman Nick, President of ANS, said in an interview: “Caitlyn Jenner is an example of how people in modern times are asserting their own identities by choosing their own names. Many cultures have allowed people to choose their own names after important life changes, and this right is being revived today in a positive ways by those like Caitlyn Jenner.” (from an article by Darren Wee available at <http://www.gaystarnews.com/article/singular-voted-word-year/#gs.null>).

For further information contact Dr. Cleveland Evans, chair of the Name of the Year committee, at <cevens@bellevue.edu> or 402-210-7458.

Washington D.C. 2016 in Pictures



Marriott Marquis, Washington, D.C



Kemp Williams and Priscilla Ord



Lisa Radding giving her presentation



ANS President Iman Nick presents the Emerging Scholar Award to Maryann Parada



Tom Gasque giving his presentation



One of the sessions



Social Dinner at Clyde's of Gallery Place (1)



Social Dinner at Clyde's of Gallery Place (2)



Social Dinner at Clyde's of Gallery Place (3)



Social Dinner at Clyde's of Gallery Place (4)



Washington Monument, Washington D.C.

Most of the photos included in the “Washington D.C. 2016 in Pictures” section were taken by Michael F. McGoff and a few of them were taken by the ANS Secretary, Luisa Caiazzo.

New officers for 2016

Five new officers were voted in at the ANS Annual Meeting. The slate of candidates identified by the Nominating Committee (Iman Nick, Chris De Vinne, Dorothy Dodge Robbins, and Sandra Wright) was approved by the assembly at the Executive Committee Meeting on the 7th of January. The new officers, voted in by the members present at the Society’s General Business Meeting held on the 9th of January, are as follows:

- Dr. Dorothy Dodge Robbins (Louisiana Tech University, USA), former Secretary for the ASN, as Vice President;
- Dr. Andreas Gavrielatos (University of Edinburgh, SCOTLAND) as Allied Conference Coordinator;
- Dr. Jan Tent (University of Sydney, AUSTRALIA) as Member-at-Large;
- Ms. Jennifer Moss (babynames.com, USA), Membership Officer;^{iv}
- Dr. Luisa Caiazzo (University of Naples, ITALY) as Secretary.

A very nice and detailed section of the Fall 2015 issue edited by Dorothy Dodge Robbins provides information on the new officers’ background.

Congratulations to all our new officers!

Onomastic research worldwide News and Call for Papers

A New Scholarly Society for Onomastic Research

This year, a new scholarly organization for names research joined the international onomastic community: Onomastika Elkarte / Sociedad Vasca de Onomastica / Société Basque d'Onomastique. According to the Society’s Secretary, Ander Ros, the primary aims of this

Society are to support and encourage the collection, study, and defense of the rich Basque onomastic heritage; to support researchers working within the field of Basques names and naming; to advise public and private institutions on naming policies; and to promote theoretical and applied onomastic science in general. With 16 founding members, the current governing body of the Society consists of Ricardo Cierbide, President; Mikel Belasko, Vice President; Ander Ros, Secretary; and Salvador Velilla, Treasurer. In the very near future, Onomastika Elkarte plans to publish an electronic journal on Basque names and naming. In the meantime, ANS members who are interested in learning more about this Society may send their questions to the following address: <info@onomastika.org>. Names researchers and enthusiasts who are interested in becoming a member are encouraged to visit the official website: <http://onomastika.org/>. The annual membership fee is €20.

Call for Papers: The Names Institute, 55th Annual Meeting, May 7, 2016, New York

The Names Institute was founded by the late E. Wallace McMullen at Fairleigh Dickinson University and directed by him for a quarter of a century. It then continued under the direction of Wayne H. Finke at The City University of New York. It will in 2016 hold its 55th annual meeting at Baruch College (CUNY) the first Saturday in May. All linguists, professional and amateur, are invited to attend. The Names Institute is interested in papers of all kinds on any aspect of personal names, place names, names in literature and commerce – names of all sorts. In 2016 it is hoped that the geolinguistic aspects of names, nationally and internationally, will be featured. To mark the 40th anniversary of The Names Institute, Wayne H. Finke & Leonard R. N. Ashley edited selected papers published as *A Garland of Names* on literary onomastics, names in business, personal name trends, toponymics (including names in the Lewis & Clark expedition), etc.

Information on the upcoming 55th annual Names Institute from

Professor Wayne H. Finke
Modern Languages B6-280

Baruch College (CUNY)
New York, NY 10010-5585

E-mail: wayne.finke@baruch.cuny.edu

Proposals for papers to be read at this meeting are to be sent to Professor Finke, preferably by e-mail, with a 150-word abstract of a 15-minute paper on any aspect of names and naming, theory or practice.

Come and enjoy New York City in the Spring and participate on May 7, 2016 at Baruch in a long-established, friendly scholarly conference. The deadline for the submission of abstracts is April 15, 2016 but early submissions are definitely encouraged. Why not act now?

Deadline for proposals: April 15, 2016

In Memoriam

W.F.H (Bill) Nicolaisen (1927-2016)

The American Name Society mourns the death of one of its leading lights. W.F.H (Bill) Nicolaisen died on February 15, 2016 in Aberdeen, Scotland.

Bill was born on June 13, 1927 in Halle/Salle, in east-central Germany, near Leipzig. A prolific author in all areas of onomastics, he also published extensively in folklore studies. In fact, in addition to having served as the president of the American Name Society, he is the only folklorist to have been president of both the American Folklore Society and the Folklore Society (Great Britain). The author of over 600 journal articles, perhaps Bill's most widely-known onomastic works are the 1976 *Scottish Place-Names* (London: B.T. Batsford), *The Names of Towns and Cities in Britain* (with M. Gelling and M. Richards) (London: B.T. Batsford), and "Place Names in Bilingual Communities" (*Names* 23: 167-74). He will be greatly missed.

Michael McGoff

(<http://www.americannamesociety.org/w-f-h-bill-nicolaisen-1927-2016/>)

Dwan Shipley (1947-2016)

The American Name Society is very sad to report the death of one of our cherished members, Professor Dwan Shipley. Dwan passed away on the 12th of February 2016 after battling

a long-term illness. An expert in anthroponymy, toponymy, and the preservation of indigenous languages of the Pacific Northwest, Dwan was a faculty member of the Linguistics Department at Western Washington University (WWU). In a recent interview featured in the *Western Front*, retired WWU Linguistics Director, Rudolf Weiss, stated that Dwan's combined passion for people and languages is the reason why so many WWU students picked linguistics as their major field of study. According to Dr. Shaw Gynan, a fellow Linguistics Professor at WWU, Dwan's devotion to academic excellence was a source of perpetual inspiration for both students and colleagues alike. "One of the things I loved most about Professor Shipley was his office," Gynan revealed in an email interview with the *Western Front*. "It was a scholar's den, filled to the rafters with references."

It was exactly that rare combination of intelligence and kindness that made Dwan such a cherished colleague and friend within the ANS family. As former ANS President Donna Lillian shared, "He was a scholar and a gentleman [...] He welcomed new and returning members alike with his kind and supportive presence, and I was proud to count him among my ANS friends." Similar sentiments were echoed by the current ANS Vice President, Dorothy Dodge Robbins, who wrote, "I always looked forward to seeing Dwan at our gatherings. He was a great onomastician and a genuinely decent human being."

Indeed, at a time when academia can feel very cold and uninviting, Dwan's gentle spirit and sincere warmth were a welcomed and powerful reminder of what true integrity and strength are. As the current ANS President, Iman Nick, said upon receiving the news of Dwan's death, "I felt sick to my stomach when WWU told me what had happened. He was always so incredibly generous with his time and his knowledge. He was the kind of person who made everyone around him feel completely at ease. His soft smile and his gentle laughter will be terribly missed." Sandra Wright, ANS member-at-large, expressed a similar sense of loss and appreciation. "Dwan," she related, was not only "an incredible scholar, but also such a genuine and thoughtful person [...]."

In celebration of Dwan's life, the WWU Linguistics Program has established a special scholarship fund in his name. Please type "Dwan Shipley Memorial Scholarship" into the gift designation box. Alternatively, check donations can be sent to the following postal address: WWU Foundation, 516 High Street, Bellingham, WA 98225-9034. Please be sure to include the name "Dwan Shipley Memorial Scholarship" in the memo line of the check. A special memorial service was held on Wednesday, the 24th of February 2016 at the Dakota Creek Christian Center in Blaine, Washington. Dwan is survived by his wife, Nita.

We at the ANS wish to express our heartfelt condolences to the Shipley family as well as the students and staff of the Linguistics Department of Western Washington University.

Iman Nick

(<http://www.americannamesociety.org/dwan-shipley-1947-2016/>)

ANS Executive Council for 2016

ANS Officers

Dr. Iman Nick, President, Germanic Society for Forensic Linguistics (GERMANY)

mavi.yaz@web.de

Dr. Dorothy Dodge Robbins, Vice President, Louisiana Tech University (USA)

drobbins@latech.edu

Dr. Luisa Caiazzo, Secretary, University of Naples "L'Orientale" (ITALY)

lcaiazzo@unior.it

Dr. Christine De Vinne, Book Editor of NAMES: A Journal of Onomastics, Ursuline College (USA)

cdevinne@ursuline.edu

Dr. Cleveland Evans, Coordinator of the Name of the Year Election, Bellevue University (USA)

cleveland.evans@bellevue.edu

Dr. Andreas Gavrielatos, Allied Conference Coordinator, University of Edinburgh (SCOTLAND)

a.gavrielatos@ed.ac.uk

Dr. Donna L. Lillian, Immediate Past President, Appalachian State University (USA)

lilliandl@appstate.edu

Dr. Michael F. McGoff, Treasurer, Binghamton University (USA)

mmcgoff@binghamton.edu

Ms. Jennifer Moss, Membership Officer, babynames.com (USA)

jennifer@babynames.com

Dr. Frank Nuessel, Editor of *NAMES: A Journal of Onomastics*, University of Louisville (USA)

frank.nuessel@louisville.edu

Ms. Lisa (Radding) Spira, Information Officer, Ethnic Technologies (USA)

lisarspira@gmail.com

Members at Large

Dr. Sandra Wright, California State University at Chico (USA): 2014-2016

skwright@csuchico.edu

Dr. Mirko Casagrande, University of Calabria (ITALY): 2015-2017

mirko.casagrande@unical.it

Dr. Jan Tent, Macquarie University (AUSTRALIA): 2016-2018

jan.tent@mq.edu.au



*ANS Executive Council Meeting
January 10, 2016, Washington D.C.*

Editor's message

Dear ANS members,

It is indeed a great honour to be the Newsletter Editor for the American Name Society and it is my immense pleasure to launch this first edition for 2016.

I would like to thank all the members for their articles and photos without which there wouldn't have been this newsletter issue.

Many thanks to Dorothy Dodge Robbins, former Secretary and Editor of the ANS newsletter: the issues she edited and her suggestions have provided extremely useful guidance.

Last but not least, my huge, special thanks to our President Iman Nick for her supportive and insightful comments that have been more than helpful for the final version of this newsletter.

In closing, I hope that you will enjoy the newsletter in its slightly new format. Comments, suggestions and contributions for the next issue will be gratefully received.

Thank you all for your support and cooperation!

Luisa Caiazzo

ⁱ Luisa Caiazzo
Riviera di Chiaia 207
80121 Napoli, Italy

ⁱⁱ Data provided by Lisa Radding (Information Officer).

ⁱⁱⁱ Here are some articles on the Name of the Year 2015:

- "2015 Name of Year Winner and Nominee Recap"
by Cleveland Evans
- "In depth look at the 2015 Name of the Year"
by Mallory Moss
- "'Caitlyn Jenner' Is the 2015 Name of the Year"
by Katy Steinmetz

All of them can be accessed at

<http://www.americannamesociety.org/category/conferences/ans-conference-2016/>

^{iv} This is a newly created ANS office. The Membership Officer is principally responsible for maintaining the Society files on all ANS members, developing strategies for securing new ANS members and for providing support services for current ANS members.