

Fall 2012

A message from DSNA President Orin Hargraves:

I hope you all had a restful summer and are enjoying the change of seasons. I have now made all the changes I alluded to in my last message; I'm settled in Colorado and I am now working, for the first time in 20 years, at a job with a regular paycheck. My benevolent employer is the University of Colorado. I can now more fully appreciate the dedication of our many board members, past and present, who have given so much to the Society and held down a job at the same time.

Our next conference is now only months away and our colleagues at the University of Georgia, Don McCreary, and Bill Kretzschmar, are hard at work to make it a great success. If you have not visited the DSNA blog recently, please do, where you can link to the conference site for registration and other information. The [conference website](#) has details of the call for papers. You have until mid-January to get in your proposal!

I hope that our many members in the Mid-Atlantic and the Northeast have emerged without too much bruising from Hurricane Sandy. Our thoughts have been with you all.

–Orin Hargraves

Invitation to a Reception, Lecture and Exclusive Viewing of the Thomas Malin Rodgers Dictionary Collection

The Directors of Bonhams cordially invite you to an **exclusive viewing and reception** for The Dictionary Collection of Thomas Malin Rodgers. The event will include a **lecture by Jack Lynch**, Professor of English at Rutgers University, and member of DSNA. Jack's topic is: "Rarely Harmless, Never Drudges: Lexicographers through the Centuries."



The reception will take place **THIS COMING SUNDAY**, December 2 at 4:30pm, 580 Madison Ave, New York. **RSVP by Thursday, November 27 to +1 917 206 1670 or events.us@bonhams.com.**

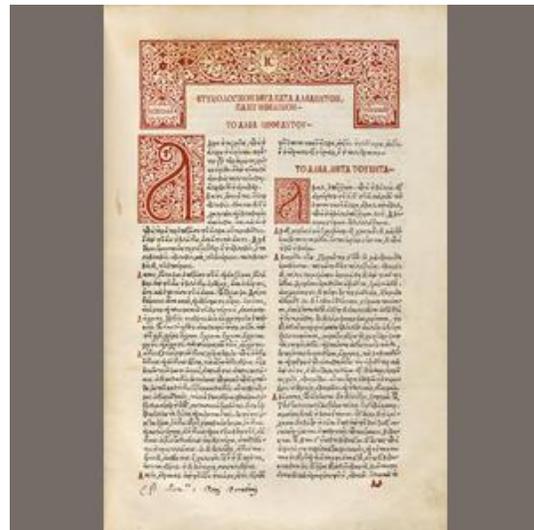
Here's more information about the Rodgers collection, from the Bonhams press release:

Thomas Malin Rodgers, Jr. (1943-2012) formed an incredibly extensive collection of dictionaries and other lexicographical works, spanning 3,500 years in date—from a 16th-century B.C. cuneiform tablet to a first edition of the *Oxford English Dictionary* issued in parts from 1884 to 1933.

The December 4 auction in New York features more than 200 outstanding and often unique items—a choice selection from Rodgers' comprehensive collection, valued at close to \$1 million.

Among the items being auctioned from the Rodgers collection:

- A Babylonian clay tablet from Syria, circa 1600-1500 BC, provides a list of fish and was used for teaching purposes
- A Coptic-Greek glossary, written on vellum in Egypt in the 6th or 7th century
- A 13th-century Italian manuscript of an 11th-century dictionary, by Papias the Grammarian, arguably the first modern dictionary: monolingual, organized alphabetically and with indications of gender, declension and pronunciation.
- More than 20 incunable volumes, including a 1499 Greek guide for readers of Homer, edited by Marcus Musurus (pictured at right)
- The first edition of the Suda, a Byzantine encyclopedia, printed in 1499 in Milan
- A manuscript Chinese/Spanish dictionary by Francisco Diaz (1606-1646). Diaz was a Dominican missionary who reached the Fuan region of China in 1635. His lexicographical work pre-dates by a generation the first published western Chinese grammar (1703) and is one of the earliest western-Chinese dictionaries known.
- A first edition of Noah Webster's *American Dictionary of the English Language*, and a manuscript leaf in his hand featuring 12 words with definitions, from "Bestain" through "Bestorm"
- The first dictionary of the New World, a Spanish-Nahuatl vocabulary printed in Mexico City in 1571



The auction itself will take place on December 4 at 1 pm. For more information, visit [Bonhams website](#).

Invitation to the DSNA Conference in 2013 in Athens, Georgia

You are cordially invited to participate in the 19th Meeting of the Dictionary Society of North America, to be held at the Georgia Center for Continuing Education at the University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, USA on May 23-25, 2013.

- Those wishing to present papers (no longer than 20 minutes) should send abstracts to [Don McCreary](#) by January 10, 2013. Proposals for papers on any topic relating to the history, theory, or practice of lexicography are invited. Abstracts proposing for papers about historical lexicography and bilingual lexicography are especially welcome.
- The city of Athens, also known as the Southeast's "Classic City," has many exciting attractions, including a vibrant downtown full of unique shops, restaurants, and nightclubs. *Rolling Stone* ranked Athens the number one college music town in the US. An article in the *New York Times* said that "its reputation as a cutting-edge music scene took off in the early 1980's after two homegrown bands, REM and the B-52's, hit the big time. ... Even if the music is not to your taste, the stately homes, lovely university campus, eclectic restaurants, and sleepy Southern atmosphere provide plenty of other reasons to spend a few days in Athens." Livability.com recently ranked Athens number eight on its list of top college towns in the US: "Downtown pulsates with restaurants, entertainment venues, and more than 65 unique shops that serve as examples of Athens' strong entrepreneurial climate." For more information: www.visitathensga.com and www.flagpole.com
- The conference will take place at the Georgia Center for Continuing Education, on the campus of the University of Georgia; it has a 200-bedroom hotel, dining services, conference rooms, and computer labs. Please visit the [Center's website](#) for further information, for hotel room reservations, and for your DSNA registration.
- Athens is about 60 miles from Atlanta. Atlanta's international airport is served by [Delta](#) and other airlines. Regular ground transportation is available from [Groome Transportation](#) with one van per hour from the airport to the Georgia Center from 5:15 a.m. until midnight. It's best to call them to reserve your seat.

DSNA Membership renewal

It's time to renew your membership in DSNA! Membership dues remain the same for 2013: \$70 for overseas members; \$60 for North American members or overseas students/retirees; and \$50 for North American students/retirees. You may renew online (for up to three years) by visiting the [DSNA website](#) and paying with a credit card; or by printing out the membership form and mailing it with your check to the DSNA Office.

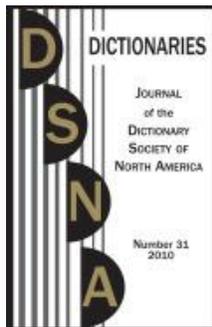
Don't forget: renewing your membership ensures that you will keep your ongoing subscription to the entire backlist of *Dictionaries* via [Project MUSE](#)! Once you renew, we will send you the password for 2013 access to *Dictionaries*. You also need to be a member to attend the 2013 DSNA meeting at the University of Georgia.

Paper membership renewal forms will be mailed to those members who subscribe to the newsletter in print format.

If you aren't sure of your membership status, please contact the [office](#).

Fall Newsletter and Volume 33 (2012) of *Dictionaries*

Next week, the Fall 2012 Newsletter will be posted on the DSNA website, and an e-notice with the link will be sent to our members.



Remember, if you wish to receive the newsletter in paper format you must indicate your preference on your membership renewal form (or drop us a line at dsnaoffice@gmail.com).

Volume 33 of *Dictionaries: The Journal of the Dictionary Society of North America* is at the printers and will be mailed in December. If you have not yet renewed your membership for 2012, do so now so as not to miss out on receiving your print copy in time for the holidays! You can whet your appetite by visiting the blog and surveying the table of contents [here](#).

And we needn't limit ourselves to New York and Athens ...

The American Dialect Society, the Linguistic Society of America and the Modern Language Association converge in Boston on January 3-5, 2013. As so many of our members are affiliated with those organizations, DSNA is seizing the opportunity to host an informal gathering. We know you'll be busy debating the ADS Word of the Year, and joining **Ben Zimmer**, **David Jost**, **Peter Sokolowski**, **Michael Hancher** and **Lisa Berglund** at the MLA panel on Digital Dictionaries ... but there's always time for DSNA folks to gather and celebrate lexicography! We'll keep you posted.

