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DSNA

NEWSLETTER

Robert Chapman

1920 - 2002

Robert Lundquist Chapman, best known for editing the fifth edition of Roget's Thesaurus (1992), died February 2, 2002 at the age of 81. He is survived by his wife Sarah and three sons. Two tributes, by DSNA members who were friends of long standing, follow. The first is an account of his life by Richard Bailey:

An enthusiastic lexicographer, Bob Chapman began his career as the supervising editor of Funk & Wagnalls *Standard College Dictionary* (1963) and, after an interval as a college teacher, took on the fourth and fifth editions of *Roget's Thesaurus* (1977 and 1992) and, in between, *The New Dictionary of American Slang* (1986). According to the obituary published in *The New York Times* (2/5/2002), the proceeds from the 1977 *Thesaurus* allowed him to buy a 26-foot sailboat called, appropriately enough, *Thesaurus*.

Born in West Virginia, Bob came to the University of Michigan where he enrolled for the successive semesters of 1941-42 in classes taught by W. H. Auden, then visiting the English department here. Recollecting these two remarkable courses thirty-five years later, he described the experience as transforming. "As a teacher," he wrote, "I have been trying to follow Auden's lead."

Marrying Sarah Zeitz in 1942, Bob went off to war, where he was a radio officer and rose to the rank of first lieutenant. Among the highlights of his service was his



Bob and Sarah Chapman on a friend's yacht on August 8, 1991; they were celebrating their 49th wedding anniversary.

role in the recovery of the Hungarian coronation regalia. The "crown guards" fled the advancing Soviet army and delivered the crown of St. Stephen (among other valuables) to Bob's unit. These treasures became symbolic hostages of the cold war until returned to Hungary in 1977, and their delivery to American forces in the last days of World War II the subject of intrigue and dispute.

Returning to Ann Arbor, Bob completed three degrees in short order: B. A.

(1947), M. A. (1948), and Ph.D (1952). Two members of his doctoral committee — he prepared an edition of a late medieval romance — doubtless influenced his bent toward lexicography: Sherman M. Kuhn, then the associate editor of *The Middle English Dictionary* and Albert H. Marckwardt.

After eight years as a college teacher, he was recruited to work full time on the *Standard College Dictionary*. Just as that book was ready to be published, a letter reached his supervisor. If Bob's name appeared anywhere in the volume, it said, his activities in leftist organizations in Ann Arbor would be made public, and the state of Texas would not purchase copies for use in schools there. Bowing to this pressure (though with regret), the publisher omitted his name and, shortly thereafter, helped him to a position at Drew University in Madison, New Jersey, where he rose in due course to the honor of a named chair. There his political background was known and accepted, but late-flowering McCarthyism had diverted his career.

Bob's interest in dictionaries did not diminish, however. In 1973, he participated in the "Lexicography in English" conference held at the New York Academy of Sciences, where he proposed an "English language observatory" to collect information on usage. In 1977, he wrote guidelines for dictionary reviewers, suggestions that merit

Pay DSNA Dues at Euralex

DSNA members attending the Euralex conference in Copenhagen this August will have the option of paying their DSNA dues directly to board member Erin McKean. If you want to take advantage of this, Erin will be on hand to take your money.

Continued on page 5

News of Members

Robert Lewis, editor of the recently completed *Middle English Dictionary*, will receive the University of Michigan Distinguished Faculty Achievement Award this fall. This is the highest of the various levels of recognition at the U. of Michigan, and the citation celebrates his painstaking work at bringing this great dictionary to completion.

Rima McKinzey and her husband Kim recently took a 10-day trip to France, with emphasis on Normandy, where they met up with **Elizabeth Knowles** of OUP and spent some stimulating hours discussing, well, Buffy the Vampire Slayer. Rima also reports hearing some "fabulous" UK accents.

Theo P.J. van den Hout and his co-editors, Hans G. Güterbock and Harry A. Hoffner, have recently completed Fascicle 1 of Volume S (**sa-** to **saptamenzu**) of *The Hittite Dictionary*, a project of the Oriental Institute of the U. of Chicago. It has 208 pages and the price is \$40. □

President's Report

Dictionaries flourish, and with them your Society.

Our Meeting. Details elsewhere in this issue of the *Newsletter* invite you to attend and participate in the 2003 biennial meeting at Duke University.

We are grateful to Ron Butters and his colleagues for their work in preparing for it.

ACLS Delegate. The American Council of Learned Societies meets in May to discuss the state of the humanities, particularly the context for funding and fellowships. Many of our members have been or are recipients of such funding, and thus our delegate needs to make our work known. I am happy to have appointed Michael Adams, editor of *Dictionaries*, to be our delegate for the next three years.

Urdang Award. We are delighted to be able to continue the \$2500 competition for the Urdang Award in support of projects in lexicography and lexicology. Applications for the 2003 award should be sent to me, either by e-mail: <rwbailey@umich.edu> or by regular mail: Richard W. Bailey, Department of English, The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1003. I appreciate the help of last year's members of the selection committee: Joan Hall and Michael Adams.

Fellows. We have not recently appointed new fellows to DSNA and would like to recognize senior persons who have been members of the Society and made distinguished contributions to the field. Your executive committee has begun a list of nominees, and we would be happy to add your suggestions to it (by December 2002, please). New fellows will be named at the 2003 meeting.

I am delighted to serve as your president.

— Richard W. Bailey

Urdang Award for 2002

The Laurence Urdang-DSNA Award, given for the support of lexicographical study and research, is made

possible by the generosity of longtime DSNA member Laurence Urdang. It supports one or more lexicographical projects each year, with awards between \$500 and \$2,500. The two recipients for the 2002 award are Dabney Bankert and the team of Georgina Dopico-Black and Jacques Lezra.

Dabney Bankert, Assistant Professor of Medieval Literature, Dept of English, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA, describes her project as follows: "*The Bosworth-Toller Anglo-Saxon Dictionary and Supplement* combined has stood as one of the most important and certainly the most accessible lexical resources for Old English research, and its impact on scholarship has been incalculable. Yet the history of its compilation and reception has never been investigated, nor have its two principal creators, Joseph Bosworth and Thomas Northcote Toller, received any significant attention from scholars. The purpose of this project is to determine the methodologies and processes of its compilation; to elucidate the compilers' roles; and to authenticate and historicize the *Dictionary's* important contributions to the lexical foundations of Anglo-Saxon scholarship."

Georgina Dopico-Black, Associate Professor, Dept of Spanish and Portuguese, New York U., and Jacques Lezra, Professor of English and Spanish, U. of Wisconsin, Madison, are working together on an archival research project to be carried out in Spain. They describe it as follows: "Our project is intended to produce the first complete edition of Sebastián de Covarrubias's 1611-1613 *Tesoro de la lengua Española Castellana*, the first monolingual dictionary of Spanish and a touchstone for early modern European studies. The research that the Urdang fellowship generously supports bears in particular on details of the lexicographer's biography during the time of the composition of the *Tesoro*, and will encompass archives in Simancas, Córdoba, Seville, Valencia, and Madrid. We hope to have the manuscript prepared for publication by Editorial Poliferno (Madrid) by the fall of 2002."

How to Apply for 2003

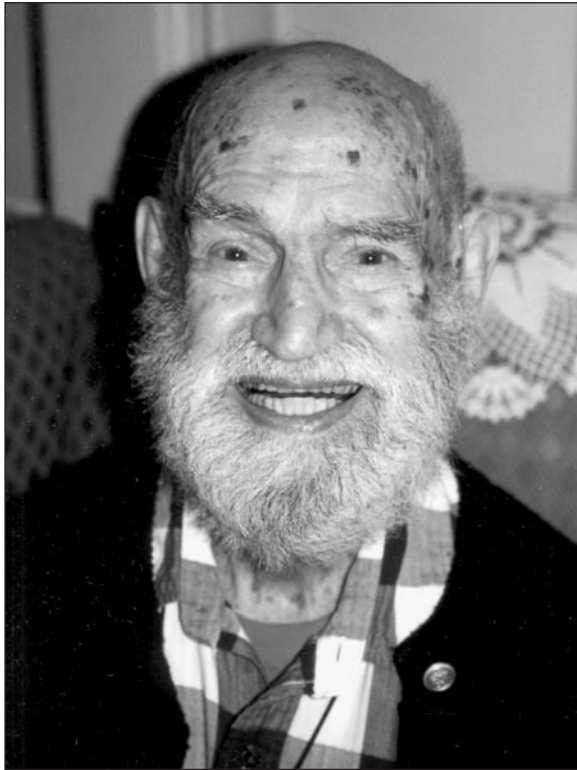
Those interested in applying for the 2003 award should note the following requirements. Applicants must be current members of DSNA. The proposal should include: 1) the project name; 2) the applicant's name and address; 3) a statement of the project's immediate goals and expected long-range results; 4) a description of the methodology or procedures to be used; 5) a summary budget of total expenses for the project (costs of travel, tuition, materials, subsistence, and related expenses); 6) identification of other sources of support available for the project; and 7) a biographical résumé (approx. 500 words). The application should total no more than about 1500 words or three pages single-spaced, including the résumé. Send your proposal to DSNA President Richard W. Bailey at <rwbailey@umich.edu> or Dept of English, The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1003.

The application deadline is 1 Dec. 2002. Awards will be made early in 2003. The Society requests a copy of any publication arising from the award project.

Information can also be obtained from the DSNA web site (see the last page of this *Newsletter* for the URL). □

The DSNA Fellows

Profile Number One: Allen Walker Read



Allen in November 2001. Photo by Julia Huttar Bailey.

The first Fellows of the DSNA were named in 1983. Provision for the category of Fellow, to recognize notable contributors to the field of lexicography, had been established in the Society's constitution of 1979. The four people chosen in 1983 serve as shining examples of excellence in the field. They were Sherman Kuhn, Mitford Mathews, Raven McDavid, and Allen Walker Read.

Allen is the only surviving member of that first, illustrious Group of Four. Now 96, he maintains his interest in the field. His output over his career spanning three quarters of a century has been prodigious and memorable. In an appendix to the recently published *Milestones in the History of English in America*, a collection of Dr. Read's essays, Richard Bailey, editor of the volume, lists over 300 papers, covering the years 1926 to 1994, and remarks that it is probably not complete.

Read's linguistic investigations have been wide ranging, but he is particularly famous for his definitive research on the origin of *OK* and on U.S. place names. He has given many talks at American Dialect Society, American Name Society, and DSNA meetings over the years. In addition to their always-interesting content, they have been a delight to listen to, because of his pleasantly distinctive voice and manner of presentation. It is difficult to read his writings without hearing that gentle, erudite voice in your mind!

Allen is a founding member of the DSNA and has always been active in the Society. He served on its publications committee from 1977 to 1981 and was president from 1981 to 1983.

His career has covered both the academic field and the practical world of dictionary publishing. In 1926, at the age of 20, he began teaching freshman English at the University of Missouri. From 1928 to 1931, he was at Oxford on a Rhodes scholarship, returning in 1931 to resume teaching at the University of Missouri. A year later, he left Missouri to take a position at the University of Chicago as assistant editor on the *Dictionary of American English*, under the direction of Sir William Craigie. This must have been a wonderful experience for him. In his presidential address to the Linguistic Association of Canada and the United States (LACUS) in 1987, Read said of Craigie, "His austere scholarship has remained an ideal throughout my life."

Receiving a Guggenheim fellowship in 1938, he left the University of Chicago for England, to work at the British Museum on his own lexicographical project, which, he has said, has been his life's work. This is his dictionary of *Briticisms*, for which he has collected an enormous amount of data, including over 100,000 illustrative quotations, but which remains unfinished. The project is still alive, however; a few years ago, Read invited John Algeo to collaborate with him on completing the work and seeing it into print.

This project, so dear to his heart, was interrupted by the advent of war. He had to return to the U.S. in 1939 and in 1942 he was drafted into the army. Even the army needs lexicographers and he was assigned to a dictionary-making team, compiling materials for a dictionary of military terms. A year later, he was assigned to the Language Section of the War Department, where he worked on various linguistic projects. He lived in Greenwich Village in New York City and reported in his 1987 LACUS address that he "felt that it was almost indecent to be in such an interesting and stimulating situation when a war was going on."

After the war, he went to Columbia University, where he continued his work in lexicography, the history of American English, usage studies, research in American place names, and other interests.

He retired from Columbia in 1974 as an emeritus professor of English. In 1988, he was awarded a doctorate by Oxford University on the strength of the scholarly work he had done over the years following his stint as a Rhodes scholar there. (He had received a B.Litt from Oxford in the 1940s.)

As noted in the previous issue of the *Newsletter*, Allen has had two new publications in the last year. *America: Naming the Country and Its People* was published by Mellen Press in 2001. It is a collection of his unpublished papers on names. Then this year, *Milestones in the History of English in America* was published by Duke University Press for the American Dialect Society. *Milestones* contains both published and unpublished papers and includes his famous papers on the word *OK*. Both of these books are available through the publishers' web sites.

We wish Allen Walker Read all the best and even dare to hope that he will one day see his dictionary of *Briticisms* in print.

— Victoria Neufeldt

The Cordell Corner

By David Vancil

Cordell Fellowship Thrives

The Cordell Collection is pleased announce the second recipient of a Cordell Fellowship, Dr. Linda C. Mitchell of the Department of English at San Jose State University. A member of both Euralex and the DSNA, Linda will be conducting research in seventeenth- and eighteenth-century dictionaries and other language books for three weeks in July. The main focus of her research is the cultural issues of the period as they are reflected in dictionaries, for a book already accepted for publication and to be entitled *Dictionaries and the Dynamic Change in Seventeenth-Century and Eighteenth-Century England*.

The author of *Grammar Wars: Language as Cultural Battlefield in 17th and 18th-Century England* (2001), which is based on research done in a number of research libraries and rare book holdings, Linda will be building on work she conducted in great part in the Cordell Collection during a weeklong visit in August 2001. As much interested in pedagogies and methodologies as the lexical contents of the dictionaries, she will be examining "prefaces, introductions, forewords, statements of intent, organization of materials, surrounding materials, and manifestos of pedagogy, philosophy, and social or political goals." In addition to dictionaries, Linda will be using other materials in which the Cordell Collection is rich, including "grammars, handbooks, universal language schemes, encyclopedias, and English for foreigners."

Dr. Mitchell has given three papers and published one article from her previous one-week stay in 2001. We are pleased to have someone with Linda's research agenda and record of achievement utilizing the fellowship. We look forward to the imminent publication of her new book.

Fellowship Endowment Receives External Support

Linda is among two researchers who are beneficiaries of a Cordell Fellowship in 2002. We will report on the other two researchers in a later newsletter. Since we are hosting three researchers, it may appear that the fellowship is with funding in the same year, but this is not the case. I was able set aside some initial funds which were not used in the first year and to add to them with donations the next year. Rob Rulon-Miller, an antiquarian bookseller who specializes in language materials and a longtime friend of the Cordell Collection, donated funds last year

and will do so again this year. We all owe Rob our appreciation for helping to get the Cordell Fellowship off to a great start. Meanwhile, I hope any of you who take advantage of the fellowship feel free to suggest possible sources for additional funding. I am not shy about asking for an investment in a research opportunity of this caliber. We need to boost the principal as quickly and as much as possible to assure the continued availability of funding for several researchers a year to make the trip to Terre Haute, sometimes from very great distances. Suggestions and donations are welcome.

Recent Gift of Books

The Cordell Collection would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Barbara Kipfer, who has donated two boxes of dictionaries and related material to the collection. While Barbara might have sold the books or had an agent sell them, she chose to donate them to the collection. As a curator with a decidedly biased view, I commend Barbara for her decision. I encourage other individuals with relatively small collections to consider donation. In fact, there can be financial advantages, since donations to libraries and similar entities can be considered similar to charitable contributions and may be used for tax purposes. As long as your donation is under \$5,000, it's rather simple to use the proper form from the IRS and to assign a fair market value to the aggregate of books you have donated. Generally, no appraisal is required for donations of this type.

With visits to local bookstores and searches on the Internet, you'll find it easy to come up with the fair market value of your gift. Although, as a librarian, I am forbidden to provide appraisals, I can direct you to resources that will answer your questions. Individuals who want to make more valuable gifts might want to consider the installment plan, donating their books over several years. You may think we have everything already, but it's not so. Among Barbara's gifts were several titles we lacked. Again, thank you, Dr. Barbara Kipfer.

Summer Hours

This summer departmental hours are 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3 p.m. But if you show up at the door saying you're a member of the DSNA, we'll let you in before or after our regular hours. Just wave. Meanwhile I wish everyone a wonderful summer.

David Vancil, Curator of the Cordell Collection of Dictionaries, Cunningham Memorial Library, Indiana State U., Terre Haute, IN 47809. E-mail: libvanc@isugw.instate.edu Tel.: (812) 237-2611. Questions, comments, and ideas for column are welcome. The Cordell Collection on the web (updates and new data posted regularly): <http://odin.indstate.edu/level1.dir/cml/rbrc/rare2.html#Cordell>

Chapman *Continued from page 1*

more attention than they have received as lightly informed journalists are assigned to review new ones.

The impulse that brought him to lexicography in the first place was summed up in a statement he wrote for *Contemporary Authors*: "I want to discover as much as I can about how the mind works with language and how language responds to the desires of the mind."

His successor as editor of *Roget's Thesaurus* and of the slang dictionary, Barbara Ann Kipfer, remembers his deep learning and high sense of fun. "For his contributions to American lexicography," she writes, "Dr. Chapman takes his place alongside those such as Clarence Barnhart."

In a letter of May 1979 to one of his friends from Auden's class, Bob explained his plan to take a sabbatical in a villa in Italy. "Writing a dictionary of American slang with a view of Florence is the only way to do it," he declared. He was, in short, not afraid of pleasure.

Bob attended the DSNA meeting at Berkeley in 1999 and found that lexicography was in good health and good hands.



Herbert Morton writes a remembrance of a 10-year friendship with "Chap", maintained largely through correspondence:

Chap brightened my life for nearly a decade with his letters on dictionary-making, travel, tennis, music, and whatever else popped into his lively mind. I can't recall a perfunctory letter from him or a dull one.

His first letter, written July 3, 1991, ran three and a half pages, ranging far beyond the questions I had asked



Skipper on watch: Chap on his beloved boat, 1986

about his exceptional review of *Webster's Third*. He was probably in an expansive mood that day. His new edition of *Roget's Thesaurus* was in press, and he was already immersed in editing a third edition of *The Dictionary of American Slang*. He had high hopes for the new *Thesaurus* but probably nothing like the unusual tribute he received much later from the chairman of St. Martin's Press, Tom McCormack, who put his competing edition of *Roget's* out of print because Chap's was so superior. Chap said, "I felt guilty at the thought of someone buying ours instead of his." The *Washington Post* jocularly called this event "unprecedented since the invention of movable type."

After that first letter, our correspondence took off. By the time we met in September 1992 — when Chap lectured

at the Smithsonian Institution on *Roget's Thesaurus* — it was in full swing. "Let's keep it going," he wrote in my copy of his book.

Here are some quotes from later letters:

▷ On language: "It seems to me that one can have two prominent attitudes toward language. One is fun-loving, free and genuinely idiosyncratic... The other is scientific... I have forever been both of these, hence forever inner torn. Sober-faced lexicographer continually at odds with Puck.

"I quite approved the first definition of unicorn in *ACD*. 'A fabulous animal with a single horn, said to elude every captor save a virgin, and seldom caught.'"

▷ On choral singing, which began to be a big part of his life in 1955: "The big Bach piece I liked best was the St. Matthew Passion which we sang annually six years in a row at St. George's in NYC. And by God it was worth it, to really get to know the guts of a monumental classic like that."

▷ "I'm writing to tell you that Charles Sleeth died the other day, of a stroke in the heat of Washington. The service was brief, and the only tribute paid was by a woman in the Fourth World Movement, which Charles helped form. Well, you and I honor him for his excellent etymological service to lexicography. We may not see his like again in the United States."

▷ "The elections were the same as usual: everybody I voted for got beat."

▷ "I actively wonder whether I am at last able to take it easy. Not working, not having some chunk of marble to chip away at, has always seemed to me bootless.... The prospect of honing my mind without the prospect of use is alien."

My file of Chap's letters keeps alive my memory of a humane and talented man whose gift of friendship late in life I continue to cherish. □

DSNA 2003: Call for Papers

Members are invited to submit abstracts of one page (about 500 words) for 20-minute papers to be presented at the 14th biennial meeting of DSNA, May 29 - 31 (Thurs. - Sat.), at Duke University in Durham, NC. The paper may be on any aspect of dictionaries. The abstracts will be reviewed anonymously. The deadline is December 1st. The e-mail address for submission is <linguistics@duke.edu> (on subject line, write "DSNA14 abstract"). To submit by regular mail, write to:

DSNA Abstract Submission
c/o Marge Wolfram
Linguistics Program
314 Allen Building
Duke University
Durham, NC 27708-0015

Additional information may be found at the excellent web site set up by Marge Wolfram:
www.duke.edu/web/linguistics/dsna.htm

Information about accommodations, registration, etc. will appear in the Fall 2002 issue of the *Newsletter*. □

Publications of Lexicographical Interest

Publications Received by DSNA in 2002

- The American Heritage College Dictionary*, 4th ed. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 2002.
- Henne, Helmut, Heidrun Kämper & Georg Objartel. *Hermann Paul Deutsches Wörterbuch*, 10., überarbeitete und erweiterte Auflage. Tübingen: Max Niemeyer Verlag, 2002.
- Munske, Horst Haider, ed. *Handbuch des Friesischen/Handbook of Frisian Studies*. Tübingen: Max Niemeyer Verlag, 2002.
- Muthmann, Gustav. *Rückläufiges deutsches Wörterbuch: Handbuch der Wortausgänge im Deutschen, mit Beachtung der Wort- und Lautstruktur*. Tübingen: Max Niemeyer Verlag, 2001.
- Müller, Peter O. *Deutsche Lexikographie des 16. Jahrhunderts - Konzeptionen und Funktionen frühneuzeitlicher Wörterbücher*. Tübingen: Max Niemeyer Verlag, 2001.
- Holtus, Günter, Michael Metzeltin, & Christian Schmitt, eds. *Lexikon der Romanistischen Linguistik*, Band I, 1. Tübingen: Max Niemeyer Verlag, 2001.

Other Recent Publications

- Ammer, Christine. *Facts on File Dictionary of Cliches*. Facts on File, 2001.
- Benson, Phil. *Ethnocentrism and the English Dictionary*. Routledge, 2001.
- Cambridge Learner's Dictionary*. Cambridge U. Press, 2001.
- Chambers Compact Dictionary*. Larousse Kingfisher Chambers, 2001.
- Collins COBUILD English Dictionary*, 3d ed. Collins, 2001.
- Collins Spanish Dictionary*, 6th ed. HarperCollins, 2000.
- Crystal, David. *A Dictionary of Language*, 2d ed. U. of Chicago Press, 2001.
- Garner, Bryan A. *A Dictionary of Modern Legal Usage*, 2d ed. Oxford U. Press, 2000.
- Golden, Peter B., & Tibor Halasi-Kun, eds. *The King's Dictionary: The Rasulid Hexaglot: Fourteenth Century Vocabularies in Arabic, Persian, Turkic, Greek, Armenian, and Mongol*. Brill, 2000.
- Hadrovics, Laszlo & Istvan Nyomarka. *Hungarian-Serbian Dictionary*. Akademiai Kiado, 2000.
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- Hince, Bernadette. *The Antarctic Dictionary: A Complete Guide to Antarctic English*. Collingwood, Victoria, Australia: CSIRO Publishing and Museum Victoria, 2000.
- Hindley, Alan, Frederick W. Langley, & Brian J. Levy. *Old French English Dictionary*. Cambridge U. Press, 2000.
- International Acronyms, Initialisms and Abbreviations Dictionary*, 5th ed., Vol. 1. Gale, 2001.
- Jettee, Jules, & Eliza Jones. *Koyukon Athabaskan Dictionary*. Alaska Native Language Center, 2000.
- Jones, William Jervis. *German Lexicography in the European Context: A Descriptive Bibliography of Printed Dictionaries*

and Word Lists Containing German Language (1600-1700). de Gruyter, 2000.

- Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English*, 3d ed. Longman, 2001.
- Martin, Jack, & Margaret McKane Mauldin. *A Dictionary of Creek/Muskogee: With Notes on the Florida and Oklahoma Seminole Dialects of Creek*. U. of Nebraska Press, 2000.
- Melcuk Igor, et al. *Dictionnaire explicatif et combinatoire du français contemporain*. Recherches lexico-semantiques, Vol. 4. Montréal: Les Presses de l'U. de Montréal, 2000.
- Robillard, Pierre, et al., eds. *The New Tibetan-English Dictionary of Modern Tibetan*. U. of California Press, 2001.
- Sager, Juan C., ed. *Essays on Definition. Terminology and Lexicography Research and Practice*, 4. John Benjamins, 2000.
- Shumaker, Walter A, et al. *The Cyclopedic Law Dictionary*, 2d ed. The Lawbook Exchange, Ltd. 2001.
- Szende, T., ed. *Approches contrastives en lexicographie bilingue*. Paris: Honoré Champion, 2000.
- Tal, Abraham. *Dictionary of Samaritan Arabic*. Brill, 2000.
- Tulpule, Shankar Gopal, & Anne Feldhaus. *A Dictionary of Old Marathi*. Oxford U.Press, 2000.
- Temmerman, Rita. *Towards New Ways of Terminology Description: The Sociocognitive Approach. Terminology and Lexicography Research and Practice*, 3. John Benjamins, 2000.
- Venes, Donald, et al, eds. *Taber's Cyclopedic Medical Dictionary*, 19th ed. F.A. Davis Co., 2001.
- Viegas, Evelyn. *Breadth and Depth of Semantic Lexicons*. Dordrecht: Kluwer, 2000. □

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ACLS Report

Each May the American Council of Learned Societies gathers to discuss the state of the humanities (and humanistic social sciences), to learn about new developments in funding or in the laws of intellectual property, and to hear the Haskins lecture, "A Life of Learning."

Luanne von Schneidmesser, our executive secretary, now chairs the council of administrative officers of the member societies. They exchange information about the daily administration of the societies, such as managing mailing lists, organizing national meetings, and helping to foster new memberships. As I glimpsed her at the podium of the CAO meeting, I felt proud that someone from our tiny society occupies so well a respected leadership role.

After lunch on the first day of the meeting, the chair of the National Endowment for the Humanities speaks, and this was our first opportunity to hear the newly appointed Bruce Cole. He spoke forcefully and well (in part about the plagiarism scandals and the need for us to speak out about scholarly integrity). Afterwards I thanked him for supporting the *MED*, *DARE*, and other scholarly tools prepared by lexicographers. He is strongly support-

ive of the enduring, the national, and the excellent in NEH endeavors.

As is often the case, panels were convened on the assumption that most delegates are faculty members and interested in the state of universities. A focal topic this year was the need to collect data and trends in our fields as a countermeasure to witless anecdote that finds itself into publicity about our work.

The Haskins lecture was delivered by Henry A. Millon, at the end of his career in charge of a center for the visual arts at the National Gallery. Aside from the autobiographical details demanded by the title and tradition, Dean Millon described the problems of organizing archival information (about architecture in this case) for easy access.

Saturday morning was devoted to memorial remarks about the late John D'Arms, President of ACLS. Many will recall that John attended the DSNAs meeting in Berkeley to see what ACLS might do for us. He was a remarkable man and our good friend.

— Richard W. Bailey, Delegate

Calendar

August 13-17, 2002. U. of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark. Tenth Euralex Congress. Organized by the Center for Sprogteknologi (CST). Fees for Euralex/DSNA members for the full program: before 1 May, 2100 DKK; before 10 July, 2600 DKK; after that, only on-site registration accepted, at 2800 DKK. For further information, contact Anna Braasch, CST, Njalsgade 80, DK-2300 Copenhagen S, Denmark.
Conference e-mail: elx2002@cst.ku.dk
Conference web site: <http://www.cst.dk/elx2002> □

Looking It Up

Now Russia too has a dictionary describing a single (bad) word. It's 390 pages long and constitutes Volume 1 of the *Big Dictionary of Obscenity*. The June 3 issue of *The New York Times* has the story, and "alert reader" Audrey Duckert sent in the clipping, with, we're sure, an impish chuckle. We read that the book's publication has sparked a public debate in St. Petersburg, where the book was published, about whether public discourse, specifically the use of profanity, ought to be controlled by law. The *Times* story says, "The one-word subtitle of Volume 1 cannot be repeated here. Not even in Russian." Whether the writer regarded this as regrettable is not stated. The story also prompted a tiny flurry in the DSNAs online newsgroup the same day. Sidney Landau wondered, since neither the word nor its meaning could be divulged, "on what grounds the NY Times found this article newsworthy." □

Members' Classified

Dr. Henry G. Burger's add-on, branching dictionary bridges the gap between thesaurus & alphabetical dictionary:

To tie & confine = To bind.

To bind & stunt = To bonsai, etc.

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Victoria Neufeldt, Editor

DSNA Newsletter

727 9th Street East

Saskatoon, Sask.

S7H 0M6

Canada

e-mail: v.neufeldt@sk.sympatico.ca

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Fax: (608) 263-3817 Tel: (608) 233-3051

e-mail: LvonSchn@facstaff.wisc.edu