Holiday Reception

The traditional NML Holiday Reception was held on December 3, 2006, for local members, friends, and guests in NML's Museum Room adjacent to our Office suite in College Park, Maryland. The Museum Room was decorated for the season and due to an effort led by Director Pat Barr-Harrison the room was reorganized and its exhibits focused on language. Among the displays were those that Dr. Barr-Harrison took to the recent ACTFL Conference held in Nashville, Tennessee, as well as a language lab, and the display used at the last International Fall Festival. The displays presenting the development of NML as an organization were moved to the Office suite to provide a clear distinction between the administrative functions and the NML's efforts to reach out to the general public with informative exhibits on language.

Attending the reception were many of our local members and friends. Members of the NML Board of Directors and Associates mingled with members and guests and provided updates on the NML's progress.

On the occasion of his retirement from the Board of Directors, it was announced that Dr. Wayne Slater, who was unable to attend, was to be presented with an attractive plaque by President Amelia C. Murdoch commemorating his long service to the Board both as a member and as Secretary. Dr. Murdoch used the occasion to announce that the NML had received a very generous bequest from the estate of Marian M. Jenkins, a long-time NML friend and supporter. The bequest will be used to establish the Marian M. Jenkins Memorial Language Forum. Mr. Rafael Flores was presented with a complimentary membership in recognition of his assistance to the NML at the recent ACTFL Conference in Nashville. Also of interest to attendees was the progress being made on the NML website. A review of recent statistics showed that visits to the site were increasing and that the visitors represented some 75 countries. This progress is largely due to the efforts of Dr. Murdoch, Vice President Whitney Reed, Member Fran Reed, and NML Webmaster Associate Donald Domogauer.

In keeping with the NML tradition of excellence there was a variety of tempting refreshments made possible by the contributions of Directors, Associates, and members of the Programs and Administration Committees. Special thanks to all of them and to those who aided in this annual celebration of the holiday season.

Harold Andrus, Sheila Kast, Pat Barr-Harrison, Amelia Murdoch, Rafael Flores, Whitney Reed, Maria Flores

Carlos Castillo, Don Domogauer, Joseph Page, Mike Owens, Pat Barr-Harrison, Amelia Murdoch

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A CALL TO MEMBERS

As we review the events of the end of 2006 and those still to come in early 2007, we sincerely hope that each of you has been able to participate in one or more of our activities. While we know that for reasons of distance or scheduling this is not possible for many of you, as time passes and we expand what we can offer the public, we trust that our members will find increasing opportunities to become more closely involved in the work of the Museum.

In recent weeks the Board of Directors has developed a plan and a time schedule for opening the Museum to the public ten days in each month. This is a crucial step toward ensuring the success of our mission, since in order to be recognized as a museum we must meet this standard. Securing the Museum Room was thus an important step, but not without its problems, as the extra rent adds a heavy burden to our budget. Creating an operating museum, however, will open the door to funding available only to those institutions which serve the public in this fashion. It will also have a strong psychological effect, ensuring our supporters that we are making real progress.

We have made an initial review of our holdings and established a preliminary list of possible exhibits to be developed on the basis of these materials. The next step will be to prioritize and choose those topics which seem most likely to form a coherent message illustrating the themes of the Museum. Once the topics to be developed have been chosen, we must begin building our collections in order to create effective, truly professional exhibits.

One essential need has become paramount: while we have many volunteer linguists (we have never had too many!), we have as yet not found the graphic artists to help us create exhibits that are visually outstanding. We are seeking funding to enable us to attract artists skilled in this field, but it is also a question of finding the right person. To do so, we are working with regional organizations with a common interest in developing cultural and artistic enterprises such as ours. You, too, can help identify persons with the needed skills.

Lastly, there will be a need for docents to attend the exhibits and assist the public. If you are interested in helping with the docent program, please let us know. We will be planning and creating training materials and seeking volunteers for such duties. You will be especially welcome if you have had experience in this aspect of museum work.

A new phase in the work of the Museum is beginning. We sincerely hope that many of you will find a satisfying role to play in our future. If you are interested in exploring the possibilities, please call us at 301-864-7071, or email us at info@language museum.org.

Amelia C. Murdoch
March 10, 2007
Global Career Opportunities and Language

The Museum of Language co-sponsored an important Forum for university students and the broad public on February 27, 2007, at the George Washington University. Its partners in the Forum were the National Capital Language Resource Center (NCLRC) and the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). The Forum, first of a series of events in 2007 to be sponsored by the Museum, addressed the concerns of those interested in pursuing careers involving the use of a foreign language.

A six-member panel representing the Department of Defense, the Department of State, and Capitol Hill addressed the theme “Global Career Opportunities and Language.” Mr. Everette Jordan, Director of the National Virtual Translation Center, discussed translation, transcription, interpretation, interviews, and being an analyst. Dr. Edmond Collier, Deputy Director of the National Security Education Program (NSEP), spoke briefly about opportunities for various careers in Government and introduced two students who are now working in interesting careers as a result of the NSEP involvement: Ms Stacia Falat, a Research Specialist, and Mr. Michael Choi, an International Trade Specialist focusing on Korea and Taiwan, spoke of their experiences involving language. Other speakers were Mr. Richard Buangan, who is preparing for an assignment as Deputy Press Spokesman at the U.S. Embassy in Beijing, and Ms Maritza G. Gonzalez, who is a Fellow with the Congressional Hispanic Caucus.

The Forum provided much useful information for people entering careers involving language, as was evident from the excellent audience participation, the enthusiastic questioning of the panelists after the close of the question and answer period, and networking that took place at the reception that followed the presentations.

Potpourri From The Museum

Information:
Over 300 people made the same statement at the American Council on the Teaching of Languages (ACTFL) Conference: “I DID NOT KNOW THERE WAS A NATIONAL MUSEUM OF LANGUAGE.”

Exhibitors there enjoyed hearing about the National Museum of Language (NML) and viewing artifacts from the Museum Exhibit Room which were displayed at the ACTFL Conference held in Nashville, Tennessee, November 17-18, 2006. They asked questions and were excited about the work of the Museum. Some of the items displayed were: a laptop with a power-point revolving screen which displayed an overview of the past, present, and future activities of the Museum; a small tripod that gave the three major themes of the Museum; selected books from the Allen Walker Read Collection; information on several selected world languages which included a cassette of the selected languages; a display of a lapel-button collection which reflected how educators and language organizations reach out to the public; information pages on such aspects as how many languages there are in the world.

New in The Museum:
The Tennessee Language Quilt. The Language Quilt is on loan to the Museum from the Tennessee Foreign Language Association. It was made by teachers and students in Tennessee to reflect their love of language and culture. Each square was contributed by a teacher and his/her student(s). There are two new books in the Museum: The Language Detective, by Dr. Roger W. Shuy, and The Five Minute Linguist, edited by Dr. Rick Rickerson and Mr. Barry Hilton.

Collaborations:
The Museum is open to collaborations with various organizations or groups in order to reach a broad national public and to educate the average citizen on different aspects of language and languages. One such collaboration in 2007 was the Forum on “Global Careers in Language” co-sponsored by the National Museum of Language (NML), the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language (ACTFL) and the National Capital Language Resource Center (NCLRC), which is reported below.

Collections Policy:
The Museum will organize a Collections Committee in 2007 to decide guidelines and polices for collecting and accepting artifacts for the Museum. If you are interested in participating on this committee, please email the Museum.

Pat Barr-Harrison

Everette Jordan, Edmond Collier, Stacia Falat, Michael Choi, Richard Buangan, Maritza Gonzalez
"Talkin' About Talk" and
The 5 Minute Linguist

The CD radio series entitled "Talkin' About Talk," created by Dr. E. M. Rickerson, has just been given the prestigious "Linguistics, Language and the Public" award for 2006 by the Linguistic Society of America.

As members know, Dr. Rickerson and his colleague Mr. Barry Hilton developed the radio scripts into a fascinating book entitled The 5 Minute Linguist: Bite-sized Essays on Language and Languages. This innovative book is aimed at bringing up-to-date knowledge to the student and general reader alike. Deborah Tannen, Professor of Linguistics at Georgetown University, described The 5 Minute Linguist as follows:

"What a gift to those who love language and those who are simply curious about it! Leading experts each tackle an intriguing question, and explain it in straightforward, delightful prose. Read it from cover to cover or keep it by your bed to dip into for endless fascination."

The book can be ordered from the David Brown Book Co. at www.oxbowbooks.com or from Amazon Books at www.amazon.com. If you don't have a computer, you can order the book by writing to The David Brown Book Co., P.O. Box 511 (28 Main Street), Oakville, CT 06779 or by calling them at 1-800-791-9354.

One further note: A second edition of the "Talking About Talk" CDs is now ready. The updated version deletes references to the (now historical) "Year of Languages" and sports labels in a color scheme that reflects the colors of the The 5 Minute Linguist book. This updated edition can be ordered from the College of Charleston at www.cofc.edu/linguist.

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International Fall Festival

The third International Fall festival sponsored by the City of College Park and the University of Maryland was held at the University's Ritchie Coliseum on November 4, 2006. The Festival featured a variety of vendors, food, dancing, children's activities and musical entertainment. Once again NML presented a preview of its exhibit planned for the ACTFL Convention in Nashville in mid-November. A large banner with the name, logo and web site of the Museum directed people to the Museum exhibit. The Museum display on Japan—Language and Culture caught the interest of many visitors. Throng of adults and children came to have their names written in Japanese characters by Mr. Shinichi Tanigawa, who graciously agreed to help the NML by demonstrating his knowledge of Japanese calligraphy.

As at previous Festivals, the NML raffled off an International Food Basket, which this year was won by the Honorable Steven Brayman, Mayor of College Park. Children's toys and games were also raffled off by the Museum.
Spring Calendar

Members and friends of the National Museum of Language should be pleased and impressed with the series of outstanding events being offered to the public by the Museum and its collaborators during the coming Spring.

We report in full elsewhere (p 3) in the Newsletter on the first event in the series. A collaborative forum on February 27 co-sponsored by the NML, ACTFL, and the NCLRC, featured a panel of six speakers who addressed the concerns of young linguists and others just starting their careers in our global economy.

On Sunday, March 25, the NML will present a Symposium on Endangered Languages from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the College Park City Hall, 4500 Knox Road, College Park, Maryland. Featured panelists will include: Mr. Michael Horlick, Linguist at the Language Research Center (LRC), McNeil Technologies, who will give an overview of the topic; Dr. Douglas Whalen, Program Director for Linguistics at the National Science Foundation (NSF), who will speak on Amerindian languages; Dr. David Frank, of the Summer Institute of Linguistics (SIL, Inc.), whose presentation will be on Creoles as misunderstood and endangered languages; and Dr. R. David Zorc, Program Manager at the Language Research Center, McNeil Technologies, will speak on “Language and Culture.” An internationally known scholar and applied linguist, Dr. Zorc was awarded the Andrew Gonzalez Distinguished Professorial Chair in Linguistics and Language Education by the Linguistic Society of the Philippines in February 2005. Author of numerous publications, his love for language research and immersion has thus far covered some eighty languages representing five different language families: Austronesian—Philippine, Bantu, Cushitic, Australian Aboriginal, and Indo-European. The venue for this lecture will be the Airport Operations Building, 1909 Corporate Park Scott Drive, College Park, Maryland, which is next to the College Park Aviation Museum. Parking is available and the Operations Building is two blocks from the College Park Metro. The time for the program and other details will be available later. The public is welcome and admission is free.

On Saturday, June 16, the NML will host its Ninth Annual Dinner, which will be held at the University of Maryland University College Inn and Conference Center. The keynote speaker will be Dr. J. David Edwards, Director of the Joint National Committee for Languages (JNCL) and the National Council for Languages and International Studies (NCLIS), which serves as the legislative arm of the JNCL. The JNCL is made up of representatives from most major national language organizations in the U.S. (65, including the University of Maryland Center for Advanced Study in Language). It deals with all languages studied, taught, and used in the U.S. Dr. Edwards interacts with Congressional leaders, the 65-member organizations, researchers, interpreters, translators, educators, local and national politicians, the U.S. departments of State, Education, and Defense, as well as the greater public. He is currently interacting with those involved in implementing President Bush’s National Security Language Initiative. Further details about the dinner will be available later.

For all of the events listed above, please consult the NML website www.languagemuseum.org for further details not yet available at the date of publication of this Newsletter.

On Saturday, April 28, the University of Maryland at College Park will again celebrate Maryland Day, an exciting daylong event from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. featuring all aspects of the University. This year’s theme is “The Global Village.” The City of College Park will be among those with a presence on the Mall at the University. The National Museum of Language has been invited to present an exhibit in the tent of the City of College Park, in support of the Global Village theme.

On Saturday, May 19, NML Associate Dr. R. David Zorc,
Changes in NML By-Laws

At recent sessions of the Board of Directors, three changes in the Museum’s By-Laws were approved: 1) The number of Associates authorized was increased from 20 to 25; 2) The restriction of three term limits for Directors was removed; 3) In recognition of her outstanding work, President Amelia Murdoch was unanimously voted President for life.

2007 Elections of New Directors

President Murdoch has established a pro-tem Nominating Committee to produce a list of nominees for positions on the Board of Directors. Vice President Whitney Reed has been asked to chair this committee. Potential candidates should reside in the Washington metropolitan area since attendance at the bimonthly meetings of the Board is mandatory. If you are interested in becoming a Board member or know of someone who might be interested, please let us know by mail or email (info@languagemuseum.org). A brief bio (50-60 words) should accompany any nominations, which must be received in the NML office by April 2, 2007.


NML Associates are appointed on a yearly basis to assist in activities of the Museum, and may be re-appointed. The Board of Directors is pleased to welcome three new Associates for the coming year: Richard Biffl, Gregory Nedved, and Jill Robbins, Ph.D.

Gregory J. Nedved has been an NSA/CSS Chinese-Mandarin linguist for over 25 years. He is especially interested in the preservation of Native American languages and culture, having helped fund a library on the Lower Brule (Lakota Sioux) Reservation in his native state of South Dakota. Author of books and articles on South Dakota history, his latest project is a Mi’kmaq (Nova Scotia/New Brunswick) language preservation DVD (cartoon) in 2006. He currently volunteers as a weekend tour guide at the Flag House and Star Spangled Banner Museum in Baltimore. He has a B.A. from Saint Vincent College in History, and an M.A. from Hawaii Pacific University in diplomacy and military studies.

Jill Robbins, Ph.D. is a language geek and proud of it; she’s studying her ninth language. Her doctorate in Applied Linguistics from Georgetown University reflects her lifelong interest in language learning and teaching. She has taught ESL in the US and Japan and English to teachers in China. Her author credits include being co-author of Integrating EFL Standards into Chinese Classroom Settings, Impact Listening 2, and The Learning Strategies Handbook. Currently, she is Associate Project Director at the National Capital Language Resource Center (NCLRC). She is also Adjunct Professor of Secondary Education in George Washington University and in the School of Education at American University.

We are delighted to announce the re-appointment of the following:

Martha G. Abbott
Donald Domogauer
Stephen Huffman, Ph.D.
Lee Lubbers, S.J.
Olga J. Page
Earl M. Rickerson, Ph.D.

Frank L. Borchardt, Ph.D.
P. Manuel Guevara
Dora F. Kennedy, Ph.D.
Kathleen E. Miller
Max M. Pugh, Jr
R. David Zorc, Ph.D.

Donna Christian, Ph.D.
Marion E. Hines, Ph.D.
M. J. “Mike” Levin
Yuiki Onoe
Margaret W. Reynolds

Our Associates are involved in all aspects of our work and play an essential role in the success of the NML mission. We are honored by their support of the Museum.
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Make checks payable to:
The National Museum of Language

Annual Membership (calendar year)
- Patron .................................................. $5,000 and up
- Benefactor .............................................. $1,000 - $4,999
- Sustainer ............................................... $500 - $999
- Supporting Member .............................. $250 - $499
- Contributing Member ......................... $100 - $249
- Dual/Family Member ......................... $50
- Individual Member ................................. $30
- Student/Senior Member ...................... $15
- Corporate Member ................................ $1,000
- Institutional/Organizational Member ..... $300

Name ________________________________
Address ______________________________
City/State/Zip _________________________
Telephone ____________________________
E-mail ________________________________

The National Museum of Language is officially recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a "non-profit" organization; membership gifts are therefore tax deductible to the full extent authorized under the law.

Revised January 2000
## UPCOMING EVENTS

### NML MEETINGS

**Board of Directors**
- April 12
- June 16

**Museum Programs Committee**
- April TBA
- May TBA

**Symposium**
- March 25

**Lecture**
- May 19

### Executive Committee
- TBA

### Administration Committee
- April 19
- May 17

**Global Village**
- April 28

**Annual Dinner**
- June 16

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**Mary Herschbach, Mike Levin, Amelia Murdoch, Delores Scheiner**

**Mike Owens, Anna Owens, Glenn Nordin, Jane Page**

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### Administrative Offices

National Museum of Language

7100 Baltimore Avenue

Suite 202

College Park, Maryland 20740

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED