American Name Society

52nd Annual

Ehrensperger Report

2006

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Michael F. McGoff, Editor
PREFACE

This document marks the 52nd year since the introduction of this annual review of scholarship in onomastic studies to the membership of the American Name Society by Edward C. Ehrensperger. For over twenty-five years, from 1955 to 1982, he compiled and published his report to the society. As usual, it is a partial view of the research and other activity going on in the world of onomastics, or name study. In a report of this kind, the editor must make use of what comes in, often resulting in unevenness. Some of the entries are very short; some extensive, especially from those who are reporting not just for themselves but also for the activity of a group of people. In all cases, I have assumed the prerogative of an editor and have abridged, clarified, and changed the voice of many of the submissions.

I have encouraged the submission of reports by email or electronically, since it is much more efficient to edit text already typed than to type the text myself. For those not using email, I strongly encourage sending me written copy. There is some danger, however, in depending on electronic copy: sometimes diacritical marks or other formatting matters may not have come through correctly.

Again this year, you will notice an important change in the format of the report. Because this report is to be posted on the World-Wide Web, rather than include addresses and telephone numbers as part of the entry, I have gathered email addresses that were submitted in a separate list. The list, such as it is, is available to current members of the American Name Society through a request to me at mmcgoff@binghamton.edu or at the address you will find below.

In keeping with the spirit of onomastics and the original Ehrensperger Report, I have attempted where possible to report on research and publication under a person’s name. I have also attempted to locate topics of interest and then cross-list them with one or more names. In addition, I have, again this year included an index. In the main entries, I have listed the surnames of contributors entirely in capitals. When you see a name or topic in capital letters and underlined in the body of an entry you should expect to find a main entry for it in its proper alphabetical order.

For the web version that can be found at http://wtsn.binghamton.edu/ANS/, I have made liberal use of hypertext. Many of the entries in underlined capital letters are also hyperlinks. At the website simply clicking on them will bring you to a reference in the text. Most people’s names are hyperlinks as well. In the main entry for a person if the name as heading is highlighted and underlined, putting your cursor on it will produce that person’s email address. Clicking on it will produce an email addressed to them. In the cross references, clicking on a person’s name will bring you to his or her main entry. In some cases, clicking on a hyperlink will launch your browser and bring you to the website of that organization, much as what happened if you clicked above on the American Name Society hyperlink. I hope that by again using hypertext in this year’s web version of The Ehrensperger Report, I have made it easier and more efficient to use. If you have any comments or suggestions I would very much like to hear them.

Other Resources

Ren Vasiliev is the editor of the official journal of the American Name Society, Names: A Journal of Onomastics. Look in the December issue for the latest style sheet.

Michael McGoff maintains the ANS Electronic Discussion Group. If you wish to take part in the interesting discussions that often start up on this listserv, send an email message to the following address: mailto:listserv@listserv.binghamton.edu

No “Subject” is necessary, and the message must contain only one line:

sub ans-l yourfirstname yourlastname

The system will add your name and email address to the list and you will receive all notices that are posted. You will also be able to send notices (You must join the list to do this).

Dr. McGoff also maintains the home pages for the American Name Society (ANS); the Toponymy Interest Group and Who Was Who in North American Name Study of ANS.

The Ehrensperger Report
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Frank ABATE has had a very active year with several editorial projects, some names-related. He is revising and expanding the third edition of Allusions – Cultural, Literary, Biblical, and Historical: A Thematic Dictionary. The 2nd edition, prepared by Laurence Urdang and Frederick G. Ruffner, Jr., was published by Gale in 1986; Frank worked on that edition as Managing Editor. The new edition, being published by Omnigraphics of Detroit (omnigraphics.com), boasts some 4,000 new entries drawn from traditional and popular culture. Entries give a brief identification of the item and the source from which the information was drawn; a bibliography is included. Allusions is arranged thematically, under more than 700 categories (e.g., Friendship, Temptation, Wealth). Typical entries are characters or entities from literature (Scrooge, White Rabbit), mythology (Scylla and Charybdis, Zeus), the Bible (Eve, Moses), and other aspects of culture (Bart Simpson, Better Business Bureau, Casey Jones, Gay Nineties). Publication is set for 2007.

Mr. Abate has also written several biographical sketches for Biography for Beginners, published by Favorable Impressions. He is particularly pleased to have written a sketch of Muhammad Ali, his favorite athlete “of all times” and the inspiration for his own daughter’s nickname (Ali, short for Alexandria). The Ali piece and others on African-American Athletes (including Satchel Paige, Hank Aaron, Bill Russell, Jesse Owens, Wilma Rudolph, and Arthur Ashe) will appear in a special compilation from Favorable Impressions of Pleasant Ridge, Michigan, in 2007. In 2006 Favorable Impressions (favimp.com) published a compilation of inventors, 83 in all, that have appeared in their series of periodicals for early readers, ages 7 to 10, since they began publishing in 1995. Mr. Abate wrote the sketches on Gordon Gould (laser), Guglielmo Marconi (wireless transmitter or radio), Samuel F.B. Morse (telegraph), George Westinghouse (railroad air brake and AC current transmission system), Frank Whittle (jet engine), which appear among other inventors from Archimedes to Thomas Edison, Bill Gates to the Wright Brothers. All Biography for Beginners publications are carefully researched and richly illustrated, and include suggestions for further reading and research, including web sites.

Other projects Mr. Abate is working on include an essay on the spiritual aspects of baseball (“looking for a publisher”) and a travel and personal essay provisionally entitled On Making a Left Turn: Rediscovering Ohio State and Hello, Columbus. He and his daughter are also preparing a proposal for a book on bipolar disorder and depression, “a story with sad beginnings but two happy endings.”

Ernest L. ABEL, a Professor at the C.S. Mott Center for Human Growth & Development of Wayne State University, produced two articles of interest to onomastic scholars this year:


Ibrahim AKSU of Canakkale Onsekiz Mart University in Turkey responds that several recent studies of Turkish names are worth mentioning for the report.

1. Doctoral dissertation by Meltem Turkoz - The Social Life of the State's Fantasy: The Naming of Turkish Families in 1934 – was completed in 2004 at the University of Pennsylvania. The complete text may be referred to at: http://repository.upenn.edu/dissertations/AI3125908/.

2. Thesis by Kerem Oktem at St. Anthony’s College, University of Oxford, concerning toponymic name changes in Turkey from the historical and political perspective: Marking the Geographies of Nationalism. He adds that he assumes that the thesis is complete but that there is no news yet concerning publication.

3. Article by Mustafa Kulu at Middle East Technical University in Ankara on Identification of Individuals in the Dardanelles (1840), based on contemporary Ottoman documents with a detailed analysis of identification factors (descriptors, honorifics, etc.) added to given personal names among the Muslim, Jewish, Greek, and Armenian communities of the time. It is envisaged the article will be published in an academic journal sometime in 2007.

Ibrahim Aksu himself published an overview of Turkish placenames in Names: A Journal of Onomastics, 51.3&4, 2003; a paper on the legal aspects of forenames/surnames in Turkey (Law and Language, 2nd International Conference, St. Kliment Ohridski University Press, Sofia 2005), and, in 2006, he completed Volume I of his book The Story of Turkish Surnames (Olay Gazete Press, 2006, Canakkale, Turkey). His book is based on oral accounts but also includes historical background and appendices on nicknames/descriptors, changes of surname, and stage names/pseudonyms. He is currently working on a book in Turkish on the same topic to be followed by The Story of Turkish Surnames, Volume II.
He concludes that “many scholarly studies on all aspects of Turkish names continue to be published in that language. Some studies in English, prior to those listed here, are known to contain factual errors and need to be treated with caution.”

**John ALGEO** published a book during this period, in both cloth and paper, entitled *British or American English? A Handbook of Word and Grammar Patterns.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006. Pp. xii + 348. It includes some examples of name patterns for persons, places, and institutions that differ between the two national varieties.

**Maria BARROS** presented “Names and Naming at the United Nations” at ICOS XXII in Pisa (Italy), August 28-September 4, 2005.

**Herbert BARRY III,** Professor Emeritus at the University of Pittsburgh, has been preparing information for publication on the names of fictional characters in the 6 novels by Jane Austen and in the 14 completed novels by Charles Dickens. Fictional characters given the first name of the author and of the author’s family members have attributes that appear to express the author’s feelings about self and family members. Dr. Barry presented a paper at the annual ANS meeting in Albuquerque reporting on “many more male than female fictional characters in novels by male but not female authors.” He is currently adding to the data novels by the female authors, George Eliot and Charlotte Bronte.

Professor Barry and Aylene S. Harper have analyzed information on more than 100 male and female names in the U.S., UK, France, Germany, Italy, and Spain.

They find that increasing differentiation between male and female first names, indicated by the final letter, is associated with increasing individualism. Spain is lowest and the U.S. is highest on both measures. Their findings are being prepared for publication.

**C. Richard BEAM** is “still collecting Pennsylvania German placenames.” He directs *The Center for Pennsylvania German Studies.*

**Susan J. BEHRENS,** an Associate Professor of Communications Sciences and Disorders at Marymount Manhattan College, replies that she is working on a project entitled: “Forms of Address on the Bridge of the Enterprise: A Linguistic Analysis of Naming” which she will present in April at the Popular Culture Association conference in Boston.

**Thomas L. BERNARD,** Emeritus Professor of Education and Psychology, responds that he has “one item to report this time, and that is to do with the publication of my book, *The Twelve Days of Christmas: the Mystery and the Meaning.*” His hypothesis is that “the apparently meaningless items when decoded are actually an esoteric route guide by which pilgrims in the early Middle Ages could travel from England to the Holy Land.” He says that, “from the onomastic point of view this involved my having to identify and ‘translate’ toponyms that are actually the way stations on that route.” For example, he reports, “drummers drumming” - “de Rome,” cf. “drum.” He wishes us “all the best for 2007.”

**William BRIGHT.** It is with sadness that we note the death of Professor Bright. His passing was noted in the *New York Times* of October 23, 2006 where it was stated that: “William Bright, an internationally renowned linguist who spent more than half a century inventorying the vanishing riches of the indigenous languages of the United States, died on October 15 in Louisville, Colorado. He was 78 and lived in Boulder, Colorado. The cause was a brain tumor, said his daughter, Susie Bright.”

**Ronald R. BUTTERS,** Professor of English and Cultural Anthropology at Duke University teaches in the areas of the structure of modern English and present-day usage; the history of the English language; sociolinguistics, including American dialects, languages in contact, and Caribbean linguistics; language and law; discourse analysis, pragmatics, and semiotics; as well as introduction to literature. He writes that he does not have much to report in the way of publications that bear specifically on the issue of names, but that he continues to do research on trademarks. He is also doing considerable legal consulting on trademark issues. He gave the following oral presentations that relate to trademarks:

**Enzo CAFFARELLI**, Editor of RION (Rivista Italiana di Onomastica – Italian Onomastic Review) continues his work on the Dictionary of Italian Family Names. He hopes to publish the book which will have over 40,000 entries in 2008. During this period he has published some articles and reviews in RION which focused on the analysis of regional distribution and typology of Italian family names.

In 2006 RION published interviews with 38 scholars from 26 nations on onomastic terminology. The interest of participants in the inquiry clearly demonstrates that terminology is one of the key problems in contemporary onomastics. The responses of these scholars will stimulate further work by the International Council of Onomastic Sciences (ICOS). The results of the inquiry, edited by Milan Harvalík, vice-president of ICOS, and by Enzo Caffarelli, will appear in the first issue of 2007.


Now a professor at the University of Rome 2 “Tor Vergata,” Enzo Caffarelli has offered a course on onomastics, The Sociolinguistics of Proper Names, which is designed for graduate students and school teachers. He has also coordinated an international meeting on The Names of Rome: 28 Centuries of Onomastics; and an international Laboratory of Onomastics (LIOn). The objectives, methods and activities of the laboratory are presented in the most recent issue of Onoma, the ICOS review (# 39, edited by Botoly HELLELAND), now in press. LIOn is on the web: www.onomalab.eu. It is now in its earliest stages and contains a section on RION.

**Edward CALLARY** of the English Department of Northern Illinois University says “2006 has been a good year for onomastics.” He compiled the onomastics section for the Year’s Work in English Studies which he recommends to all as “a comprehensive yet succinct account of onomastic publications for the year.”

Professor Callary also had several onomastics articles published, including “On the Use of Geographic Names to Inform Regional Language Studies,” which appeared in Language Variation and Change in the American Midland, edited by Tom Murray and Beth Lee Simon. His “Geographic Names in the Midwest” is included in the “long-awaited” The American Midwest: An Interpretive Encyclopedia (Indiana University Press). He says that “this is a huge reference work, nearly 2000 pages. His anthology which he calls The Names Reader was published by Mellen in November. This is a collection of 17 articles which first appeared in Names: A Journal of Onomastics, primarily in the 1990s. Dr. Callary had entitled the work Names in American Society but, he says, apparently this “was not academic enough.” The title Mellen gave to it is Surnames, Nicknames, Placenames, Epithets in America: Essays in the Theory of Names.” To which Professor Callary responds with “Gasp, shudder!” He says that “full contents and testimonials are available at mellenpress.com. It is a big, hard cover book of nearly 300 pages which lists for $110.00 but individuals can purchase for $39.95.” He asks that you contact him if “you need a coupon to purchase at this price.”

Professor Callary’s finished manuscript on Illinois placenames is “in the hands of the final authorities (the readers) and if all goes well will be published by the University of Illinois Press in 2007.”

Finally, his review of Patrick HANKS’ Dictionary of American Family Names appears in the special issue of Onoma edited by Tom GASQUE.

Dr. Callary continues to serve as a member of the Illinois Names Authority.


**Shawn CLANKIE** is an Associate Professor of Applied Linguistics at Otaru University of Commerce. In 2006, he published three books, two self-study books for English language learners and one introductory language and culture textbook.
- Grammar Rules of Spoken English (with T. Kobayashi); Tokyo: Goken.
- Language and Our World; (with T. Kobayashi) Tokyo: Sanshusha.

Dr. Clankie’s website may be found at: http://www.otaru-uc.ac.jp/~shawn
Richard COATES is Professor of Linguistics and Professor of Onomastics at the University of the West of England and also Visiting Professor of Linguistics at the University of Sussex.

His publications for this period include:

- “The Origin of Roddon.” Notes and Queries 250 (June), 170-2.
- “Four Pre-English River Names in and around Fenland: Chater, Granta, Nene and Welland.” Transactions of the Philological Society 103, 303-22.
- “Two Notes on Names in tun in Relation to Pre-English Antiquities: Kirmington and Broughton, Lincolnshire.” Journal of the English Place-Name Society 37, 33-6.
- “Verulamium: the Romano-British name of St Albans.” Studia Celtica 39, 169-76.
- “Foreword” as Chair of the Editorial Board, Onoma 38 (2003).

His conference papers for the period are:

- “On Self-explanatory Place-names.” Paper to Society for Name Studies in Britain and Ireland, University of Bristol, 7-10 April 2006.

Professor Coates other activities for this period are:

- An interview in July 2006 with Slovenian national radio, about personal naming in Britain;
- An interview in August 2006 with BBC Radio Shropshire, about Shropshire place-names; and
- A British Academy grant (£2171) for web-resource -- “Names in Shakespeare online”; RA, Dr Seongsook Choi.

Gerald L. COHEN, at the University of Missouri-Rolla, continues his widely respected work with the publication Comments on Etymology. He reports the following works for the period:

He asks that ANS members “please take note: We are planning the 8th International Conference on Jewish Onomastics to take place in late June, 2007 at Bar-Ilan University Ramat –Gan, Israel.” Proposals are being accepted on all aspects of Jewish names (given, surnames, and toponyms) from the biblical through the modern periods. Appropriate papers on the Ancient Near Eastern and comparative onomastics are also invited. Interdisciplinary papers may deal with names from historic, linguistic, sociological and literary perspectives. Languages of the conference: English and Hebrew. Those interested in participating should contact Professor Demsky at demskya@mail.biu.ac.il.

Dr. Demsky participated in the following two international conferences:


He continues to give popular lectures to several elementary schools as well as to adult education groups on Jewish names as an aspect of Jewish heritage and family genealogy.

Combining his ongoing research into biblical names and ancient Hebrew inscriptions (epigraphy), he has submitted a paper deciphering an old Hebrew ostracon dated to the 7th century BCE from Tel ‘Ira, Israel. The shard, known as the MPQD inscription, contains several biblical names. It will be published this coming February in the Bulletin of the Association of the Society of Oriental Research (BASOR) 345, pp 1-6.

Dr. Demsky is now in the process of editing papers (in Hebrew and English) that have been submitted to the forthcoming fifth volume of These Are The Names - Studies in Jewish Onomastics (Ramat-Gan). The articles reflect the interdisciplinary nature of the subject. Those interested in purchasing this series of four volumes or a single volume should contact press@mail.biu.ac.il.

Under the sponsorship of The Project for the Study of Jewish Names, Dr. Yigal Levin is preparing a monograph on Biblical Genealogy. Both publications have been generously financed by a donor.

In addition, Professor Demsky is presently negotiating the publication in English of a new series focusing on specific themes of Jewish onomastics. The first volume is collected studies on Names in the Sephardic Diaspora (1492-the Present). Financial assistance is being sought to cover the costs of editing, translating and publication.
In the academic realm, he offered, for the fourth time a seminar on Jewish names in the Department of Jewish History. It is a bachelor’s level seminar on Jewish Onomastics in Antiquity. There are fifteen students among whom are two doctoral candidates wanting to enhance their own respective research on Economics in Antiquity and on Textiles in the Talmudic world. Within this framework, Professor Moshe Garsiel presented a guest lecture on literary aspects of biblical names.

Lastly, Professor Demsky is “happy to announce that Dr. Tsuguya (Tsvi) Sasaki of the Department of Hebrew and Semitic languages at Bar-Ilan University is presenting a course on Jewish Onomastics from a linguistic point of view. Those interested may consult his website at: http://www.ts-cyberia.net.

Dr. Demsky says that “it is noteworthy that two courses on onomastics are being given at the same university from two academic perspectives.”

Randall A. DETRO and H.J. Walker published The Wonderful World of Names: the Writings of Meredith (Pete) F. Burrrill (“Toponymist Extraordinaire”). Dr. Detro says that “the writings of Pete and his maps rest safely at Louisiana State University. Pete was a special friend of mine and was an inspiration to me, along with my major professor Fred B. Kniffen, in getting my doctoral dissertation written.” Dr. Detro hopes to revise and publish his dissertation, which is entitled Generic Terms in Placenames of Louisiana, An Index to the Cultural Landscape, “without the ‘dryness’ of a dissertation.”

Dr. Detro adds that, “About two months ago, a friend and I agreed to publish a volume to be titled Louisiana Places which “an outstanding Louisiana publisher asked for.” They intend to include 2,500 places with entries varying from 250 to 2,000 words. Maps and photographs will be included. Unfortunately, he says, that means his comprehensive Dictionary of Louisiana Placenames “goes on hold one more time.”

His other interests concern the shrinking Louisiana coast, subsidence, coastal restoration and marsh management.

Christine DE VINNE completes her term as Immediate Past President of the American Name Society on December 31, 2006. She continues to serve as Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences and Professor of English at Ursuline College.

Professor De Vinne recently published “Corporate Biography: Name and Narrative in an Ohio Sample of Family-Named Businesses” in Onoma 38 (327-46). Her work in corporate onomastics continues with “Naming the Goodyear Blimp” which she will present at the ANS conference in Anaheim in January 2007. “Names: Resources for Genealogists” was well-received at the November 2006 meeting of the East Cuyahoga County Genealogical Society.

Dr. De Vinne serves as book review editor for Names: A Journal of Onomastics and welcomes inquiries from authors, publishers, and potential reviewers.

Sheila EMBLETON, Vice President, Academic at York University in Toronto, continues to be a very busy scholar. She reports that she continues her involvement with onomastics in:

- Member – of Editorial Board – Onomastica Canadiana;
- Correspondent – International correspondent for Canada, Rivista Italiana di Onomastica;
- Member of the Honorary Committee of the RIOn [Rivista Italiana di Onomastica] International Series / Quaderni Internazionali di RIOn;
- Chair of Organizing Committee – 23rd International Congress of Onomastic Sciences, York University, Toronto, August 17 – August 23, 2008;

Her publications for the period are:

- “Data Capture and Presentation in the Romanian Online Dialect Atlas,” (with Dorin Uritescu and Eric Wheeler) in Papers from the Methods in Dialectology XII Conference, Université de Moncton, 2006, (to appear);
Dr. Embleton continues her service to numerous professional organizations:

- President – International Quantitative Linguistics Association.
- Member – Board of Directors, Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute; chair of nominating committee.
- Member – Executive, SWAAC [Senior Women Academic Administrators of Canada].
- Member – Abstract Selection Committee – Linguistic Association of Canada and the United States [LACUS].
- Member – Program Committee, ACL Workshop on Computational Methods in Historical Linguistics, Prague, 2007.
- President – Canadian Friends of Finland Education Foundation.
- Representative – from the Canadian Society for the Study of Names to Women’s Issues Network, Humanities and Social Sciences Federation of Canada.

- Review editor – and member of Editorial Board – Word.
- Associate editor – Diachronica.
- Member – of Editorial Board – Musikometrika.
- Invited member of ESF (European Science Foundation) pool of reviewers.
- Assessor – (Austria) Fonds zur Förderung der wissenschaftlichen Forschung post-project evaluation, July 2006.
- Referee – CFI (Canada Foundation for Innovation) proposal ($1,500,000), July 2006.
- Referee – The Research Council of Norway Research Grant Application (NoK 2,548,000), 2006.
- Plenary session chair – International Linguistic Association Annual Meeting, York University, March 31 – April 2, 2006. Opening remarks, three plenary sessions chaired and introduced, March 31 and April 1.

Cleveland Kent EVANS, current President of the American Name Society, writes that in January 2006 he presented a talk at the ANS meeting in Albuquerque entitled “How to Write a Baby Name Book.” The book in question, The Great Big Book of Baby Names, came out in May of 2006 (Publications International, Ltd.; ISBN 1-4127-1300-5). Unfortunately, he writes, “the book is still very hard to get hold of.” He adds that “it was only recently that the Bellevue University bookstore was able to obtain copies, and I know of no other retail outlets where it is available for sure, though
libraries can purchase copies through Quality Books, Inc.

Professor Ed LAWSON and he wrote the introduction to Ed CALLARY’s Surnames, Nicknames, Placenames, and Epithets in America: Essays in the Theory of Names, which Professor Evans calls “a fine selection of past articles from ANS’s journal.”

He continues to be interviewed by many journalists on fashions in given names and other topics. One of the more interesting interviews, he says, was on The Infinite Mind program on public radio last May. Professor Evans continues to do research on naming and plans to give two presentations on popular culture and baby names, one focusing on general American culture and one of Hispanic culture, at the ANS meeting in January 2007. His colleague in the psychology department Dr. Roxanne Sullivan, is working with him to “get students in experimental psychology interested in helping out in more formal psychological research on the naming process.”

For those interested, he passes on the URL of the Social Security website is: (http://www.ssa.gov/OACT/babynames/index.html)

Gillian FELLOWS-JENSEN, writes that her publications for the period are:

- “Extermination or Economic Exploitation?,” Cultural Contacts in the North Atlantic Region: The Evidence of Names, eds Peder Gammeltoft, Carole Hough, Doreen Waugh (Shetland, 2005), 100-118.

Dr. Fellows-Jensen writes that Peter Springborg and she “are now busy editing the proceedings of the tenth seminar held in October 2006, to be published in April 2008.

Although officially retired, she still has a desk at the Section for Name-Studies of the Department of Scandinavian Research of the University of Copenhagen. She attended conferences in Shetland and Edinburgh, and continues to work on various topics related to placenames and personal names in the British Isles.

Finally, she says, she “was greatly honoured to receive a festschrift on my 70th birthday this year. It is entitled:


Wayne H. FINKE, Professor at Baruch College, CUNY, is Secretary of the Faculty and Deputy Chair of the Department of Modern Languages. Dr. Finke directed the 45th Annual Names Institute which was held at Baruch College on Saturday May 6, 2006.

Douglas GALBI is a Senior Economist with the Federal Communications Commission. His website is available at http://www.galbithink.org/.

Thomas J. GASQUE, Professor Emeritus of English, University of South Dakota, is in his second term as secretary of the American Name Society. Although he lives in South Carolina now, he continues to “slog away” with his long-term South Dakota names project, with “the able assistance of USD graduate student Ryan Berg.” Professor Gasque is beginning to look at a study of names in South Carolina. He plans to update the material collected over many years by the late Claude and Irene Neuffer.

Cynthia L. HALLEN, Associate Professor in the Department of Linguistics and English Language at Brigham Young University published:

Professor Westney has presented papers in Austria, Canada, Costa Rica, Switzerland, Thailand, and the United States on academic rankings research, onomastics, the place of new technologies in the promotion and tenure process, and the scholarship of engagement.

Aylene S. HARPER. See BARRY

Botolv HELLELAND, senior lecturer at the Institute of Linguistic and Scandinavian Studies, University of Oslo, Norway, sends the following report on Norwegian onomastic activities:

- A one day conference on *Foreign Place Names in a Nordic and International Perspective* was held in Oslo on October 21, 2005, in connection with the meeting of the Norden Division of the *United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names*.
- The 11th *National Conference on Name Research* was held in Oslo November 10, 2006, focusing on personal names in chronological, sociological, and geographical contexts.
- The annual meeting of the placename consultancies and the Mapping Authority took place in Hønefoss in 2005 and in Tromsø in 2006.
- The Norwegian Names Association held its triennial general assembly on November 10, 2006, where Olav Veka was elected as new president (to follow Gunnstein Akselberg who served for nine years).

A number of works and articles have been published since Professor Helleland’s last report:

- Volume 22 (2005) of the Norwegian journal of name research, *Namn og Nemne* (ed. by Gunnstein Akselberg & Kristoffer Kruken, in Norwegian with abstracts in English) contains three articles in addition to the defense of Vidar Haslum.
- Vols. 42 and 43 of the information bulletin *Nytt om namn* [News about Names] (ed. by Botolv Helleland & Klaus Johan Myrvoll, only in Norwegian) appeared, providing many details regarding names activities in Scandinavia.

He adds that, “A number of articles have been published in other Scandinavian or international journals and books, like the Swedish *Namn och bygd* and *Studia anthroponymica Scandinavica*.

Six Norwegian scholars contributed to the proceedings of the 13th *Nordic Congress of Onomastic Sciences* in Tällberg, Sweden, entitled *Namnens dynamik* [The Dynamics of Names], *NORNA*-

Stephen P. HALUTIAK-HALICK writes that he has “nothing to report” for this period.

Patrick HANKS, reports that Kate Hardcastle and he “have published a new edition of the Oxford Dictionary of First Names.” In addition to a complete revision of the main text, the new edition now contains 22 appendixes: 13 on common non-English names (Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Indian, Irish, Italian, Japanese, Russian, Scandinavian, Scottish, Spanish, and Welsh), one on Unisex names, and 8 on “most popular names” at different times in various English-speaking countries.

His long article that he wrote on 18th century Anglicization of European family names in North America appeared in the issue of *Onoma* guest-edited by Thomas GASQUE.

Lynn HATTENDORF Associate Professor and Coordinator of Reference Collection Development at the University of Illinois at Chicago attended the Canadian Society for the Study of Names (CSSN) Annual Meeting at York University in Toronto where she presented her paper, “An Onomastic Jukebox: From Doo Wop to Pop,” an examination of the name origins of rock and roll groups.

She has been the editor of 16 editions of an award winning annual reference book, *Educational Rankings Annual* from 1991-2006 and, since 1999 she has also served as the editor of a regular column on e-journals, *E-Journals-Inside and Out*, in *JAHC: Journal of the Association for History and Computing*.

Malina M. Nielson, co-author].

Dr. Hallen is presently working on:

- “The “Nachbenennung” Given Name Pattern in a Swedish Village, 1500-1800.”
- “Fabrics of Faith in Emily Dickinson’s Person Names.”

Her recent and upcoming conference presentations are:

Throughout 2006 work has been under way on the theme “Aboriginal Placenames Old and New” of the Committee for Geographical Names in Australasia. Experts in Geographic Names and onomastics; the linguistics of placenaming; frameworks; models of national authorities; lexicology of geographical naming; legislative principles, policies and procedures of geographical naming; legislative frameworks; models of national authorities; lexicology and onomastics; the linguistics of placenaming; Indigenous placenaming in Australia; methods of toponymic research; and the work of APIT and the Australian National Placenames Survey (ANPS) in professional and vocational training.

In October 2005 APIT organized a day conference on the theme “Aboriginal Placenames Old and New” in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Committee for Geographical Names in Australasia. Throughout 2006 work has been under way on editing papers from that meeting, along with others; into a successor volume to The Land is a Map (Pandanus Books 2003). This will be published in 2007, under the editorship of Dr. Harold Koch and Dr. Luise Hercus of the Australian National University, by ANU e-Press in the Aboriginal History Monographs series.

In December 2005 APIT ran a course ‘Researching Aboriginal Placenames’ at the New South Wales Aboriginal Languages Research and Resource Centre. The fourteen participants represented a broad range of local languages currently undergoing renewal: Dharug, Gamilaraay, Gumbaynggir, Nguyampaa, Wiradjuri and Yugambeh. This week-long course represented a wrap-up to the series of twelve workshops held in regional centers of the state between June 2004 and May 2005.

APIT Director Flavia Hodges was invited to participate in a workshop held in Jakarta following the August 2006 meeting of the Asia-Pacific South-East & Pacific South-West Division of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, and contributed a paper “Cultural Aspects of Toponymy,” although she was unable to attend in person.

APIT has continued to publish the free quarterly newsletter Placenames Australia, with issues in March, June, September and December. A paper by Flavia Hodges on “Language Planning and Placenames in Australia” will appear in the journal Current Issues in Language Planning in 2007.

Since 2000 APIT has been supported at Macquarie University by a grant from the Vice-Chancellor’s Millennium Innovations Fund. Unfortunately this support ends in December 2006 and the Institute has been unable to attract sufficient funding from external agencies to continue its operations in their present form. The New South Wales and Australian Capital Territory Committee of the Australian National Placenames Society will continue to operate as a technical subcommittee of the NSW Geographical Names Board, thanks to the generous sponsorship of that body. Members of the Institute are in the process of setting up an incorporated association Placenames Australia, and expect to appoint Dr. Jan Tent of Macquarie University’s Department of Linguistics as Director of the ANPS (replacing David Blair -- who will continue, along with ex-APIT Director Flavia Hodges, as a member of the Placenames Australia committee).

Denis HUSCHKA, a research assistant at the German Institute for Economic Research works with Professor Jürgen Gerhards of the Free University Berlin, Institute of Sociology; and Professor Gert G. Wagner of the German Institute for Economic Research in a project entitled: “Given Names as Indicators for Measuring Social Change.” Mr. Huschka describes the project in the following:
Given names can be seen as useful indicators to monitor processes of social change. Due to the unavailability of appropriate data and privacy security restrictions, given names have not been widely analyzed until now. The German Socio-Economic Panel Study (SOEP) provides an outstanding and usable database. The SOEP offers background information (education, occupation, sex, religion, individual values, political orientations etc.) for named persons as well as for the name givers, the parents. This information can be used to analyze the determinants of changing naming patterns.

Originally, given names were surveyed to enable the right linkage between the household members in the SOEP over time (SOEP is a longitudinal survey of households); but they never have been used in a focused special analysis. Using SOEP data the group analyses:

- Whether there are secularization processes (measurement: the number of first names of Christian origin);
- Whether the importance of family relationship is decreasing (measurement: number of children who are named after their parents);
- Whether social class is losing its importance (measurement: homogeneity of names in social classes);
- Whether there are processes of individualization (measurement: heterogeneity of names);
- Whether there are processes of globalization of culture;
- Whether there are gender differences; and
- Whether first names can be seen as an indicator of acculturation of several migrant sub-populations in Germany.

The processes mentioned can be used to look at differences between social strata, the urban-rural split, the East-West split and ethnic groups.

Publications to date include:
- “Naming Differences between West and East Germany during Separation.” DIW Research Note 8, 2005;

Derek M. JONES has been studying the identifiers (names) that occur in the source code of software.

Bob JULYAN says that the highlight of his onomastic year came last December when he “finally was able to attend an ANS meeting, as it was held in Albuquerque.” He writes that his “orientation has been applied toponomy,” and that he normally interacts primarily with state and federal mapmakers and land managers, so “it was a treat to hear papers given from different perspectives.” Mr. Julyan continues to write about geographic names, and an article he wrote about names created by explorers appeared in The Explorers Journal, the publication of the Explorers Club. Consulting on the article were Don Orth and Roger PAYNE, who “also are fellows of the Explorers Club.”

Mr. Julyan continues to chair the New Mexico Geographic Names Committee, the official state liaison with the US Board on Geographic Names, though, he adds, “the committee has been inactive for lack of active cases to investigate.” As chair of the committee, Mr. Julyan represented New Mexico at the 2006 COGNA Conference in Boulder.

Finally, he says, “other projects also seem to find me.” He has served as a reviewer for a book about applied toponomy and as a referee for a book soon to be published. He relates that: “these are exciting times for our discipline, as new technologies and new ideas are emerging rapidly.”

Helen KERFOOT, Emeritus Scientist at Natural Resources Canada in Ottawa has, during this period, undertaken activities as Chair of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN) and, until July 2006, as Editor of the Onomastica Canadiana, the journal of the Canadian Society for the Study of Names (CSSN). She has also served as Chair of the Ontario Geographic Names Board (OGNB).

Her toponymic and associated activities have been in various areas:

UNGEGN:
- Chaired the 23rd Session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN) in Vienna in March/April 2006.
- Participated in the UNGEGN divisional meeting for the Norden Division in Oslo in October 2005, and for Asia South-East and Pacific South-West in Brunei Darussalam, November 2005.
- Helped with the instruction at UNGEGN training courses in applied toponomy in Vienna, March 2005 and in Maputo (Mozambique) in September 2006.
- Coordinated input of various contributors for two manuals on the standardization of geographical names for publication by the United Nations:
  - Manual for the national standardization of geographical names was published in 2005.
Canadian Society for the Study of Names (CSSN):

- Ms. Kerfoot completed her term as Editor of Onomastica Canadiana, and in June 2006 passed this role over to Benoît Leblanc. She “is sure he would be happy to hear from anyone interested in submitting an article for the Society’s journal.” He may be contacted at onomastica.canadiana@uqtr.ca.
- The CSSN website is available in English: (http://geonames.nrcan.gc.ca/info/cssn_e.php) and in French: (http://toponymes.nrcan.gc.ca/info/cssn_f.php)

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Vol. 87, No.2, December 2005
- Marc-Alexandre: “Beaulieu L’onomastique en botanique;”
- D. Kenneth Tucker: “The cultural-ethnic-language group technique as used in the Dictionary of American Family Names (DAFN);”
- Michael Falk: “Sunday’s child: Sonntag and other surnames based on the days of the week;”
- Note by: D. Kenneth Tucker;
- The Dictionary of American Family Names and French unexplained entries;
- Reviews by: Norma Rowen, Tim Nau.

Vol. 88, No.1, June 2006
- William Davey: “Eighteenth-century Cape Breton Island and the Politics of Naming;”
- Philip Matthews: “Māori Placenames and a Proposed Framework;”
- William Sayers: “The etymology of iroquois: ‘killer people’ in a Basque-Algonquian Pidgin or an Echo of Norse Irland it mikla ‘Greater Ireland’?”
- Reviews by: Marc-Alexandre Beaulieu, Benoît Leblanc.

On 26 and 27 of May 2007, the CSSN will hold its annual meeting in association with the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon. ANS members interested in making a presentation should contact Yaives Ferland, the program chair (yaives.ferland@drdc-rddc.gc.ca), before 14 February. You may access the CSSN website for further information about the Society, the call for papers, past programs, etc. (http://geonames.nrcan.gc.ca/info/cssn_e.php)

The 2008 annual meeting of CSSN will be held in conjunction with the International Congress of Onomastic Sciences (ICOS) being held at York University, Toronto, 17-23 August 2008. Contact: Sheila EMBLETON (embleton@yorku.ca). Website: www.yorku.ca/vpaweb/ICOS2008/

Ms. Kerfoot continues to be particularly interested in the United Nations training courses in toponymy for developing countries, and the toponymy of Northern Canada, as well as that of Tristan da Cunha and other small islands of the world.

John Widdowson (UK) and Professor Kirwin are corresponding with the editorial group at the University of British Columbia (Stefan Dollinger, Laurel Brinton, Margery Fee) who are making plans for a revision of the Dictionary of Canadianisms on Historical Principles, and considering the problems of including Newfoundland regionalisms presented in Dictionary of Newfoundland English (1982; 1990).

Researchers in the English Language Research Centre (Sandra Clarke, Philip Hiscock, and Robert Hollett) are assembling materials for a CD-ROM sampler of Newfoundland and Labrador dialects containing over fifty examples of traditional speech. In addition they are creating a digitized dialect atlas of English in the province based on surveys of Harold Paddock in the 1970s and 1980s.

James KOENIG reports that during the period he continued his research into the structure and typology of personal names - and where applicable, family names - in the non-Western world.

Adrian KOOPMAN, professor of Zulu Studies at the University of KwaZulu-Natal and newly elected President of the Names Society of Southern Africa reports that:

In September 2006, the Names Society of Southern Africa (NSA) celebrated its 25th anniversary. It was in September 1981, that Dr. Peter E. RAPER, immediate past-president of the NSA, on returning from a visit to prominent onomacists in the United States, called together, in Pretoria, a group of interested names scholars, who founded the NSA.

The NSA has recently (26th to 29th November 2006) held its 14th International Names Congress – the 25th Anniversary Congress. This was held at the spectacular Ntshondwe Camp, situated high among rocky cliffs, overlooking the rolling valleys of Ithala Game Reserve, in northern KwaZulu-Natal.

The congress was attended by 40 delegates, of whom, 30 read papers. Visitors from afar included Professor Willy Van Langendonck of Leuven in Belgium, Professor Botolv Helleland from Oslo, Norway, and Antti Leino from Helsinki, Finland, all of whom read papers. Keynote speaker Flavia Hodges of Australia was unfortunately obliged to withdraw. Professor Heinrich Loeffler of Basle, Switzerland, and his wife also attended the congress. Dr. Kokunre Agbontaen of the University of Benin, Nigeria was our sole delegate from West Africa, and southern Africa was well represented by delegates from Mozambique, Lesotho and Botswana, and well as from the host country South Africa.

Professor Adrian Koopman, vice-president of the NSA and Director of the Onomastics Studies Unit at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, gave the opening keynote address – “Twenty-five years of onomastic research in southern Africa”. The paper concentrated on research produced at the 14 congresses of the NSA since 1981, and the articles published in 18 volumes of the NSA journal Nomina Africana. This overview of onomastic research looked at (1) the basic onomastic category researched (toponymy, anthroponymy, literary onomastics, onomastic theory, etc.); (2) the source of data (a particular language, a particular region/geographical area, or a particular publication); and (3) the approach used (etymological, morphological, phonological, socio-cultural, etc.). Koopman also looked at the involvement of NSA members in UNGEGN, United Nations Toponymical Training Courses, ICOS and ONOMA, and in onomastic teaching at southern African tertiary institutions. Finally, Koopman named the top ten onomastic researchers in southern Africa over the last 25 years, and the top ten institutions.

The speakers at the congress covered a wide variety of onomastic topics. Toponymy was not a major area, but a few papers were delivered, such as on the Zulu toponyms of Ithala Game Reserve, the street names of an area in the Western Cape, and river and valley names in Norway. Anthroponymy was a much more popular choice, and a number of papers on African anthroponymy were read, covering Zulu, Xhosa, Sotho, Tswana, Nigerian, and Malawian names. Literary onomastics was also well represented, with discussion of the naming in Afrikaans, Northern Sotho, Tswana, Southern Sotho and Zulu works. Other speakers spoke on names and computers, and on colonialism and naming. Two rather unusual papers were “Names, Number Plates and Identity”, and “An onomastic analysis of the names of rock climbs”.

The congress braaivleis (barbecue) was enlivened by an excellent performance of Zulu dancing by a young troupe from a local school. Ithala Game Reserve management provided delegates with two 2-hour evening game drives, and delegates who had arrived with their own transport were out every morning and evening, providing the visitors with opportunities to view various species of antelope, zebra, warthog, giraffe, wildebeest (gnus), and the speciality of Ithala – rhinoceros.

At the Biennial General Meeting of the Names Society held on the last day of the Congress, outgoing president Dr. Peter E. RAPER was thanked for his outstanding contribution to onomastics in southern Africa over the past 25 years. Professor Adrian Koopman, vice-president since 1998, was elected new president of the NSA, and in a break from the normal pattern, two vice-presidents were elected: Professor
Bertie Neethling from the Western Cape, and Mr Luis Abrahamo of Maputo, Mozambique.

Professors Koopman, John Hilton and Noleen Turner retained their respective portfolios of Editor-in-Chief, Secretary-Treasurer, and Editorial Secretary, and Professor Attie Coetsier (Eastern Cape), Professor Themba Moyo (KwaZulu-Natal) and Dr. Nobuhle Ndimande (KwaZulu-Natal) were elected as Executive Board members.

Professor Koopman now provides a strong link between the Names Society of Southern Africa and world onomastics in that he is also the first South African to be elected a member of the Executive Board of the International Council of Onomastic Sciences (ICOS), having been elected at ICOS 22 in Pisa, Italy, in 2005.

Laura KOSTANSKI is in her final year of doctoral studies at the University of Ballarat, Australia. Her thesis topic is: What’s in a Name? Attachment and Interference in Placename Based Identity and her work is funded through an Australian Research Council grant, supported by the Office of the Surveyor-General, Victoria. She is investigating the meaning of toponyms to people who are faced with a change in their local placenames.

In addition to her PhD studies, Ms. Kostanski is a member of the Victorian Government’s Geographic Placenames Advisory Panel and has undertaken the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names Training Course in Indonesia in 2005. Her research interests “are extensive and focus on toponyms, identity, attachment, community, sense of place, indigeneity, colonialism, mental mapping, linguistics and history.”

Her publications for this period include:

- “That Name is OUR history: Divergent Histories of Place,” paper presented at the Inclusive Histories Australian Historical Association section of the Conference organized by the International Committee of Historical Sciences, Sydney, Australia, 07/07/2005.
- “Reintroducing Indigenous Place Names – Lessons from Garwerd, Victoria, Australia, Or, How to Address Toponymic Dispossession in Ways that Celebrate Cultural Diversity and Inclusiveness,” (with I. Clark) paper co-presented with Professor Ian Clark at the Names Across Time and Space conference organized by the International Committee of Onomastic Sciences, in Pisa, Italy, 01/09/2005.
- “‘Place Attachment and Toponymic Attachment: Are they the same?’ Reflections on an Australian Case Study Conducted in 2004,” (with I. Clark) paper co-presented with Professor Ian Clark at the Names Across Time and Space conference organized by the International Committee of Onomastic Sciences, in Pisa, Italy, 01/09/2005.
- “‘We’ll Remove Your Names, But Don’t Dare Remove Ours!’ Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Community Reactions to Renaming Practices in Australia in the early 1990s” (with I. Clark) paper presented at the Place Names and Identities in Multicultural Contexts Conference, organized by the Saami Institute, Karasjoka, Norway, 16-20th August 2006.

Éamon LANKFORD is the Director of the Cork and Kerry Place Names Survey in Cork City, Ireland. Dr. Lankford provided a synopsis of where the Cork and Kerry Microtoponymy Project in Southern Ireland stands:

Ireland’s entry to the European Union in 1972 brought about huge economic, demographic, social and cultural changes. Migration to cities, urbanization, major infrastructural development, changes in agricultural and fishing practices along with the explosion of a mass media culture have altered forever Irish people’s relationship with their place. These changes along with the further decline of the Irish language as an everyday medium and the breakup of the hitherto very close traditional interaction of the older and younger generations have greatly impacted on the knowledge, use and survival of native placenames in both rural and urban Ireland.

The principal administrative unit in Ireland since the thirteenth century has been the County of which
there are thirty two. Each county is divided into smaller units called Baronies which in turn are subdivided into Parishes which in their turn are subdivided into Townlands. The Townland is the smallest administrative division in the country, all other territorial divisions -- counties, baronies and parishes being collections of townlands. In County Cork, situated in the Southern part of Ireland there are over 3,600 townlands which can vary in size from around 20 to 700 acres. The neighboring county of Kerry has some 3,800 townland units. Every townland, particularly in rural areas may have its territory divided into several hundred fields, each having its own boundary and specific minor name. Like any other county in Ireland hundreds of thousands of minor placenames await collection and mapping. The well thought out methodology for the collection and mapping of microtoponymy underway in Southern Ireland is as follows.

Dr. Éamon Lankford who had since the early 1970s been collecting and mapping minor placenames throughout County Cork established the Cork and Kerry Placenames Survey in 1996. The objective of this initiative is to collect, research, collate and map from both oral and literary sources the minor placenames of two counties in the South of Ireland and establish by 2009 a County Placenames Archive in each county to house the collection. The Archive will function within the established Local Government Library network. A small committee of talented young university graduates was brought together in 1996 to help organise and spread the survey methodology to every corner of the designated survey area. An advisory council of experts drawn from university, library, local government, educational and other interests provided expertise.

The organizing of the survey involved contacting community leaders, school authorities and enlisting the support of hundreds of people who were known to be good carriers of local placenames. By means of public appeals, visits to schools, lectures, articles, radio, television and press interviews the Placenames Survey received very favorable media coverage and consequent widespread public support. Once a local structure has been put in place to get a survey underway in an area, a public meeting attended by the Survey Director and members of the Survey Team is arranged where details of the operation of the survey are given. Survey Maps are distributed to teachers, community groups and a timescale is set for the conduct of the survey in each area. During the survey period the Survey Team continues to communicate with fieldworkers, school authorities and other participants. On the completion of a survey in a particular area Survey Maps are returned to a central office in Cork City where the work of collating the data and presenting it in a user friendly format for consultation by the public takes place. A sample of how the collated data is being presented in the Placenames Archive can be viewed at http://www.placenames.ie. The information provided in the survey compilation includes references to Parish and Townland names gleaned from both manuscript and published sources. This is followed in chronological order by a listing of minor names in each townland which have been collected from oral and literary sources. The information on each name includes the placename itself and the number given to it by the Survey Team on the Townland Map in which it is situated. The name and address of the Supplier and Collector of names, the date of collection, variations of the name, information regarding derivation, descriptions of the place or feature named, reference to any written sources for the name and any other relevant information are recorded. Names are tape recorded wherever possible.

The Irish Government’s National Training Authority (FÁS), was approached in 1998 to fund a training scheme for young university graduates who would pursue a practical course in the methodology of systematically collecting and mapping from both oral and literary sources, the minor placename heritage of an entire county. The survey group now has on contract twenty fulltime staff, as well as ten other part-time fieldworkers, funding for which is provided by two Irish Government agencies as well as two Local Authorities and a number of corporate interests. The school authority in over 450 Primary and Post primary schools along with teachers and their students are helping to organize local surveys in co-operation with some 60 community organizations. Many others are volunteer fieldworkers who have been participating in this unique Placenames Survey initiative which has for ten years spearheaded the methodology for collecting and mapping Irish placename heritage on a very large scale.

As the primary objective of the project is the collection and mapping of placenames, the Survey Team is unable to engage in research or answer questions about Irish placenames for others until the Placenames Archive has been established at the close of 2008. Meanwhile, academic, technical and institutional support towards the establishment of Ireland’s first County Placenames Archive will be welcome.
**André LAPIERRE** is Assistant Dean and Secretary of the Faculty of Arts at the University of Ottawa. In June 2006, Professor Lapierre retired from the Geographical Names Board of Canada after serving 22 years as representative of the French-speaking academic community. He continues to be active in several Working Groups and Divisions of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names. In addition to his new functions as Assistant Dean and Secretary of his Faculty, he teaches Canadian French dialectology and onomastics. Dr. Lapierre’s presentations during this period are:


Professor Lapierre’s website is:
http://aix1.uottawa.ca/~lapierre.


Professor Lawson has also developed the following websites during this period. They may all be accessed via his website: [http://edwindlawson.com](http://edwindlawson.com)

**Jewish Language Research Website:**
http://www.jewish-languages.org/onomastics.html

**Pronunciation and Meaning of Russian Names:**
http://www.fredonia.edu/faculty/emeritus/edwinlawson/RussianNames/index.html

**Pronunciation and Meaning of Azeri Names**
http://www.fredonia.edu/faculty/emeritus/edwinlawson/azerinames/index.html

**The Magic World of Names**
http://www.fredonia.edu/faculty/emeritus/edwinlawson/worldofnames/index.html

**Religious, Patriotic, and Ethnic Factors Involved with Names and Naming in Russia, Latvia, Lithuania, and Azerbaijan**
http://www.fredonia.edu/faculty/emeritus/edwinlawson/namefactors/index.html

(This is a reprint, with permission, of the article which appeared in:

- Ana Isabel Boullón Agrelo (Ed.) *Novi te ex nomine: estudios filolóxicos ofrecidos ao Prof. Dr. Dieter Kremer* (pp. 203-212). La Coruña [Spain]: Fundación Pedro Barrié de la Maza)

The papers presented during the period by Dr. Lawson are:

- “Russian Given Names: Their Pronunciation, Meaning, and Frequency (Demonstration of website)” at the Canadian Society for the Study of Names, May 26, 2006. (With Natan Nevo and Richard F. Sheil.)

**Margaretlee**, a Professor of English and Linguistics at Hampton University, wrote an article, “Historical Perspectives on African American Personal Names and Naming Practices.” It will be published in the language volume of the *New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture.* The volume will be launched at the Southeastern Conference on Linguistics at Northwestern Louisiana State University in Natchitoches, April 12-14, 2007.

Professor Lee was featured in an article, “The Importance of a Name,” in the August 7, 2006 issue of *Jet* magazine. The article discussed African American names and naming practices.
Oleg LEONOVITCH who is a Professor of Foreign Languages at the Department of Translation, Pyatigorsk Linguistic University in Russia reports that in this period he continued his research into the structure and typology of placenames in the countries of the English-speaking world. He also taught a course in Pyatigorsk Linguistic University entitled English and American Onomastics. He relates that “throughout 2006 [he has] been preoccupied with finishing a book manuscript of a Concise Dictionary of English Nicknames.

He also served as a research advisor on several graduation papers and dissertations in the field of onomastic sciences.

Professor Leonovitch is presently preparing an article on “Problems of English and American Onomastic Lexicography.”

His recent publications include:
• “Proper Names and the Growth of the English Vocabulary”
• “English Brand Names”
• “Names in Idioms” (with Artemova A., in Foreign Languages in School, Moscow; #1, 2005; #5, 2005; #4, 2003).

He concludes that his research interests “include onomastics, intercultural communication, translation and background to English.”

Jesse LEVITT, Professor Emeritus of Foreign Languages at the University of Bridgeport spoke in May 2006 at the Names Institute at Baruch College on “Names in Samuel Beckett’s Plays ‘Endgame’ and ‘All that Fall’: Irony and Black Humor.” In September 2006 he presented at the American Society of Geolinguistics on “English versus Hebrew in Israel Today.”

Laura Chao-chih LIAO, Associate Professor at the National University of Kaohsiung, writes that while most of her publications were in non-onomastic fields this year she does have the following works to report:

• “Linguistic Analysis of Nicknames of Junior High School Students;” accepted by Journal of Language and Linguistics.

National Chiayi University.

She adds that “all jokes about placenames in Taiwan are linguistic, not universal or absurd. They are in riddle forms too. Generally, they play the linguistic game of homophones, re-parsing, and semantics.” Dr. Liao’s website is: http://ccns.ncku.edu.tw/~ccliao/

Stanley LIEBERSON, who is a Professor of Sociology at Harvard University, and two graduate students, Christopher Bail and Mark Pachucki, are completing the final stages of their comparative study of international and intranational naming processes throughout the twentieth century. They believe that their results are relevant for the models of globalization and cultural transmission currently in favor. In addition, they “were obliged to develop novel ways of addressing some technical and substantive problems” that they encountered. There hope is that their solutions will be “at least useful starting points for others.”

Myra LINDEN reports that she “finished polishing the manuscript of the 6th grade grammar text of the Thinking Through Grammar (TTG) series that her late husband, Arthur E. Whimbey, and she were working on when he died in August 2004.

She continues to be intrigued by euphemisms for death in obituaries. She believes that “died” is more commonly used in obituaries now and, less commonly, “passed away” as contrasted in the past when euphemisms like “passed away” were much more usual than at present.

Dorothy LITT has very much enjoyed reading Names: A Journal of Onomastics. She has nothing to report for the period.

Carol LOMBARD is currently working on her Master’s Degree dissertation research project entitled: “Kitsiitsinikh’a siminnoonistsi ‘our real names’.” It is an Ethnolinguistic Study of Niitsitapi personal names. The overall objective of her research is to provide an ethnographically-based account of the role played by personal names and naming practices in Niitsitapi (Blackfoot) culture, through an investigation of the apparently complex and multi-faceted relationships between naming phenomena and other aspects of traditional Niitsitapi socioculture.

The main focus of her work over the past twelve months or so has been on data collection. This has been accomplished primarily through field work conducted on the Kainai (Blood) Reserve in southwestern Alberta, Canada. An initial three-week trip to the field was undertaken in October/November 2005, and a four-week follow-up visit was made during September/October 2006. The bulk of the empirical work has now been completed, and she is now in the very early stages of writing the dissertation.

Her research interests are in Linguistic Anthropology (especially Native American-related), and cognitive linguistics.

During this period she published “Conceptual Metaphors in Computer Networking Terminology” in
**Emma Woo Louie** responds: “The most memorable event for me this year was being invited to speak at the annual ANS meeting in Albuquerque.” Her presentation, “Some Observations on American Names of Chinese Origin” cited published explanations that confuse two cultural points-of-view. She indicated that the Chinese have always considered their two-character names as one name. Confusion arises through the use of the terms first name, middle name, and last name. These terms are being used to explain Chinese names because they consist of three characters. Thus two-character given names are being defined as two separate names. Unfortunately, the name style of transcribing each character as a separate word also contributes to this impression. The space between the two-character name, whether written in Chinese or English, must disappear in order for a true understanding of these names to take place.

Ms. Woo Louie regrets that she will not be able to attend the annual meeting in Anaheim this year. She “would love to attend and listen to the lectures and talks, but being elderly folks – I am 80 and my husband is almost 90 -- it has become difficult to travel by ourselves.”

**Mark Mandel** is the Research Administrator for a Biomedical Information Extraction project at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Mandel’s professional home page, which he says “is much in need of updating,” may be found at [http://www.cis.upenn.edu/~mamandel/index.html](http://www.cis.upenn.edu/~mamandel/index.html). His personal home page can be found at [http://www.speakeasy.org/~mamandel](http://www.speakeasy.org/~mamandel).

**Philip W. Matthews** of Lower Hutt, New Zealand, writes that he continues with his work on two topics, New Zealanders’ personal names and surnames and Maori names for countries. He is also preparing a paper comparing the naming patterns of three subsets of New Zealand sports representatives.

**Michael F. McGoff**, editor of *The Ehrensperger Report* and Vice Provost at Binghamton University (SUNY), has again focused most of his energies on his position at the University during this period. His duties as Treasurer of ANS, however, do consume considerable energies. During this period, he continued to update the websites of the American Name Society and its Toponymy Interest Group (formerly PLANSUS). The official website of ANS may be viewed at: [http://wtsn.binghamton.edu/ANS](http://wtsn.binghamton.edu/ANS)

Dr. McGoff reports that the ANS listserve, which is also resident on the State University of New York at Binghamton computer system, now has over 200 members. The listserve is an active forum for the discussion of onomastic issues. Those interested in this Onomastic Discussion Group may join by sending a simple command on email to: listserv@listserv.binghamton.edu. No “subject” is necessary, and the message must contain only one line: sub ans-l yourfirstname yourlastname.

**Erin McKean**, the Editor of *Verbatim*, says that, “unfortunately, we haven’t published anything about names in 2006.” She does, however, have several articles coming up for 2007 including two pieces by ANS member Robert Rennick.

She adds that *Verbatim* “remains interested in onomastic writing for the layperson, preferably humorous,” and that queries and submissions should be directed to the editor at [editor@verbatimmag.com](mailto:editor@verbatimmag.com) or to PO Box 597302, Chicago IL 60659?

**Mary Rita Miller** focused during the period on literature.

**Lucie A. Möller** writes to say that Dr. Cuthbert John Skead, distinguished Honorary Member of the Names Society of Southern Africa, passed away peacefully on 28 May 2006. Born in 1915, Dr. Jack Skead was educated at the Grey Institute, St. Andrews’ College and the University of Reading. He achieved national and international recognition for his meticulous scientific work in the fields of ornithology, mammalogy and nature conservation, and was presented with the Coronation Medal of Queen Elizabeth in 1953, the Cape Tercentenary Foundation Certificate of Merit in 1957, the Gill Memorial Medal of the South African Ornithological Society in 1966, and the Gold Medal of the Zoological Society of Southern Africa in 1977.

The degree of Doctor of Philosophy *honoris causa* was conferred upon him by Rhodes University in 1982 and in 2004 by the University of Port Elizabeth.

These achievements by Jack Skead are indicative of the dedication and perseverance of this man of science. His first contribution to onomastics became known to the late Professor G.S. Nienaber and Dr Peter E. Raper during their research into Khoikhoi placenames, namely his *Zoo-Historical Gazetteer*, published by the Albany Museum in 1973. This book, indispensable for any study of comparative toponymy, gives inter alia alternative names for places in Southern Africa, often
providing the clue to translations and the solution to the meanings of names.

In 1986 Dr. Skead donated for research purposes his material on Xhosa placenames, described as follows:

- The Pilot Gazetteer of Xhosa Placenames, contained in some 28 spring-clip files in all. Apart from locus details, this gazetteer gives alternative spellings of the names and historical variants; also, relevant historical data with dates and references in brief, intended to assist in determining origins, meanings, etc.
- As companion to the above is a Gazetteer of Whiteman's Placenames relevant to the Xhosa Gazetteer. This enables someone with knowledge of a White placename to ascertain its Xhosa equivalent. The primary purpose of the Gazetteer’s compilation was to record White placenames in the region in the expectation of their falling into disuse.
- District lists of placenames compiled in order to facilitate research into each district’s placenames without having to wade through the total alphabetically-arranged Pilot Gazetteer. Supporting data on Xhosa and Khoi activity has been included.
- A detailed Bibliography accompanies the gazetteers, all of whose references are keyed to this single bibliography.
- A Xhosa mission station gazetteer has also been compiled as a basis for future research, not as a complete work. Based on this material, and other subsequently researched, the following publications appeared from Dr Skead’s pen:
  - A Pilot Gazetteer of Some Khoekhoe Placenames within the Western Cape Province, the Eastern Cape Province and the Northern Cape Province of the Republic of South Africa. Port Elizabeth: Private Publication, 2002.

These publications, and Dr. Skead’s raw material, represent the results of decades of intensive research of relevant literature, maps, and field-work. Not only did Dr. Skead collect and record all relevant data, but he submitted the material to Professor Herbert Pahl of the Xhosa Dictionary, and consulted other academics and mother-tongue speakers. In this way he has made an inestimable contribution to onomastics, providing material for numerous articles, dissertations, theses and books, and laying the foundation for future research. Dr Jack Skead has left onomastics a legacy of inestimable value. The richness and abundance of relevant detail has already provided the solutions to many Khoisan origins to Xhosa names. Of particular usefulness in such research are the recording of the oldest forms of names, which can be analysed for possible Khoisan origins. We know that names are adapted over the course of time, and the further from the original the form and pronunciation; the more difficult it is to determine the true origin and meaning. Dr. Skead’s work will be a sine qua non for researchers, academics, writers and everyone involved in Eastern Cape place-names in the future.

See also Peter E. RAPER.

Christian MORARU, an Associate Professor of American Literature and Critical Theory and Director of Graduate Studies at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Dr. Moraru’s website is: http://www.uncg.edu/~c_moraru/.

Jennifer MOSS writes that she is “no name scholar, but our site may be helpful in gathering name statistics if that is of interest to the Society.”

Michael Dean MURPHY is Professor of Anthropology at the University of Alabama; his website can be accessed at: http://www.as.ua.edu/ant/murphy.htm.

He regrets that, by happenstance none of his publications and presentations this year concerned onomastics, but he plans to “rectify that in the coming year.” Professor Murphy “looks forward to The Ehrensperger Report every year” saying that “it is the best barometer of the state of onomastics research” he knows of.

Tim NAU presented a paper on first names to the Arts and Letters Club of Toronto in January 2006. It was called “What Ever Happened to Tom, Dick and Harry?” In June, he attended the annual meeting of the Canadian Society for the Study of Names and chaired one of the sessions. He also collected and edited, during the period in question, the book reviews published in two issues of Onomastica Canadiana. He is its Associate Editor.

Bertie NEETHLING is a Senior Professor in the Xhosa Department at the University of the Western Cape in Bellville, South Africa. His monograph: Naming among the Xhosa of South Africa (Mellen Press) is the first book length study on Xhosa naming practices.
Joel NEVIS presented a paper entitled “From Arbacoochee to Yazoo: Conjuring up Consonants in Muskogean Place-Names of the South” to the 45th Annual Names Institute at Baruch College, May 6, 2006. It is to be included with the Proceedings of the Institute upon their publication.

W.F.H. NICOLAISEN, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of English and Folklore at the State University of New York at Binghamton and currently Honorary Professor of English in the School of Language and Literature at the University of Aberdeen (Scotland), was awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Aberdeen during this period. The laureate address stressed, among other things, his contributions to, and achievements in, name studies. In part, the citation read:

Tuesday, July 4, at 11.00am

WFH (Bill) Nicolaisen (DHC) [Doctor Honoris Causa]

Distinguished scholar in folklore and contemporary urban legends.

W F H (Bill) Nicolaisen has been an Honorary Research Professor at the University of Aberdeen since 1992. He is a distinguished scholar, whose interests include folklore and placenames. An authority on contemporary urban legends, Bill Nicolaisen is a former President of the Folklore Society. He has also been a Visiting Professor at the Ohio State University, the University of Aarhus (Denmark) and the University of Edinburgh. Professor Nicolaisen is one of the most respected and popular scholars working in onomastics, the study of proper names of all kinds and the origins of names, and is the author of several works on Scottish Place-Names. In addition to these books, he has published more than 700 articles and reviews.

He writes that health problems prevented him from being as active in his continuing onomastic pursuits as he would have liked to have been but these problems have now been successfully attended to, allowing an optimistic outlook for the completion of several projects, particularly his Dictionary of Scottish Place Names for which his extensive manuscript collections are now being digitized with the help of a lexicographer-cum-name scholar of the Scottish Language Dictionaries in Edinburgh and the support of the Language Committee of the Association for Scottish Literary Studies.

A number of articles and reviews were published during the report period, including contributions to the Reallexikon der germanischen Altertumskunde, the Encyclopedia of Language and Linguistics and the Encyclopedia of American Folklore, reviews in Names: A Journal of Onomastics, Fabula and the Journal of American Folklore. He also published introductions to Romans in Moray by Ian Keillar and Cultural Contacts in the North Atlantic Region: the Evidence of Names.

Professor Nicolaisen continued to teach courses in the Centre for Lifelong Learning and the Elphinstone Institute. He also gave several public lectures on onomastic matters.

Alleen NILSEN and Don NILSEN, Professors of English at the University of Arizona, are the incoming Co-Presidents of the American Name Society. They have been preparing a series of PowerPoint presentations on various aspects of names. So far they have prepared the following (all of which are available from the Nilsens):

- “Nilsen Names Research;”
- “Names in Sherman Alexie’s The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven (and in Smoke Signals);”
- “Names in Orson Scott Card’s Ender’s Game;”
- “Names in Sandra Cisneros’ House on Mango Street;”
- “Names in Ian Martel’s Life of Pi;”
- “Names in J. K. Rowling’s Harry Potter books;”
- “Names in Louis Sachar’s Holes;”
- “Names in Daniel Handler’s Lemony Snicket’s Series of Unfortunate Events;”
- “Names and Naming in Young Adult Literature.”

Their Names and Naming in Young Adult Literature will be published as a book by Scarecrow Press in 2007.

Frank NUESSEL, Professor of Linguistics at the University of Louisville had another very productive year. His publications include:

• Note. First AP Italian Language and Culture Exam and First AP Reading in 2006. AATI Newsletter (fall 2006), p. 8.
• L. Callahan. Spanish/English Codeswitching in a Written Corpus. Language Problems and Language Planning 30(1): 83-86. (Review)
• Special Issue of Semiotica (# 161) “Perspectives on Metaphor” edited with introduction by Professor Nuessel. This was a two-year project. This issue contains essays by the top international scholars in metaphor research.
• “Proficiency: Content-based language learning.” ACTFL-AATI Meeting, November 17, 2006. Nashville, TN.
• “The First Year of the AP Italian Language and Culture Course and Exam.” ACTFL-AATI. November 18, 2006. Nashville, TN.
He also prepared reviews for an AP Italian Language and Culture course. This involves the ongoing preparation of reviews of materials for the course and for an Exam. The first exam was in May 2006. He reviewed the following for that Web site. The Web site address is: http://www.apcentral.collegeboard.org/italian.
• Balboni and M. Cardona. Storia e testi di letteratura per stranieri. Perugia: Guerra.
• C. Boselli, M. Morgana, and M. Saviotti. Superchi@o.it. Corso di lingua italiana per la scuola superiore. Brescia: Editrice La Scuola.

Lastly, Professor Nuessel was interviewed by journalists for:

Roger L. PAYNE, Executive Secretary (1993-2006), U.S. Board on Geographic Names, U.S. Geological Survey, reports that he retired from active service in the Federal Government on May 31, 2006. However, he was asked to continue as a re-hired annuitant (consultant) to assist during office transition and realignment. Specifically, he monitors the websites of the Geographic Names Information System (GNIS) and the U.S. Board on Geographic Names responding to inquiries and analyzing notifications of errors and new data submitted. He also still participates on behalf of the U.S. Geological Survey in the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH) course on geographic names.

Payne was honored upon retirement by the naming of a mountain in Antarctica for him. The actual citation may be viewed in Appendix 6.
Much of the work of the GNIS staff remained devoted to developing quality assurance procedures for use with state, regional, and local partnerships for rapid collection of geographic names data. Partnerships have been developed so far with the states of Delaware, West Virginia, and North Carolina with programs initiated in late 2005 in Nevada, Florida, and Oregon. Also, a new version of the GNIS database was implemented, which greatly enhances the data management aspects as well as provides a new user website with numerous enhancements, capabilities, and functionality. It is also more intuitive. See it at: http://geonames.usgs.gov.

Mr. Payne reports that revision of Place Names of the Outer Banks is still in progress, and even though the supply volumes numbers at less than 100 remaining, and the publisher has gently asked for a revision; there has been little progress because of the activities associated with retirement and moving. He also provided three book reviews (not toponymic), on Earth Science and Geography, each of which were children’s series.

Representing the United States along with a delegation of six Mr. Payne attended the 23rd Session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names in Vienna, Austria 28 March - 4 April where numerous informational and position papers were presented (three by Mr. Payne), and numerous toponymic topics, procedures, and policies were discussed.

The 18th course in applied toponymy offered by the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH) was held in Santiago, Chile, August 28 – September 8, 2006. There were 21 students, and thus far, almost 500 students have participated in the courses where they receive lectures in various methods and procedures for standardizing geographic names as well as participating in a field exercise for collecting data, and an automation workshop. Mr. Payne organized the course and served as principal instructor.

Payne also attended officially and participated in the annual conference of the Council of Geographic Names Authorities (COGNA) 2006, October 17- 21, 2006 in Boulder, Colorado where numerous policy issues were discussed and debated, and the Board on Geographic Names’ Domestic Committee held its monthly meeting. Mr. Payne may be emailed at either rpayne@usgs.gov or yadkin@comcast.net]

Barry POPIK notes that he “got married in March and moved to a suburb of Austin in September.” On a personal note he and his wife “found we could get three times the living space for one-third the price of a NYC studio apartment.” Mr. Popik collaborated with Gerald COHEN on Studies in Slang, Part VII. He also contributed to the Yale Book of Quotation, (Fred Shapiro, editor).

Since moving to Texas, he has added a “Texas” section to his “Big Apple” website: (www.barrypopik.com) that includes Texas words and phrases. There are many Texas food names on the list, and, he adds, he hopes to start a Texas Food Museum.

More work by Mr. Popik may be found in Comments on Etymology and daily on the American Dialect Society web site, www.americandialect.org, in the archives.

Terrence M. POTTER of the Department of English Language, Literature and Linguistics at Georgetown University reports that he has nothing in the area of onomastics to report for this year. He wishes his colleagues well and a very Happy New Year!

Margaret S. POWELL is Government Information Librarian Emerita, The College of Wooster Libraries. She responds that notification from colleagues of contributions to the literature of geographic names greatly facilitates her building of the database for the new edition of her bibliography covering the published literature on geographic names in the United States and Canada.

Unfortunately, she writes, “once again, technology has inserted a roadblock in my work.” Support for the bibliographic software, ProCite™ (Macintosh version), which she has been using for more than twenty years to build databases in two major projects, has been discontinued. She is exploring ways to proceed with the projects and hopes to convert the voluminous bibliographic files to another program or platform.

Richard R. RANDALL is Executive Secretary Emeritus of the U.S. Board on Geographic Names. He writes that in responding to a request from Mark Monmonier, he submitted an article on the U.S. Board on Geographic Names to be included in Cartography in the Twentieth Century, the 6th edition of the History of Cartography. The focus of the article is on how the Board’s work during that time was related to cartography. “When the Board was founded in 1890, there was increasing knowledge that so many official U.S. maps and charts had names incorrectly spelled or mis-located. The Board’s principal role was to create and implement policies requiring agencies producing maps and charts to assure their accuracy regarding names. Although the time span for the article was identified from 1900 to 2000, the editors permitted additional years before and after that time if logically required.” For that reason Dr. Randall’s work starts with 1890 and extends a few years after 2000. Also, he says, the article had to be “no more than 1300 words.” This made it difficult for him, given the importance of the Board and the vast number of publications describing its responsibilities and accomplishments. While over the years many talented and dedicated
people were involved with the Board, Dr. Randall regrets that could give attention to only a few: Meredith “Pete” Burrill, Roger PAYNE, and Donald Orth. He also mentioned his functions. One pertinent quotation he decided to extract was from Dr. Francisco Gall, whom, he notes, is an internationally recognized expert from Guatemala who fully understood how names were an essential cartographic ingredient: ‘A map without names is a dumb map’.”

Peter E. RAPER reported from South Africa: The New Dictionary of South African Place Names, by Peter E. Raper, was published mid December 2004 by Jonathan Ball Publishers, 421 pages. It is available on the Internet from www.kalahari.net or www.exclusivebooks.com. (See also, Lucie A. MOLLER and Adrian KOOPMAN.)

Henry A. RAUP continues his work on the placenames of Mount Desert Island, Maine and is now preparing a final draft.

Alan RAYBURN attended the annual meeting of the Canadian Society for the Study of Names, held at York University in Toronto, May 27-28 where he delivered a paper entitled “North of the 49th Parallel as a Stand-in for Canada.” He elaborates that “the total length of the land and water boundary between Canada and the United States is 8,893 km (5,526 miles). Of this, the 49th parallel as part of the boundary is only 2,274 km (1,413 miles). Yet the expression ‘North of the 49th Parallel’ has come to describe the whole boundary between Canada’s provinces and the lower 48 states of the United States. In the magazine Saturday Night, June 1979, the following statement was made: ‘Eugene McNamara, of the creative writing programme at the University of Windsor, is one of those Amero-Canadians who straddle the 49th parallel without apparent difficulty.’ As Winston Churchill might have said: Some creation, some straddle. The question was: how did the phrase ‘North of the 49th Parallel’ become a Stand-in for Canada?’”

Mr. Rayburn attended the annual meeting of the American Name Society in Albuquerque, New Mexico, January 5-8 where he presented a paper on using the word “corruption” in onomastic publications. For more than a century, he says, writers describing the origins of placenames often used the word “corruption” to describe unacceptable variant spellings of names. “Canadian professors André LAPIERRE and William Davey have observed that the use of the word ‘corruption’ in onomastic texts was pejorative.” In the second edition of his book, Naming Canada (2001), Mr. Rayburn points out, “the five references to ‘corruption’ have been replaced by neutral words or phrases.” A review of the literature, he indicates, has revealed “a marked difference between professors of English, who have rarely used the word ‘corruption’ in their writings and authors from other disciplines, especially geography, who have frequently used it.

Working with Christine DeVINNE and Ed LAWSON, Mr. Rayburn chaired the ANS Nominations Committee to fill the vacant positions of the Society from 2007 to 2009.

Mr. Rayburn attended the Council of Geographic Names Authorities (COGNA) in Boulder, Colorado, October 17-22 where he “found most of the presentations to be excellent” and he plans to attend the annual ANS meeting in January, 2007 in Anaheim, California.

Mr. Rayburn reports that the homepage for biographies of deceased specialists in North American name study (www.wtsn.binghamton.edu/ona) remains active. A biography of William BRIGHT will be contributed in early 2007. Professor Bright arranged the COGNA sessions in Boulder before his death on October 15.

Dean REILEIN, a retired librarian from Eastern Connecticut State University, has no activity to report for this period.

Robert M. REN Nick produced:
• An article on place nicknames in Kentucky Humanities in October 2005.
• “Rennick’s Mills” (part of an ongoing series on Kentucky mill names); The Millstone, Vol. 4(2), Fall 2005.
• “Oh, Woe Is Me” (on Kentucky placenames) Kentucky Humanities, April 2006.
• The Post Offices of Kentucky’s Gateway—Buffalo Trace Area, (a book) published by The Depot of Lake Grove, Oregon, 2005.
• The Post Offices of the Kentucky River’s North Fork to be published by the Depot, Winter 2006 – 2007.
• “Rufus Reed’s Accounts of Some Martin County Place Names” Sandy Valley Heritage, Vol. 26 (3), Sept. 2006.

He also writes that “manuscripts for six other Kentucky post office books are now in press or in preparation.

He and his committee “are currently involved in adding nearly 100,000 known Kentucky place and feature names to the GNIS data base (for a Phase Two federal contract.)”

The planning for the COGNA Conference is currently underway. It will be held in Lexington, Kentucky October, 1 - 6, 2007.

Mr. Rennick continues to discuss the ongoing Kentucky placenames survey in college classes and at state, regional, and local meetings. He continues to serve as the chair of the Kentucky Geographic Names Committee (which is affiliated with the US Board on Geographic Names).

Jennifer RUNYON continues to serve as Senior Researcher in the Geographic Names Office at the U.S. Geological Survey in Reston, Virginia. In 2006, she was appointed deputy to the Executive Secretary, U.S. Board on Geographic Names/Domestic Names Committee (DNC). She is responsible for researching all toponymic issues prior to their consideration by the DNC. She also answers toponymic inquiries from Federal, Tribal, State, and local agencies and the general public, and provides support for the maintenance of the Geographic Names Information System (GNIS). In October 2006, Ms. Runyon attended the annual conference of the Council of Geographic Names Authorities (COGNA) in Boulder, Colorado, where she participated in the monthly meeting of the DNC and in the annual State-Federal Roundtable.


The findings in her dissertation: The Germanic Toponymicon of Southern Scotland: Place-name Elements and Their Contribution to the Lexicon and Onomasticon are available to researchers at: www.scuilwab.org.uk and www.dsl.ac.uk. The website for Scottish Language Dictionaries is: www.scotsdictionaries.org.uk

Jack SHREVÉ writes that he tries “to pack onomastic references” into everything he publishes.

Ralph SLOVENKO, Professor Law and Psychiatry at the Wayne State University Law School published:

Grant SMITH, Professor of English and Coordinator of Humanities at Eastern Washington University, reports that his publications for the period are:
• “Literary Onomastics and Literary Theory: An Introduction to Essays in English.” Onoma 40.
• “Teaching Onomastics in the United States.” Onoma 39.

He presented:
• “Some Practical Distinctions between Names and Features.” Council of Geographic Name Authorities, Portland, OR. October 2005.

Paul SORVO says that “regarding names, I cannot get away from them. I have continued gathering names of places where members of our church, the Laestadian Lutheran Church, live or have lived in North America since the 19th century.” Mr. Sorvo has gathered about 500 placenames “with some overlap because of people in neighboring congregations live in the same populated area.”

He has also attempted to gather the names of the congregations in Finland and has sought literature on the origins of the names of the places. So far, he admits, he has “not been successful” at this and requests any help possible from another ANS member who has studied placenames in Finland. He is especially interested in hearing about sources (either in Finnish or English) in this area.

He is presently involved in a Finnish-English Biblical Term Glossary/Dictionary with idioms from Scripture as examples, wherever possible. It had its beginnings in a Finnish-Estonian Glossary and “with the approval of our church’s counterpart in Finland; it was first expanded to English.” The part-time working group is now considering a trilingual
glossary/dictionary - Finnish-English-Spanish. A French trilingual would be helpful also, “as our potential American users do not all know the Finnish language but could use the Spanish and French because we do mission work in Ecuador and Togo.”

Mr. Sorvo has also done some translation and editing of articles for his church paper and has written some articles for local publications.

Alexandra SUPERANSKAYA made a reprint of her Dictionary of Russian Personal Names (Moscow, 2006) and published two articles:


She also attended the Conference in Ulan-Ude and presented her paper there.


Dr. Tucker was an invited speaker at 2006 annual meeting of the American Name Society in Albuquerque where he read his paper “Fingerprints and Entropy: Comparing National Distributions of Forenames and Surnames.” An article based on this material has been accepted for publication in Nomina.

He has submitted a paper to ANS for publication in Names: A Journal of Onomastics based on his talk to the annual meeting of the Canadian Society for the Study of Names in Toronto entitled “Increased Competition and Reduced Popularity – U.S. Forename Trends of the Twentieth Century.”

A speaker at the Royal Geographic Society annual general meeting in London, September 2006, he delivered an address on “The CEL Group Technique as used in the Dictionary of American Family Names.

Presently he is preparing an article entitled “Reaney & Wilson Redux.” In it, three questions are asked of this seminal work of Reaney and Wilson: What did they mean by surnames? How many surnames are included in their work? Were the names extant at the time of publication?

Dr. Tucker also began talking to marketers about the possible use of surnames in indicating purchase preferences.

Willy VAN LANGENDONCK writes to say that he published the following:

- “Proper Names as the Prototipical Nominal Category.” Keynote address of the 13th International Congress of the Names Society of Southern Africa (Maputo, September 27-30, 2004).
- “Not Common Nouns but Proper Names are the Prototypical Nouns.” Paper read at the 22nd International Congress of Onomastic Sciences (Pisa 2005). (To appear.)
Ren VASILIEV, Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Geography at State University of New York College at Geneseo, is the editor of NAMES: A Journal of Onomastics, the journal of the American Name Society. She is a member of the New York State Committee on Geographic Names.

David WADE reports that during the summer of 2005, he submitted a proposal for a $1.5 million grant to the US National Institutes of Health (NIH) entitled, “The Federal Project: Onomastic Based Creation of Bioactive Peptides.” The application proposed making peptides based on the personal names of all 536 elected members of Congress. He writes that the proposal “was based upon my proven methodology for converting names composed of letters of the English alphabet into biologically active chemicals, called peptides.” See:

Dr. Wade says that “the technology was originally developed in the lab of 1984 Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, R.B. Merrifield, at Rockefeller University. The peptides so created will have a variety of biological properties, sometimes including useful medical properties.” The grant application was not approved, “although the reviewers seemed interested in the concept.”


A participant in the 45th Names Institute at Baruch College, New York City, in May 2006, he presented a talk entitled, “Geolinguistics of Names: A Physical Chemical Perspective.” The talk described a modification of the chemical approach to onomastics, and utilized computer based comparisons of the chemical energy of names. In response to a comment made to Dr. Wade by Professor Leonard R.N. Ashley during the 45th Names Institute, he was stimulated to find an alternative method to compare the energies of names and developed a simple method based on acoustical energies. The first report of this method was published in an article, “Determining the Energies of Names” in Wade Research Foundation Reports (2006) 2: 1-3.
http://wade-research.com/images/Name_Energy_05-08-06_.pdf

The acoustical method of name study is more direct and less expensive than chemical methods of name study, and he is continuing the acoustical work in the hope of finding some scientific basis for name preferences.

In August 2006 he submitted a manuscript to Names: A Journal of Onomastics entitled, “Natural Science Approaches to Onomastics” which summarized the chemical and acoustical approaches for studying names.

His non-onomastic work is in the area of medical biochemistry, specifically novel peptide antimicrobial agents. In the past, this work has been done at Rockefeller University, New York City, Karolinska Institutet, Sweden, and Helsinki University, Finland, but it currently is being accomplished through the Wade Research Foundation, based in New Jersey. “This work is of importance because there is currently a worldwide epidemic of antibiotic resistant microorganisms, and an urgent need to develop new antimicrobial drugs.” Dr. Wade’s publications in this area during the period were:

• “Antimicrobial peptides from amphibian skin potently inhibit human immunodeficiency virus infection and transfer of virus from dendritic cells to T cells.” (D. Wade and multiple authors), Journal of Virology (2005) 79(18): 11598-11606.
• “Inhibition of Bacillus anthracis and potential surrogate bacilli growth from spore inocula by nisin and other antimicrobial peptides.” (D. Wade and multiple authors), Journal of Food Protection (2006) 69: 2529-2533.

Finally, he also published a chapter in a small collection of short stories written by Americans who have lived and worked overseas: “Superpower and the Snooze-a-Cat Gap - In So Far and Yet So Near”: Stories of Americans Abroad, American Citizens Abroad, Geneva, Switzerland, 2005, pp. 199-201. This book is available from ACA and/or Amazon.com.

Masayoshi YAMADA, Trustee and Professor of Linguistics at the University of Shimane, Japan, has clearly had a very productive year:

Culture. It was created for students or teachers of English.

- **How to Study English Language and Culture.** (in Japanese) Hamada, Japan: English Language and Culture Studies Society. 2006. pp. 303. *This book includes a Chapter on Brand Names and U.S. Culture.* It was created for students or teachers of English.

- **A Dictionary of English Proper Names.** (Co-author: Yoshifumi Tanaka) Hamada, Japan: English Language and Culture Studies Society. 2006. pp. 249. *All important proper names (trade names, TV characters, etc.) are discussed, with brands' pictures or logo marks, and full discussions.*


The articles produced by Professor Yamada during the period are:

- “A Sociolinguistic Study of Trade Names.” *Journal of English Language and Culture Studies*, No. 7. (in Japanese);


Professor Yamada “hopes that this information contributes to onomastic studies and wishes his colleagues well.”

**Lou YOST** reports that in September 2006 he was selected as the Chief of the Geographic Names Program and appointed Executive Secretary for Domestic Names by the U.S. Geological Survey. In October 2006 he was appointed Acting Executive Secretary to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN) by its Chair.

Mr. Yost presented a talk on the BGN at the mid year conference of the National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC) in March. He also participated in the 23rd session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names in Vienna, Austria.

In June 2006 he represented the United States at the annual meeting of the Geographic Names Board of Canada in Ottawa, Canada.

He also attended the annual meeting of the Council of Geographic Names Authorities (COGNA) during this period.

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Questions about the Ehrensperger Report should be directed to:

**Dr. Michael F. McGoff, Vice Provost**  
Office of the Provost  
State University of New York at Binghamton  
Binghamton, New York 13902-6000  
mmcgoff@binghamton.edu
Appendices

Appendix 1

Placenames: Our National Heritage

The 25th anniversary of the Names Society of Southern Africa (NSA), established in September 1981, coincided with Heritage Day 2006. To celebrate this auspicious occasion the President of the NSA, Dr Peter E. Raper, has announced that the theme for the NSA anniversary is: ‘Place-names: Our National Heritage.’ Place-names constitute an essential part of the historical, linguistic and cultural heritage of the nation. Derived from Khoisan, African, European and Asian languages, our place-names reflect the national topography, history, fauna and flora, beliefs and ways of life of the people now and in the past. They are critical elements in the national infrastructure, and are used by people all over the world.

Place-names preserve the linguistic and cultural heritage too of the language group from which they originate. In keeping with the theme, Jonathan Ball Publishers are promoting their publication New Dictionary of South African Place Names. This book ranks among the most important South African publications alongside those on birds, fauna and flora, and deserves a place in every library and every home. It contains some 1,760 full entries plus hundreds of cross-references, including names from all languages spoken in the sub-continent now and in the past, from Khoisan names thousands of years old to the latest name changes. In addition to the name and the feature designation, the language of origin of the name is provided, the meaning of the name and the reason for the naming, if known; the situation of the place in terms of latitude and longitude, distance and direction from other places; and a host of interesting historical, biographical and scientific information. This book has been said to ‘take second place in our reference library only to the unabridged Oxford English Dictionary’ (Caravan and Outdoor Life), to be ‘as irresistible as a well-crafted thriller’ (John Mitchell, Business Day), and ‘an extremely detailed publication’ (Dr Peter Alcock, Pietermaritzburg).

The Names Society of Mozambique, affiliated to the NSA, was established on the occasion of the United Nations Training Course on Geographical Names for Southern Africa, held in Maputo from 18 to 25 September this year. Organized by the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNEGGN) and the Department of State Administration of Mozambique, the course was attended by some thirty-six participants from member countries of the Africa South Division of the UNGEGN, Angola, Brazil, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Lecturers were Dr. Peter E. RAPER (South Africa), former chairman of UNGEGN; Ms. Helen KERFOOT (Canada), current chairperson of UNGEGN; Prof. Ferjan Ormeling (Netherlands), Convenor of the UNGEGN Working Group on Training Courses; Dr. Lucie A. MÖLLER (South Africa), UNGEGN Expert, former Secretary, Treasurer and Editorial Secretary of the NSA; Dr. Pier-Giorgio Zaccheddu (Germany), UNGEGN Expert and computer specialist; and Mr. Luis Abrahano (Mozambique), chairman of the Africa South Division of the UNGEGN and member of the Executive Committee of the NSA.

The most important function of the United Nations is to avoid conflict between nations. The UN has identified the question of geographical names as one of the six issues most likely to cause conflict and found it necessary to establish a standing expert group to advise it on this thorny issue. This training course gave guidance on the establishment of national geographical names authorities and the standardisation of geographical names in accordance with UN resolutions in this regard.

National geographical names authorities in Southern Africa and elsewhere in the world rely on professional societies such as the NSA, the members of which are often academics, to provide the research necessary for background information on names to enable it to take the correct standardization decisions. The Names Society of Mozambique will fulfill the same function for the names authority of Mozambique, and establish contact with other Africa South member countries. A copy of the New Dictionary of South African Place Names was presented to the Chairman of the Names Society of Mozambique.

The 14th Congress of the Names Society of Southern Africa (NSA) will be held in the Ithala Game Reserve, KwaZulu-Natal, from 26 to 29 November 2006. In addition to prominent South African onomasticians, participants will include leading international name experts such as Professor Willy van Langendonck of Belgium and Baron Wolf-Armin von Reitzenstein of Germany, Prof. Botolv Helleland from Norway and Antti Leino from Finland, and names scholars from Benin, Botswana, Lesotho, Nigeria, Namibia and Mozambique.

Persons wishing to join the NSA are invited to contact Professor Adrian KOOPMAN, email koopman@ukzn.ac.za or Professor John Hilton, email hilton@ukzn.ac.za.

Peter E. Raper
Appendix 2

Names Society of Southern Africa (NSA)

Newsletter 2005

Message from the President

The year 2006 marks the 25th anniversary of the NSA. It was in 1981 that the Society was established. Since then numerous achievements have been notched up, including the establishment of our Journal, *Nomina Africana*; the holding of thirteen congresses in South Africa, Namibia and Mozambique; publications by members of the NSA; national and international activities of our members, and co-operation with the International Council of Onomastics (ICOS) and the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN).

The 14th International Congress of the NSA is to be held in 2006. This presents the ideal opportunity to celebrate the 25th birthday of the Society, to publicize the Society and its achievements, to enroll new members, to advertise our publications (*Nomina Africana, A World of Names*, edited by Lucie A. Möller and J.U. Jacobs, the *New Dictionary of South African Place Names* by Peter E. Raper, *Zulu Place Names* by Adrian Koopman, *Xhosa Place Names* by S.J. Neethling, the *Pilot Gazetteer of Xhosa Placenames* by C.J. Skead, etc.), to involve a wide range of national and international participants, to enlarge the membership of the Society, and so forth. I wish the Organizing Committee every success in this regard.

The ICOS Congress in Pisa presents the opportunity of announcing the 25th anniversary of the NSA, of inviting ICOS members to participate in its 14th Congress, and of advertising and promoting the publications of NSA members, and our Journal. I urge all NSA members attending the ICOS Congress in Pisa to strengthen the bonds between the NSA and ICOS.

As regards the United Nations, non-participation by many African countries in United Nations activities and non-implementation by these countries of UN resolutions on geographical names, and the resultant confusion, wastage of time and money, conflict, and even loss of life, have long been a source of concern for the United Nations and the UN Economic Commission for Africa. At the invitation of the United Nations, a Special Presentation was made by me in New York in April 2004 on “Challenges in the Standardization of Geographical Names in Developing Countries”. In the ensuing discussion it was emphasized that, as far as Africa is concerned, the solutions to the problems could only be found and implemented within existing structures in Africa. These include the Names Society of Southern Africa (NSA) and the Africa South Division (ASD) of the UNGEGN.

Closer co-operation is envisaged between the NSA and the ASD, which comprises Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Mr. Luis Abrahamo, member of the Executive Committee of the NSA and chairman of the Africa South Division, has a key role to play in this regard. A UN training course on geographical names was held in tandem with the NSA congress in Mozambique in September 2004. In his opening address before the NSA Congress, His Excellency the Mozambican Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Mr. Helder Muteia, noted the role the NSA can play in supporting with research the standardization activities of the geographical names authority of Mozambique. A branch of the NSA has been established in Mozambique also with this in mind. It is anticipated that the establishment of similar branches of the NSA in other countries of the Africa South Division will promote the work of the UNGEGN and the standardization of geographical names in accordance with UN resolutions, leading to the social and economic benefits to be derived therefrom. It is incumbent on the Society, as the “Names Society of Southern Africa”, to expand its focus to include the other countries of the sub-continent, not least because the languages from which our names are derived transcend the boundaries of our country, revealing fascinating and useful onomastic information when researched. The Society has a critical role to play in names matters in southern Africa.

Seven United Nations courses on geographical names have been held in South Africa to date, arranged by the UNGEGN in co-operation with the NSA and the HSRC. The Onomastic Studies Unit of the University of KwaZulu-Natal (OSU) has taken the lead in onomastic activities in the sub-continent, and is now the headquarters of the NSA. In a discussion in Mozambique with Prof. Adrian Koopman, Director of OSU and Vice-Chair of the NSA, the viability was discussed of arranging future UN training courses at the OSU, with funding from the United Nations, and participation by UNGEGN experts from around the world as well as local experts. In this way the NSA can expand its liaison with the United Nations, entrench its international influence, and play an increasingly meaningful role in the standardization of geographical names in Africa, while recording and preserving the toponymic, cultural and linguistic heritage of the countries concerned.

I take this opportunity of expressing my warm and sincere thanks to Prof. J.U. Jacobs, Prof. Adrian Koopman, Dr. Lucie A. Möller, Dr. B.A. Meiring, members of the Executive Committee, Honorary and other members of the NSA, and everyone else who has contributed to ensuring that the NSA has not only
survived its first quarter-century, but has received national and international recognition and respect. I look forward to seeing the Society expanding its membership, increasing its onomastic activities and international co-operation, and entrenching its position as one of the world leaders in the field of names.

It has been an honour and a pleasure to serve as President of the NSA since 1989. Having now attained the age of 65, it is time to retire, and I shall therefore not be eligible for re-election as President at the end of my term of office in 2006. I wish the Society, its Executive Committee and all its members every success in the future.

Peter E. Raper

Appendix 3

United Nations Training Course in Mozambique

The ninth United Nations training course on geographical names for Southern Africa was held in Maputo, Mozambique, from 18 to 25 September 2006. It was arranged by Mr. Luis Abrahamo, Chairman of the Africa South Division of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN), in conjunction with the UNGEGN Secretariat. The course was attended by thirty-six participants from Angola, Botswana, Brazil, Mozambique, South Africa, South Africa, Tanzania and Zimbabwe. Lecturers were Ms. Helen KERFOOT (Canada), Chairperson of the UNGEGN; Prof. Ferjan Ormeling (Netherlands), Convenor of the UNGEGN Working Group on Toponymic Training Courses; Dr. Peter E. RAPER (South Africa), former Chairman of the UNGEGN; Dr. Lucie A. MÖLLER (South Africa), UNGEGN Expert; Mr. Pier-Giorgio Zaccheddu (Germany), UNGEGN Expert and automation specialist. This was the second UNGEGN training course to be held in Maputo, the first being in September 2004.

The course contents were as follows:

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Module 1: Introduction to standardization and geographical names, 1
a) Introduction to geographical names, 1
b) Rationale for names committees, 6
c) The nature of geographical names, 12
d) Introduction to toponymic terminology, 16

Module 2: Research into geographical names, 20
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a) Establishment of a national names authority, 79
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d) Practical standardization, 93

Module 5: Multilingual situations
a) Implementation
b) Mock committee meeting
c) Evaluation

The training course was directed towards assisting the National Geographical Names Authority of Mozambique currently being established, and towards implementing UN resolutions recommending the establishment of national names authorities in Southern Africa and the standardization of geographical names.

The next UN training course on geographical names is planned to be held in Angola in 2008.

Appendix 4

Names Society of Mozambique Established

On the occasion of the United Nations training course to be held in Maputo from 18 to 25 September 2006, the Names Society of Mozambique was established as a branch of the Names Society of Southern Africa (NSA). The founding members were Dr. Peter E. RAPER, then President of the NSA; Mr. Luis Abrahamo, Chairman of the Africa South Division of the UNGEGN; Dr. Lucie A. MÖLLER, UNGEGN Expert on Geographical Names and former Secretary-Treasurer of the NSA; Ms. Helen KERFOOT of Canada, Chairperson of the UNGEGN and member of
the NSA, and Prof. Ferjan Ormeling of the Netherlands, Convenor of the UNGEGN Working Group on Toponymic Training Courses.

The Names Society of Mozambique will support with research and academic expertise the National Geographical Names Authority of Mozambique. A Survey of Mozambique Geographical Names is envisaged, to facilitate the standardization of geographical names, and also to record and preserve the place names as an important part of the linguistic and cultural heritage of the people of Mozambique.

Appendix 5

United Nations Documents on Geographical Names
(Second edition)

The first edition of United Nations Documents on Geographical Names, prepared by Dr. Peter E. RAPER in pursuance of Resolution 22 of the Fourth Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, was sold in 62 countries, but has long been out of print.

In order to revitalize geographical names activities in Africa as recommended by the UN Regional Cartographic Conference for Africa in Burkina Faso, and to expedite the standardization of geographical names on the continent, the second edition of United Nations Documents on Geographical Names has been prepared in pursuance of Resolution 22 of the Fourth Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names. It contains the following documents prepared by the UNGEGN Secretariat, Convenors of the UNGEGN Working Groups, and other UNGEGN Experts:

- Statutes of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Name (UNEGGN)
- Rules of Procedure of UNEEGN
- Guidelines for the preparation of working papers and other documents for the conferences.
- Data Exchange Formats and Standards (Roger Marsden, former Convenor of the Working Group)
- Establishing a Geographical Names Authority (Donald Orth, USA)
- Toponomy Courses (edited by Ferjan Ormeling, Convenor, Working Group on Toponymic Training Courses).
- United Nations Resolutions on Geographical Names Arranged Alphabetically by Subject (prepared by Peter E. Raper, former Chairman of the UNGEGN).

These documents provide the necessary background to enable meaningful participation of delegates and experts to the UNGEGN meetings and UN conferences on the standardization of geographical names, and will help to ensure effective implementation of UN resolutions on geographical names.
Appendix 6

Antarctica
ID: 18717
Feature Name: Payne, Mount
Class: Summit
Latitude: 724900S
Longitude: 1675200E

Mount Payne is a mostly ice covered mountain 1.75 miles east of Mount Riddolls in Stever Ridge of the Victory Mountains, Victoria Land. The mountain, which rises to over 3,200 meters, is 3.5 miles east of Mount Randall and 7 miles east of Mount Burrill, features with which the name is associated. Mount Payne honors Roger L. Payne, geographer, historian, toponymist, and Executive Secretary, U.S. Board on Geographic Names, 1993-2006, whose office includes responsibility for geographic nomenclature in Antarctica. His contributions to the design and implementation of the Geographic Names Information System from 1985 pioneered the development of automated national placename repositories. In 2000 he assisted on the Transantarctic Mountain Deformation Survey, Ross Island Photo Identification, and Satellite Imagery identification in Antarctica.

Elevation (ft/m): 10499 / 3200

Decision Year: 25-APR-06

Date Entered: 09-MAY-06
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