Editorial

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The Annual meeting of the American Name Society took place January 7–10 2010 in Baltimore, MD, in conjunction with the Linguistic Society of America, and the American Dialect Society. The business meeting took place January 9 2010. At that meeting, the Executive Council reaffirmed the requirement that people whose articles have been accepted for *Names: A Journal of Onomastics* must join the Society. This practice is common for most learned journals.

At the annual business meeting in Baltimore, Professor Denis Huschka accepted the award for the best article in *Names* for 2009 on behalf of himself and his two co-authors, Professors Jürgen Gerhards and Gert G. Wagner for their article entitled "Naming Differences in Divided Germany," which appeared in *Names*, 57(4) (2009): 208–28. Professor Huschka flew all the way from Germany for this purpose.

Cleveland Evans has two notes in this issue. The first is his annual report on the name of the year, and the second is a brief historical account of the history of the name of the year.

Readers will enjoy visiting the American Name Society website (<http://www.wtsn.binghamton.edu/ANS>). There, you will find a variety of important information, for example, basic data about the American Name Society, conferences and meetings, communications, officers, membership, current and back issues of the *American Name Society Newsletter*, the annual *Ehrensperger Report*, and the Indexes for volumes 1–15, 16–30, and 31–45.

For the first time in this issue, the feature entitled "A Look Back at the American Name Society" appears. In my editorial in *Names*, 56(2) (2008): 64, I promised this item as an occasional feature. I am very pleased to include in this issue the article "Is a Theory of Names Possible?" written by John Algeo. This article appeared in *Names*, 33(3) (1985): 136–44, which was a special issue entitled "Special Issue on Theory about Names" guest edited by W.F.H. Nicolaisen. That same issue included the following essays:

1. Bengt Pamp, "Ten Theses about Proper Names" (pp. 111–18)
2. Willy van Langendonck, "Pragmatics and Iconicity as Factors Explaining the Paradox of Quantified Proper Names" (pp. 119–26)
3. Viebeke Dalberg, "On Homonymy between Proper Name and Appellative" (pp. 127–35)
4. "Is a Theory of Names Possible?" (pp. 136–44) [Reproduced in this issue]

The purpose of reprinting selective classic articles from past issues of *Names* is to remind readers of the excellent quality of the scholarship published in our journal.

Moreover, I hope to encourage contributors to revisit certain important issues in order to add to our knowledge in these areas, in this instance, name theory. It has been a quarter of a century since the special issue on name theory was published. In the intervening twenty-five years, several important treatises about names have appeared. I hope that the reprinting of this classic essay will encourage scholars to address name theory once again in this journal.

Thomas J. Gasque has written a brief history of the Presidents of the American Name Society and of the Editors of *Names*, and both are included in this issue.

It is important to remember to return page proofs promptly to the Editor. Authors normally have a maximum period of five (5) working days to submit their corrections to the Editor. Requests for changes after this period are essentially impossible to make because of the chain of production once the corrections leave my office. The page proofs should follow the correction procedures specified in the Editorial in *Names*, 57(1) (2009): 1.

Authors should also remember to include the following materials with their submissions: (1) an abstract; (2) a list of five to seven key words; and (3) a fifty-word bio-data statement with complete address and an email contact. Prior to submitting a paper for consideration for publication in *Names*, authors should check and re-check their document to ensure that all references mentioned in the text also appear in the references section.