NEWSLETTER OF THE
AMERICAN DIALECT SOCIETY

NADS
18.3

Vol. 18, No. 3  September 1986

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NADS is sent in January, May and September to all ADS members and subscribers. Send ADS dues ($20 per year), queries and news to the editor and executive secretary, Allan Metcalf, English Department, MacMurray College, Jacksonville, Illinois 62650-2590.
TIME TO MAKE PLANS FOR 1987 SUMMER MEETINGS

In the summer of 1987 the ADS will have two official meetings:
• With the Dictionary Society of North America in Philadelphia, June 5 and 6, and
• The Sixth International Conference on Methods in Dialectology in Bangor, Wales. August 3 through 8. Note that the deadline for proposals for this conference is soon—December 12.

DSNA, PHILADELPHIA

Campion Center at St. Joseph's University will be the site of the biennial meeting of the Dictionary Society of North America Friday and Saturday, June 5 and 6. As in past years, ADS will sponsor several program sessions, and ADS members will be welcome to attend.

Deadline for proposals: March 20, 1987. For ADS sessions, the name and address of the ADS program chair will be announced in the next Newsletter. For DSNA sessions, abstracts of 250-350 words should be sent to the conference organizer, John C. Traupman, Chairman, Dept. of Classics, St. Joseph's Univ., 5600 City Ave., Philadelphia PA 19131; phone (215) 879-7579.

Topics: There is no restriction regarding topics, although there will be a panel on dictionary use and users.

Registration fee: $15.

Housing: Dormitory rooms will be available at $22 single, $19 per person double, two rooms sharing a bathroom with two showers. The Holiday Inn, a mile and a half from the campus, charges $65 plus 9 percent tax for a single, $61 plus 9 percent tax for a double; there is regular bus transportation to the campus.

Meals: About $18 for breakfast, lunch, and an ordinary dinner on Friday; if dinner is more formal, it will cost about $17 alone. Breakfast and lunch Saturday will cost about $9.

Tours: If there is sufficient interest, tours can be arranged for spouses. On Friday, a bus tour to Atlantic City casinos (about 1½ hours away) would cost about $12, with a return of $10 in quarters and a voucher for lunch. On Saturday, a half-day sightseeing of historic Philadelphia or Valley Forge could be arranged.

METHODS VI, WALES

The University College of North Wales will host the Sixth International Conference on Methods in Dialectology Monday through Saturday, August 3 to 8. As in the past, ADS is a sponsor of the conference.

Deadline for proposals: December 12, 1986. Abstracts of no more than 150 words, single spaced on a form which goes out with the conference circular, should be sent to the conference organizer, Alan Thomas, Dept. of Linguistics, University Coll. of North Wales, Bangor, Gwynedd LL57 2DG, Wales, U.K.; phone (0248) 351151, ext. 466.

The conference circular: will be sent to individuals on a recent ADS mailing list. Copies may be obtained from Thomas at the address above.

ACLS travel grants: Citizens or permanent residents of the United States who hold the Ph.D. or equivalent, and who hope to be program participants, may apply for travel grants for the Methods VI conference from the American Council of Learned Societies.

Grants will amount to not less than one-half the most economical air fare between major commercial airports. Use of U.S. flag carriers is required. Funds will be paid only after the meeting, on receipt of travel documentation and substantive reports.

Application deadline: March 1, 1987.

Eligibility: Only persons who are to read papers or have a major official role in the meeting will be eligible for an award. Preference is given to the reading of papers over the performance of bureaucratic functions; youth over age; scholars who have not held travel grants over those who have received grants in the past.

Since applications are competitive and must be judged comparatively, late applications and request for early consideration cannot be accepted. However, scholars do not have to wait for official confirmation of participation before applying. Awards will be announced about May 1.

Procedure: Write the Travel Grant Office, ACLS, 228 East 45th St., New York, NY 10017-3398, requesting an application form and stating the name, dates, place, and sponsorship of the meeting, as well as a brief description of the applicant's scholarly interests and proposed role in the meeting.

The ADS is a constituent society of the ACLS and will be involved in the awarding of the grants, but membership in a constituent society is not required.

South Carolina field recordings in the Library of Congress, including the Miles Hanley collection and Lorenzo Turner's recordings of Gullah, are listed in a new seven-page Finding Aid No. 4 compiled by Stephanie A. Hall, available free from the Archive of Folk Culture, Library of Congress, Washington DC 20540.
DECEMBER 28–30: ANNUAL MEETING
NEW YORK CITY
WITH M.L.A. AND L.S.A. AND INDEPENDENTLY

The New York Hilton, the new Marriott Marquis, and the American Museum of Natural History will be the venues for the ADS Annual Meeting this December. Members may register and reside with LSA, MLA, or independently.

The ADS program ranges from a showing of the documentary “American Tongues” to the Annual Luncheon speech by Clarence L. Barnhart, plus 15 papers and the Annual Business Meeting.

Advance reservations are requested for the Annual Luncheon Tuesday, Dec. 30. A restaurant that meets ADS’ high standards for gastronomy, ambience and economy is now being sought; please notify the Executive Secretary of your interest, and you will get full details as soon as they are known.

LSA rates at the New York Hilton are $63 single, $73 double. Preregistration is $35 for regular members, $15 for students; on-site registration is $5 more, and $60 for non-members. LSA will offer its members’ rates to ADS members. Write LSA, Suite 211, 1325 18th St. NW, Washington, DC 20036-6501; phone (202) 835-1714.

MLA rates at the Marriott Marquis and Sheraton Centre hotels are $55 single, $62 double or twin; at seven other nearby hotels MLA rates are even lower. Preregistration is $65 for regular MLA members, $40 for graduate student and emeritus MLA members, $90 for non-members; on-site registration is $25 to $30 more. Write MLA, 10 Astor Place, New York, NY 10003-6981; phone (212) 475-9500.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28

LSA SESSION, New York Hilton (room to be determined)

(Those who attend must register with LSA. See above.)

Presiding: WALT WOLFRAM, Center for Applied Linguistics.

- 2:00 p.m. Papers:
  - "The Double Construction in English." NANCY L. DRAY, Univ. of Chicago.

Although almost entirely neglected by linguists, doubling is an extremely productive process that raises important questions about how people resolve the uncertainties of everyday speech. Speakers use the double construction to select or emphasize one interpretation of a word or phrase. For example:

- Do you mean spicy hot, or hot hot?
- I didn’t make a salad salad—only a fruit salad.
- We’re not living together living together—we’re just roommates.

But which interpretation? Base forms show considerable semantic and syntactic diversity, and a double may have different interpretations in different contexts. How is it that speakers of English are able to use and interpret this construction? I propose that the answer lies in the structural similarities between doubles and modifier-head constructions, and in the semantics, pragmatics, and discourse use of modifiers. In particular, I will explore the relation between doubles and metalinguistic modifiers, including hedges.

- "Pronoun Case in Coordinate Constructions: Syntactic and Pragmatic Explanations." FRANK PARKER, Louisiana State Univ., and KATHRYN RILEY, Univ. of Tennessee.

Certain restrictions on pronoun case are relaxed in coordinate NPs, especially in informal style. For example, me and myself can appear as part of a coordinate subject, and I can appear as part of a coordinate object, as shown in 1 and 2:

1. John and me/myself went to the movies. (Cf. *Me/*Myself went to the movies.)
2. Ralph insulted both John and I. (Cf. *Ralph insulted I.)

The relative acceptability of objective case pronouns in coordinate subject NPs and nominative case pronouns in coordinate object NPs may be explainable in part by government and binding theory. If coordinate NPs are dominated by a higher NP node, then this node is an absolute barrier to government, and hence to case assignment, by TNS, V. or P. These syntactic principles, however, do not explain why I is unacceptable as the first member of either a subject or object coordinate NP, as illustrated in 3 and 4:

3. *I and John went to the movies. (Cf. John and I/Me and John went to the movies.)
4. *Ralph insulted both I and John. (Cf. Ralph insulted both John and I/me and John.)

This restriction on I can be explained by extending Kuno and Kaburaki’s Surface Structure Empathy Hierarchy (1977), which states that I indicates high speaker self-empathy. We postulate that the initial slot in a coordinate NP also signals high speaker self-empathy. But since a coordinate NP introduces another referent, speaker self-empathy must be balanced with empathy for the other referent. Therefore, I should be avoided as the first member.
of a coordinate NP.

- "The /æː/-/ɑː:/ Isogloss in New England and the History of English." HERBERT PENZL, Univ. of California, Berkeley.

The handbooks still write about a sound change [æː]→[ɑː] in the 18th century in England, but their orthoepic sources clearly indicate a coexistence of both types. The American distribution throws some light on this question.

- 3:30 p.m. Video presentation.


- "American Tongues" is a 60-minute documentary funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Aimed at a general television audience, it introduces American regional and social dialect differences and examines current attitudes toward language expressed by people in the street. The producers traveled from New England to Texas over a two-year period to record examples of conversation and interview people.

The documentary begins with a historical overview of geographical dialect patterns: a comparison of speech in Appalachia, central Ohio, and West Texas; a sampling of lexical items from across the country, and a profile of the speech community of Tangier, Va.

The second half of "American Tongues" examines attitudes toward language differences. Northerners talk about Southerners and vice versa. Black English vernacular is examined. Other topics include the role of the popular media in shaping public perceptions of dialect differences, and how some speakers of stigmatized English use their speech as a badge of identity. The apparent resurgence of regionalism and local pride is considered as it affects speech differences, and possible future developments are discussed.

The producers were advised by a panel of linguists including Walt Wolfram, Frederic Cassidy, Raven McDavid, Roger Shuy and Mackie Blanton.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 29

- 8:00-10:00 a.m.

ADS Executive Council. Open to all members. Place to be determined; write the Executive Secretary in advance or check with him at the

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AMERICAN NAME SOCIETY
ANNUAL MEETING 1986
NEW YORK CITY

Sunday, December 28

(Reservations for the Annual Dinner are due Dec. 15. Send $27.50 per person to ANS Executive Secretary Dr. Wayne H. Finke, 7 East 14th St. (17-U), New York, NY 10003.)

- 8:30 a.m., O'Neill Room, Marriott Marquis

MLA session on Personal and Place Names.

- "Names in North and South Dakota." THOMAS J. GASQUE, Univ. of South Dakota.
- "From The Hague to The Bronx: The Definite Article in Place Names." STEVEN HESS, Long Island Univ.
- "When Names Become Nouns: An Examination of Eponymy in English and French." ANDRE LAPIERRE, Univ. of Ottawa.
- "The Name 'Norumbega': Its Territorial and Mythical Aspects." ALLEN WALKER READ, Columbia Univ.

- 3:30 p.m., O'Neill Room, Marriott Marquis

MLA session on Literary Onomastics.

- "The Onomastic World of Manuel Tamayo Baus." WAYNE H. FINKE, Professional Children's School.
- "Name Play and the Search for Truth in Vance Bourjaily's Confessions of a Spent Youth." WILLIAM A. FRANCIS, Univ. of Akron.

- 8:30 p.m., Oxford Room, Warwick Hotel, 54th Street at 6th Avenue

ANS Annual Dinner. Presidential address by SARAH E. JACKSON.

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PRESENT-DAY ENGLISH
DISCUSSION GROUP, SESSION 123
MLA ANNUAL MEETING 1986
Sunday, December 28

10:15-11:30 a.m., Ziegfeld, Marriott

Theme: English World Wide

Presiding: Patricia C. Nichols, English Dept., San Jose State Univ., San Jose CA 95192.

- "Chinese Borrowings in English and Their Distribution." GARLAND CANNON, Texas A&M Univ.
- "Toward a Description of Non-Native Varieties of Standard English." PETER H. LOWENBURG, Georgetown Univ.
- "British and American Syntax." JOHN ALGEO, Univ. of Georgia.
- "The Transcreation of Gender in Nonnative Varieties of English." TAMARA VALENTINE, Univ. of Illinois, Urbana.
which are, in fact, more or less silently censored not vernacular English are undergoing linguistic Vernacular Black English."

and the words which might well cause commercial envisioning or analyzed, the "real" speech of America elements of the population contributing to a much narrower or "high culture' basis than previously. Myhill and Harris (1983) has been cited as "the strongest single piece of evidence" that black youths in social isolation are developing their own rules for influenced /-s/. Baugh (1983) adopts a combination of situational and linguistic (i.e. phonological and grammatical) factors to examine these same phenomena. Pitts (1981) and others have employed alternative methods as well. A full comparison of the available literature suggests that claims of linguistic divergence may be limited to the Philadelphia community, or they may be premature due to the lack of comparable analyses of vernacular black English in other regions of the United States.

“All the New That’s Fit to Print: Current Slang and Problems of Lexicography.” LEONARD R.N. ASHLEY, Brooklyn College, CUNY.

The "fringe vocabulary" of what I call slanguage in relation to sexual topics is the kind of lexical items which, very naturally, may well have had to be scanted in compilations such as DARE and which are, in fact, more or less silently censored not only in ordinary dictionaries but even in dictionaries of slang. Without including too many "shocking" examples from the files for my forthcoming Dictionary of Sexual Slangage, I will consider the basic taboos of lexicography, both commercial and scholarly, and the growing differences in American language between everyday speech and the lexicographical records, both regional and national.

The traditional sources of citation are ever more clearly insufficient. Lexicographers are still very much wedded to printed sources, which may reflect a much narrower or "high culture" basis than previously.

With some 10,000 coinages a year, and with new elements of the population contributing to mainstream America in ways never before envisioned or analyzed, the "real" speech of America is being distorted in the reporting done by people trained in older systems, seeking citations in the old ways and places, editing out the "ephemeral" and the words which might well cause commercial ventures to meet with public disapproval. Just what constitutes a word worth recording? Just what must be our criteria of decency and decorum and "completeness"? Who "makes our language" and to what standards or controls are we who study its development to be held?

“Genre as Textual Variable.” AMY J. DEVITT, Univ. of Kansas.

William Labov has made us aware of "contextual style" as a variable, the levels of formality and self-consciousness inherent in specific speaking contexts. Might a variable similar to contextual style exist for written usage? My research strongly suggests that it does. Genre (or "text-type") may significantly affect a writer’s choice of a linguistic variant.

My study of colonial American English examined the use of such features as the possessive apostrophe, the third person singular verb endings, do in negatives, and modern spelling from 1640 to 1810 in five genres: religious treatises, official correspondence, diaries, private correspondence, and public records. This study was designed to test a discovery from an earlier project on Scots-English from 1520 to 1659. In the earlier study, genre proved to be a statistically significant variable in

GEOLINGUISTICS
SPECIAL SESSION 513
MLA ANNUAL MEETING 1986
Monday, December 29
3:30-4:45 p.m., Embassy, Sheraton
Theme: Achievement and Promise in Geolinguistics. This session introduces the work of the 21-year-old American Society of Geolinguistics, which aims "to gather and disseminate up-to-date knowledge concerning the world’s present-day languages; their distribution and population use; their relative practical importance, usefulness and availability from the economic, political and cultural standpoints; their genetic, historical and geographic affiliations and relationships; and their identification and use in spoken and written form."

Leader: ALLEN WALKER READ, Columbia Univ.

“The Scope of Geolinguistics.” LEONARD R.N. ASHLEY, Brooklyn Coll., CUNY.

“Language Turmoil at Home and Abroad: France as a Geolinguistic Laboratory.” KENNETH H. ROGERS, Univ. of Rhode Island.

“The Linguistic Future of the Caribbean Area.” FREDERIC G. CASSIDY, Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison.

Respondent: ROBERT A. HALL, JR., Cornell Univ.
determining whether a Scottish writer would use an established Scots-English form or adopt the incoming Anglo-English variant. In fact, genre had as significant an impact on usage as did date. Usage changed at markedly different rates and in different patterns in different genres.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30

INDEPENDENT MEETING, American Museum of Natural History, Central Park West at 79th Street.

10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

□ "Unstressed Vowels in the Tangier Dialect."

D. G. CROFT, Old Dominion Univ.

This paper, which is a continuation of a study of pronunciation in the speech of Tangier Island, Virginia, deals with the sounds in weakly-stressed final syllables. It is in part a response to the American Speech article (56: 104-110) of Ronald Butters, who refined some of Wolfram and Christian’s observations about final unstressed ow and in their Appalachian Speech (1976). On the whole, the distribution of these vowels in the Tangier dialect seems to agree with the findings of Wolfram and Christian and Butters as well as those of Kurath and McDavid (Pronunciation of English in the Atlantic States), but there are deviations, perhaps caused by the unusual degrees of stress in this dialect.

□ "New and Old-Fashioned Words: Informant Awareness of Chronological Status." HAROLD B. ALLEN, Univ. of Minnesota.

Fieldworkers for the Linguistic Atlas of the Upper Midwest noted when informants said words were new or old-fashioned. This paper will discuss whether men or women, or informants of one type or another, were more likely to volunteer this information; what kinds of items were more likely to be characterized as new or old-fashioned; and what has happened to “new” and “old-fashioned” words in the 35 years since the interviews. Did informants predict the virtual demise of Dutch cheese by labeling it as old-fashioned?


Not much has been discovered about the speech of colonial America, and perhaps the main reason is that workers in the field have been governed by two faulty assumptions: 1) that the original language was fundamentally the same as Shakespeare’s (as reconstructed by Kökeritz et al.), and 2) that the features of this original language can be revealed only through the analysis of individual early American documents. But it is my contention that a diachronic methodology is now called for.

As an example of this approach, we might consider the much neglected work of George Krapp, specifically The English Language in America. Some of his conclusions are questionable, but there is no question about the validity of the scholarship in his two compendious volumes. His bibliography alone is valuable, what with the “naive” recordings by local clerks in many New England towns, etc. Krapp’s source materials are the same types that were used by the early philologists, such as Zachrisson, Vieriot, Jordan, and by later scholars working with Elizabethan English, such as Kökeritz: the collection of lexical items (a task which will be greatly aided by DARE), the study of rhymes of contemporary poets, the examination of the dicta of orthoepists (there were a goodly number early on in America), and particularly investigation of the naïve spellings in early town records.

□ "The Folk-Derivation of Abbreviations and Acronyms: A New Form of Linguistic Riddle?" NICHOLAS HOWE, Univ. of Oklahoma.

The common use of abbreviations and acronyms in the American language has long been noted. At the popular level, there is often a reinterpretation of the initialism so that it corresponds to the speaker’s opinion of the entity named by the form. These folk-derivations (or folk-decodings) can have a mocking, sometimes even a subversive intent: TWA becomes The Worst Airline rather than Trans World Airlines; AT&T becomes Allied Thieves & Thugs rather than American Telephone & Telegraph. GMC as Garage-Man’s Companion rather than General Motors Corporation renders a sardonic judgment on the reliability of that brand of truck.

Since this exercise is bound by orthographical restraints, it may best be described as a linguistic riddle. One may also suggest that this process is an extension of such existing acronyms as NOW (National Organization of Women) or MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving), which are deliberately chosen to do more than name an organization; they summarize in an easily remembered way its intent or concerns. By analogy, the creation of a folk-derivation for an initialism is an attempt to derive the true purpose or nature of an organization from its name. More profoundly, this exercise expresses the speaker’s desire to mock or otherwise demystify obscurantist and bureaucratic language.

Folk-derivations often seem tasteless or simply another species of gross joke. While the examples given above could hardly be taken as offensive, except perhaps by someone who worked for TWA or AT&T, the same can hardly be said for the folk-decoding of NASA, which, after the crash of the space shuttle, translated National Aeronautics and Space Administration into Need Another Seven Astronauts.

These forms are primarily oral in circulation, often in the form of jokes. My exploration will focus on the folk-derivations for cars (e.g. BMW = Break My Windows, a reference to their high rate of theft; FIAT = Fix It Again, Tony, a reference to the unreliability of this Italian make). By examining this kind of acronym, one may develop a context by which to
read the folk-decoding of car names which are not acronyms. Thus the eponymous Ford is translated as Fix Or Replace Daily or Found On the Road Dead. It is clear that the practice of linguistic riddling has not been destroyed by modern industrialized society.

12:30-2:30 p.m. Annual Luncheon.

At a nearby restaurant. Advance reservations requested; see Page 3.

Speaker: CLARENCE L. BARNHART, "A Record of an Unrecorded Dialect."
Presentation of Distinguished Scholar Awards.

"The Evidence on the Emergence of the Word 'Blizzard.'" ALLEN WALKER READ, Columbia Univ.

The word blizzard developed the sense 'snow storm' in the 1860s in the town of Estherville, northwest Iowa, according to material I presented in American Speech (III, 191-217) in February 1928. The frontier conditions there form a clear matrix, even with a known 'coiner.'

This was challenged in 1951 by M.M. Mathews, who presented an alleged quotation of 1859 from a diary by an army captain in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, as printed in the Kansas Historical Quarterly of May 1932. However, this was a paraphrase, rewritten about 1905, and the original was unfortunately thrown away. It uses place names that did not exist at the time, and is not valid for citation of word use, as the editor of the Kansas Historical Society forthrightly acknowledged.

In my research visit to Estherville, Iowa, in 1926, I was able to collect reports from early settlers who had been there in the 1860s about the "coiner," known as "Lightnin' Ellis," from being the slowest man in the region. Vance Randolph has noted that the "jokey feller," sometimes a quirky half-wit, often originated localisms that spread. This "Lightnin' Ellis" is documented as early as 1881, only eleven years after the first printed use.


This paper reviews the utility for lexicological research of Nexis, Lexis, Vu/Text, Magazine ASAP, Trade and Industry ASAP and other commercially available full-text online databases. Applications will be suggested in citation collection, both synchronic and diachronic; in the study of word and phrase frequency, research on lexical usage, and proverb research. The discussion will be illustrated by examples drawn from the author's own research and from work by the Oxford and Barnhart dictionary departments, Thomas Paikeday, William Safire and other journalists, and legal scholars.

"Regional Differences in Syntactic Choice." GAELEN DODDS DE WOLF, Univ. of Victoria.

The selection of syntactic items may vary regionally according to sociological parameters. This paper will examine the choice of a number of morphosyntactic and syntactic forms from two urban surveys in geographically distant Canadian metropolitan areas in accordance with criteria of gender, generation and socioeconomic status to investigate such variation.


This paper particularly demonstrates the impact of certain characteristics of male vs. female speech in conjunction with notions of so-called "correct" vs. "incorrect" usage, based on data from free conversations in the Survey of Vancouver English.

"The Peter Tamony Research Collection at the University of Missouri, Columbia." DONALD M. LANCE, Univ. of Missouri, Columbia.

The voluminous collection of primary materials on American slang and colloquialisms collected by the late Peter Tamony of San Francisco is now housed at the Western Historical Manuscript Collection of the University of Missouri, Columbia (see NADS 18.2, page 2). This will be a description and sampling of what the collection makes available to researchers.

4:30-5:30 p.m. Annual Business Meeting.

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS

Marvin Carmony, chair of the Nominating Committee, reports these nominations to be voted on at our Annual Meeting:

For Vice President (and program chair) 1987-88, succeeding to the presidency during our centennial 1989-90: THOMAS J. CRESWELL, Chicago State University, emeritus.

For member of the Executive Council 1987-90: MARY RITCHIE KEY, University of California, Irvine.

For elected member of the Nominating Committee 1987-88: MARY R. MILLER, University of Maryland.

Additional nominations may be made by petition. The petition making a nomination requires the signatures of at least ten members and must reach the Executive Secretary by Dec. 15.

This year's Nominating Committee consists of Carmony, Past President A. Murray Kinloch, and elected member Patricia C. Nichols.
ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL MEETING in association with RMMLA, Saturday, Oct. 18; Denver, Hotel Radisson.

Membership in RMMLA is $12 for individuals, $8 for students. Write RMMLA Executive Director Charles G. Davis, Boise State Univ., Boise ID 83725; phone (208) 385-3426.

ADS Chair: Gary Underwood, Dept. of English, Univ. of Texas, Austin TX 78712. Regional secretary: Grant W. Smith, English Dept., Eastern Washington Univ., Cheney WA 99004.

1:45-3:15 p.m. Saturday, Century Room.
□ “Variation in Negative Concord in Late Middle English.” CAROLYN O’HEARN, Univ. of Texas, El Paso.

Negative concord is the term used by William Labov (Language 48 [1972]: 773-818) for what is ordinarily referred to as double, or multiple, negation, e.g. He didn’t do nothing. Whereas “multiple negation” implies that there are two negatives in this sentence, “negative concord” suggests instead that such sentences contain only one underlying negative, which is “copied” in nonstandard dialects rather than “chopped” as standard English requires. Some dialects, Labov notes, permit negative concord in the preverbal slot, e.g. Nobody don’t know, but others do not.

A study of negative concord in several texts of later Middle English reveals some complex and surprising variations. Moreover, the presence or absence of certain variations can serve as indicators of the conservatism of a particular text and may help to simplify determination of authorship by eliminating certain possibilities.
□ “High and Mid Vowels in Salt Lake Valley Speech.” MARIANNA DI PAOLO, Univ. of Utah.
□ “Professors Who Speak Like Children.” ROBERT HAUSMANN, Univ. of Montana.

SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL MEETING in association with SCMLA, Saturday, Nov. 1; New Orleans, Clarion Hotel.

The Clarion, at 1500 Canal St., is a renovation of the old Jung Hotel. Convention rates will be $55 for singles, $65 for doubles or twins. Preregistration is $20; write Ms. Meryl Bel, Box 14, Loyola Univ., 6363 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans LA 70118. SCMLA membership is $15 for individuals, $5 for students, retired, unemployed. Write SCMLA, English Dept., Texas A&M Univ., College Station TX 77843-4238; phone (409) 845-7041.

ADS Chair: Kate Meyers, Faculty of English Language and Literature, Univ. of Tulsa, Tulsa, OK 74104. Regional secretary: Scott Baird, English Dept., Trinity Univ., Box 105, 715 Stadium Dr., San Antonio TX 78284.

10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Saturday, Oak Room: SCMLA Session 74.
□ “How is the American Language ‘Going’? One Sign: The Use of going.” LEONARD R.N. ASHLEY, Brooklyn College, CUNY.

Language is changing, and numerous difficulties now lie in the way of mastery by young people of the “established” system of communication that was known as Standard American. One is the new concept of approximation in communication. Another is language and gesture. A third is the proliferation, since World War II, of new dialects of American English: in the last generation we have seen the rise in certain urban centers of dialects so complicated one observer has remarked that “only people who grow up with them can get them right every time.”

In addition to their French-English dialect—English broken in the French direction—George Washington Cable attempted on occasion to present the flawless French spoken by his late 19th century New Orleans Creole characters. Conventional English was to serve as a stand-in for conventional French. But for various reasons, one of them being the difficulty of juggling several linguistic variations, Cable couldn’t keep his hands off the convention. His manipulation of it in two mid-1870s stories from Old Creole Days, “Tite Poulette” and “Madame Delicieuse,” constitutes one of the more interesting aspects of his literary use of the two languages.
□ Business session. Election of officers.

In 19th century British literature, dialect was often used for political reasons: to show authorial affiliations or make political statements through characterization. For example, Edgeworth’s Castle Rackrent is presented almost entirely in Irish dialect, a presentation that proved extremely effective. Scott said he hoped he could do the same for Scotland, yet in Rob Roy Scott used less dialect than Edgeworth because his political needs differed. When Gaskell wrote Mary Barton, English interests had shifted to working class troubles, and the use of dialect was pared down even further, becoming little more than a means of highlighting characters.

The multiple denotations of the medieval word skyte enjoy a considerable progeny and a remarkable diversity and tenacity of that progeny.
extending even into modern coinages born in the rural regions of a continent half a world and half a millennium from its origins. Indeed, the most notable modern users of *skye* would most likely be disbelieving of its origins, and considering the present usage, even more discomfited if they did believe. Derivatives of the term include *cheapskate*, *good skate*, and *blatherskite*, and a memorable modern usage appears in the users of snuff and chewing tobacco.

**MIDWEST REGIONAL MEETING** in association with MMLA, Thursday, Nov. 6; Chicago Hilton and Towers, 720 South Michigan Ave.

Convention rates will be $60 for singles, $75 for doubles or double/doubles. Preregistration is $17, except $7 for students, retired, and unemployed. MMLA membership is $15 for full and associate professors and administrators, $12 for other faculty, $8 student, retired, and unemployed. Write MMLA, 423 English/Philosophy Bldg., Univ. of Iowa, Iowa City, IA 52242-1408.

ADS Chair: Michael I. Miller, Dept. of English, Chicago State Univ., 95th and Martin Luther King Drive, Chicago IL 60628. Regional secretary: Donald W. Larmouth, Communication Processes, Univ. of Wisconsin, Green Bay WI 54302.

- **1:30-3:00 p.m. Thursday, Conference 4F:** MMLA Session 5.
  - “Statistical Methods in Dialectology: Review and Critique.” DENNIS GIRARD, Univ. of Wisconsin-Green Bay.
  - “Multidimensional Scaling as a Statistical Analytical Procedure in a Traditional Dialect Study.” CHARLES L. HOUCK, Ball State Univ.

In a paper presented at this meeting last year, I demonstrated using conventional statistical procedures (Pearson product-moment correlation coefficient (r) and cluster analysis) that the strong Iowa northern-midland lexical contrast claimed by Allen (1952, 1958, and 1964) not only was not strong, but did not exist at all. Now I will report a multidimensional scaling analysis of the corpus of 1976 lexical items from Iowa, and also of 77 lexical items identified by Kurath in his *Word Geography of the Eastern United States* (1949) as being either northern or midland.

Multidimensional scaling has been used with particular success by political scientists in identifying and plotting major political issues in elections and by airlines in identifying and plotting optimal air routes and schedules. Its statistical assumptions seem to be especially appropriate in analyzing dialect data, particularly data that does not immediately display apparent contrasts or differences by conventional statistical procedures.

□ “*An Investigation into the Use of Inverse Factor Analysis for Forming Clusters of Informants Based on Linguistic Variables.*” ROBERT S. WACHAL, Univ. of Iowa.

Lacking a data base of dialect variables, I used stylistic factors such as speech rate, dysfluency, clause and word length, and vocabulary diversity in order to experiment with the oldest, best understood and most conservative method of cluster analysis: inverse factor analysis. The data came from 1,000-word interviews obtained from 50 speakers of both sexes, representing a variety of ages and socioeconomic groups. Inverse factor analysis provided groups of speakers with similar characteristics. I will describe the interpretive techniques used interactively with the computer program and offer an interpretation of the obtained stylistic cluster types.

- **3:00-3:15 p.m. Break.**
- **3:15-4:55 p.m.**
  - “A Statistical Analysis of Verb Forms in the

**ANNUAL DINNER**

**ADS MIDWEST REGION**

7:00 p.m. Thursday, November 6
DON ROTH’S RIVER PLAZA

Wabash Avenue at the Chicago River

**By tradition, the dinner has no formal program and no speeches. Friends and colleagues are welcome.**

- Don Roth’s River Plaza offers a “Chicago menu”—prime rib, steaks and ribs—which continues the tradition of the famous Blackhawk restaurant on South Wabash. But the new River Plaza also offers a very good seafood menu (gulf grouper, swordfish, Boston scrod and other specialties in season) and an extensive Cajun menu (blackened redfish, pasta jambalaya and shrimp etoufee). The Cajun menu in particular was very positively reviewed this past spring.

Entrees run from $13.75 to $17.95. Appetizers and desserts are extra.

The restaurant is located on the north side of the Chicago River at 405 North Wabash Ave., a short taxi ride from the Chicago Hilton (or a brisk walk, if the weather is decent). We have reserved the Terrace section, which overlooks the river and the Loop.

**Advance reservations by Oct. 30 would be greatly appreciated, as space is limited.** Please call Donald Larmouth at (414) 465-2348 or send him a note in care of Communication and the Arts, University of Wisconsin, Green Bay WI 54301-7001.
Linguistic Atlas of the North-Central States.”

Michael Linn, Univ. of Minnesota, Duluth, and Virginia McDavid, Chicago State Univ., emer.

Among the 130 grammatical items in the short worksheets for the Linguistic Atlas of the North-Central States, about 60 deal with verb forms, chiefly preterit and past participle forms of irregular verbs. We propose to study this material statistically with the aid of a computer to determine differences in age, sex, education, and region. Among the statistical methods that allow researchers to study a series of features at the same time, rather than being forced to draw individual isoglosses, are discriminate analysis, cluster analysis, and logistic regression. The use of each of these procedures will be discussed.

□ “Occlusion of /%/ in American English.”
James D. Alexander, Univ. of Wisconsin Center, Marshfield.

Occlusion of /%/ as in *them*, than *dom, dan and whether* other *utter, oodder, odder*, has often been noted by dialectologists, dialect writers, and others as being an urban phenomenon in American English. Actually its occurrence is much wider. The sound [d] occurs for /%/ in widespread analyses of Black English, in popular renderings of early Amerindian English, in the English of immigrant speakers, in Hiberno-English dialects, and in several dialects of England.

The history of English pronunciations shows numerous instances of /d/ % alternations. More striking are instances of loss of % especially in word-initial position or in unstressed syllables on both sides of the Atlantic, as in *atta* boy and see *‘em*.

The fricative /%/ seems to undergo two processes of sound change. One, in the form of occlusion (/% d/) or affrication (/% d%), is a strengthening. The other is a weakening. Weakening or lenition here entails the transition of % to a stop sound realized not as an alveolar plosive but as a tongue tap, much like the medial consonant in American better; or it entails, when not involving assimilation to a previous alveolar consonant, the loss of %. Thus Appalachian, Southern, or Metropolitan New York speakers might use *dat* [dæt] or *aidat* [æt/dæt] under different conditions of stress, manifesting respectively strengthening or weakening of /%/.

□ “A Comparative Description of Guyanese Creole and Black English Pre-Verbal Aspect Marker don.”
Walter F. Edwards, Wayne State Univ.

Guyanese Creole has a preverbal marker don used in such sentences as *mi don* play, a don eat, ai don sing. In each sentence the don means *finished*, but there are other sentences in GC such as *mi don en gon* play where the meaning of don is difficult to characterize. The systemic position of don is also difficult to characterize if one is a creole continuumist since, as the first three examples show, don can cooccur with the “basilectal,” “mesolectal” and “acrolectal” pronouns. Preverbal don is also of interest to creolists because it is the only aspect marker for which there is no mesolectal replacement in the decreolization process. There is also a postverbal usage of GC don as in the sentence *di man eat don* and a main verb don as in the intransitive sentences *mi don ‘I’m finished’ and di* *ten dalla don* ‘the ten dollars’ in the rural and urban creoles (Edwards 1983).

Sample sentences from Black English such as *He already don caused one scene, Yall don tried to kill me, and After the white man don told you to go . . . * suggest that BE preverbal don shares some syntactic and semantic properties with GC preverbal don, but other BE sentences such as *So he went to where she was . . . and got the nerve to lie to me bout he done went to work* (Baugh 1983: 77) and some BE constructions with be don suggest that BE and GC preverbal don diverge semantically. This paper will discuss the semantics of preverbal, postverbal and main verb don in Guyanese Creole and BE and comment on the impact this analysis has on the theory of decreolization proposed by Bickerton (1975).

□ “Functional Load, Probability, and Selected Consonants of Black English: An Explanation of Sound Change.” Daniel Kings, Governors State Univ.

Functional load is a quantificational measure of paradigmatic phonemic contrasts. It is calculated by considering the structural position the contrasted phonemes take in a word, the probability of the words that are distinguished by a particular contrast occurring in the same contexts, and the frequency of occurrence of the phonemic contrast. The hierarchical paradigm of contrasts allows one to rank the relative load that a contrast carries, and allows one to determine which contrasts are more crucial than others for maintaining communication.

One discovers that the leveling of contrasts with little functional load not only explains sound changes in the history of English, but the leveling process also explains several of the phonological processes and differences that are characteristic of Black English, including metathesis, word-final consonant weakening (devoicing and deletion), the substitution of alveolar stops for interdental fricatives, the substitution of the alveolar nasal for the velar nasal in word-final position, glide deletion (monophthongization), the presence of compensatory vowel lengthening if word-final liquids are deleted, and the alternation of schwa with word-final liquids.

These data suggest that functional principles are just as explanatory as physiological (“articulatory ease”) or psychological (“perceptual ease”) principles in “natural phonology.”

- 4:55-5:15 p.m. Business Meeting.
- 7:00 p.m. Annual Dinner (see box on Page 9).
with a simple melody made of a few tones. consonant clusters, even between syllables of rest in cheers and chants are occupied by body movements, but in chanting, rests at phrase endings and rely heavily on liaison and consonant reduction to maintain an utterance with a simple melody made of a few tones. There are general tendencies among the white female cheerleaders we studied to adopt the phonological features of black speakers or older white speakers in the area. Middle Georgia high school cheerleaders reduce postvocalic /r/ and /l/, and the surviving /l/ tends to be dark or vocalic and to retract front vowels. In addition, both chants and cheers show tendencies to reduce final consonants completely, to confuse stops (/k/ with /l/), and to confuse stops and fricatives (/b/ with /v/). While chants vary their fundamental frequency to create very simple melodies, cheers are delivered in a very unmusical low register.

The presentation will include handouts with the texts of yells transcribed with musical notation. To avoid the hassle of the tape recorder, one of the authors will perform a couple of yells.

□ “Talking Through a Smile: High School Cheerleader Talk in Middle Georgia.” WAYNE GLOWKA, Georgia Coll., and ELLEN GLOWKA, Georgia Military Coll. Prep School.

There are two genres of cheerleader yells: cheers and chants, terms used by the cheerleaders themselves. Both kinds are delivered in musical rhythms of either common or cut time and are accompanied by dance routines. Rests in cheers and chants are occupied by body movements, but in chanting, rhythm is accent and maintained by clapping. Cheers are delivered in heavily accented monosyllables ending in glottal stops or reduced consonant clusters, even between syllables of multisyllabic words. Chants, on the other hand, use rests at phrase endings and rely heavily on liaison and consonant reduction to maintain an utterance with a simple melody made of a few tones.

There are general tendencies among the white female cheerleaders we studied to adopt the...
younger people after front vowels, but still competes with it after back vowels.

In this paper, data from the LAGS synopses and protocols will be used to isolate the phonetic constraints on /r/—including the frontness and height of the preceding vowel, the following sound, and stress. A variable rule analysis of data from a series of tape-recorded sociolinguistic interviews, part of a survey of the speech of the Brazos Valley in Texas, will provide evidence on the effects of each consonant.

□ "Micromapping." LEE PEDERSON, Emory Univ.

NWA V-XV GOES WEST

For the first time, the annual conference on New Ways of Analyzing Variation will be held on the West Coast—at Stanford, Oct. 17-19.

The program begins Friday afternoon, Oct. 17, with four workshops: "Lexical Phonology and Morphology" by Paul Kiparsky; "Use of the Variable Rule Program (VARBRUL-2)" by Ralph Fasold; "Contemporary Syntactic Theories (GB, LFG, GPSG)" by Peter Sells; "Conversation Analysis" by Emmanuel Schegloff.

After opening remarks by Elizabeth Closs Traugott, Friday evening’s program is a panel discussion on “Variation in the Grammar” with Paul Kiparsky, Anthony Kroch, William Labov and David Sankoff.

Papers will be presented all day Saturday. A special session that evening on “Approaches to the Analysis of Code Switching” will have panelists Eyamba Bokamba, Aravind Joshi, Shana Poplack and Guadalupe Valdés.

One more morning of papers will conclude the conference Sunday. Those presenting papers include Allan Bell (New Zealand), Norbert Dittmar (Berlin), Sven Jacobson (Sweden) and Ronald Macaulay (UK).

For information on registration, housing, transportation, tours, and the complete program, write John R. Rickford, conference coordinator, NWA V-XV, Dept. of Linguistics, Stanford Univ., Stanford CA 94305; phone (415) 723-3875.

OTHER MEETINGS IN 1987

An International Conference on Data Bases in the Humanities and Social Sciences will be held July 11-13, 1987 in Montgomery, Alabama, hosted by Auburn University at Montgomery and co-sponsored by Huntingdon College and Air University, Maxwell Air Force Base. Topics include machine-readable archives and database resources; reuse of databases and multiple uses of resources; database design and standards for data exchange (technical, political, and legal); implications of database research and projects for other disciplines; and model projects using genuinely new technology, methods, or applications. Proceedings will be published. Deadline for program proposals was Sept. 15.

Costs will be about $180 for conference, special events, room and board. Write Dr. Lawrence J. McCrank, Dean, AUM Library and Resource Center, AUM, Montgomery AL 36193-0401.

XVIth International Congress of Onomastic Sciences will be held Aug. 16-22, 1987, at the Université Laval, Québec, Canada. For a circular with information on themes, proposal deadlines, and registration, write Mr. André Boudreau, Pavillon des sciences de l’éducation, Bureau 1522, Université Laval, Québec G1K 7P4, Canada.
DIRECTORY OF MEMBERS, SEPTEMBER 1986

In addition to the 550 individuals listed here, about 300 institutions belong to the ADS. Updated mailing labels and lists are available from the Executive Secretary, free for ADS mailings and at a reasonable fee for other purposes of benefit to members. Listings by locality are available to members who would like to organize local groups.

Special categories include: **LIFE MEMBERSHIP**, available for $400 (minus the current year’s dues, if paid); **EMERITUS MEMBERSHIP**, free to retired members, but including only the Newsletter; **PRESIDENTIAL HONORARY MEMBERSHIP**, awarded to three students annually by the ADS President, and **STUDENT MEMBERSHIP**, including all publications, at $10 per year for as many as three years. A student’s application should be accompanied by a confirming note from an ADS member.

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NEW BOOKS BY ADS MEMBERS

If you have recently published a book, send pertinent information to Executive Secretary Allan Metcalf (address on cover), and we'll mention it here.


Craig M. Carver. American Regional Dialects: A Word Geography. Ann Arbor: U. of Michigan Press, Nov. 1986. xiii + 325 pp., 92 maps. $29.95 clothbound. Using lexical and morphological data collected for DARE and the regional linguistic atlases, this book follows in the tradition of Hans Kurath's Word Geography of the Eastern United States but with important differences. The emphasis is on the analysis and discovery of dialect regions and on their historical and cultural origins, rather than on individual isoglosses. But the characteristic words of particular dialects are treated at length.

After an introductory chapter, six chapters derive the dialect regions of the country, each chapter devoted to a major region and its subregions, including its settlement history, cultural geography, and characterizing lexicon. The concluding chapter gives an overview of America's dialect regions, partially at odds with the traditional three-part division of American linguistic geography. Detailed subject and glossary indexes. ISBN 0-472-10076-9.


Robert J. Gregg. The Scotch-Irish Dialect Boundaries in the Province of Ulster. Canadian Federation for the Humanities Monograph Series 6. P.D. Meany (Box 543, Port Credit, Ontario L5G 4M2, Canada), 1985. 539 pp. $15.95 paperback. The only in-depth study of Scotch-Irish in its original setting, written by a native speaker and linguist. Analyzes field work conducted between 1960 and 1963. Part I is a description of the survey, including the questionnaire: Part II the complete data base in the form of tabulations; Part III more than 90 maps, including the map showing the final boundary lines. ISBN 0-920050-92-1.


Michael Montgomery and Guy Bailey, eds. Language Variety in the South: Perspectives in
Black and White. Tuscaloosa: U. of Alabama Press, January 1986. 437 pp. $29.95. A collection of original, data-based papers addressing the relationship between the speech of blacks and whites. It counters simplistic notions about “racial dialects” in the region. The papers encompass variation in vocabulary, pronunciation, and especially grammar; they employ sophisticated new methodologies such as network analysis. A lengthy introduction reviews 40 years of research.


NEW NEH HEAD HAILS TRADITION
(Mary R. Miller represented ADS at a meeting with the new chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities. This is her report.)

The National Humanities Alliance, to which ADS belongs, sponsored a luncheon July 17 to permit its members to meet the new chairman of NEH, Dr. Lynne Cheney. After lunch Dr. Cheney made a brief presentation and answered questions. Throughout, Dr. Cheney affirmed and reaffirmed her strong commitment to traditional education, citing, among other matters, her notion of cardinal events and canonical writings as being of prime importance. Her examples emphasized history and the importance of historical context. Asked to provide a list of canonical literary works, she at first demurred and then mentioned the Bible.

With regard to the proposed NEH budget, she stated that she thought the administration figure appropriately lean but quite adequate, although she also promised to use any additional funds voted by Congress in worthwhile ways. Insofar as the spending of funds was concerned, Dr. Cheney strongly supported state programs, though she said that money should be provided scholars as well. The apparent end to the decline in the numbers of majors in the humanities was linked, in her opinion, to the return of traditional education.

DRAT INFORMANTS WANTED
The editor of Maledicta is conducting a worldwide survey of contemporary vocabulary of sex, excretions, and offensive exclamations for his uncensored Dictionary of Regional Anatomical Terms. Anyone interested in participating will receive a copy of the 24-page Maledicta Onomastic Questionnaire containing some 250 questions about regional, humorous, euphemistic and taboo terms for sexual body parts and activities, excretions, types of people, as well as terms of abuse, exclamations of anger, disgust, etc.

Informants are needed from every region of North America and especially from all other areas worldwide where English is spoken: Great Britain, South Africa, Australia, Jamaica, Bahamas, etc. As this survey covers all languages, he also needs informants for all other languages.

Write Dr. Reinhold Aman, 331 S. Greenfield Ave., Waukesha, WI 53186-6492.

COMING IN AMERICAN SPEECH
61.4: Winter 1986

AND SO TO DINE: DARE QUERIES NO. 24

Volume II of DARE is moving forward at due deliberate speed. It should cover the letters D through J, but of course we need help with the entire alphabet, not forgetting additions for Volume I, A-B-C. Your comments will be gratefully received by Prof. Frederic G. Cassidy, *Dictionary of American Regional English*, 6125 Helen White Hall, 600 North Park St., Madison, WI 53706.

dead-man’s stew — Surprisingly, our files have only one example, from central-south Wisconsin, 1977. Is this the same as graveyard stew (toast and milk)? Is the name used elsewhere?

dine — To go to bed. This was reported once in 1913 *Dialect Notes* 4.21, as then current in New Hampshire. Is it still in use, or remembered? This is our only evidence.

dinky — In use as an adjective meaning “small,” with somewhat unfavorable implication (“He lives in a dinky little house”), in north-central Ohio, 1920s. Is there evidence of it in more favorable use?

dole — Evidently used in card-playing instead of deal. *Dialect Notes* for 1903 records this from a MS. of 1857 as a Cape Cod usage. Our only other example is from West Virginia, 1947 (*American Speech* 2.352). Is this known otherwise? Can the 90-year gap be filled?

dollardee — Another name for a bluegill (fish), reported to DARE from Kentucky, 1983. Can this be confirmed? Does the r belong in the spelling, or is that folk etymology? How explain the name?

doctor-keeper — One “who keeps his door open all the time for make trouble”: one report from South Carolina, a speaker of Gullah. Is this known elsewhere? Is it limited to Gullah use?

dragon spider — Named by a Florida black informant but not described. Is this term known elsewhere? How familiar is it? Can the spider be identified?

fiddle-worm — Definitely an Alabama word, reported by three informants, 1966-67. The worm, “used for bait,” is said to be large, up to a foot long. Nobody attempts to explain fiddle. (Do I detect a faint odor of “tall tale”?)

fig around — A DARE informant from Rockland, Maine, reported this as meaning to idle about, to waste time. On the other hand, Wright’s *English Dialect Dictionary* has it meaning to move briskly, to busy oneself. Only further evidence can clear up such a contradiction. Is this possibly a euphemism?

for preceded by an intensifier and followed by an adjective — “He’s hell for strong” exceedingly.

One example from McCulloch *Woods Words*. For normally governs a noun. Hell for seems here to be an adverbial phrase. Can anyone confirm this usage or give parallel examples?

jeberdees — Men’s short underwear. DARE informants from Mississippi (old rural) and Virginia (middle-aged rural, black) reported this, the latter: “Old folks said this.” Is it still current or remembered? Any suggestions as to the origin?

jeff — Evidently a verb meaning to start work or move into action. DARE’s informant from St. Francesville, Louisiana, said, “[It’s about time for me to] name myself Jeff. That means you gonna get going.” Can this usage be confirmed?

LIFE IS CHEAP

(One of the most recent converts to ADS Life Membership here testifies that it doesn’t really cost—it pays, at least for those living under the U.S. tax code. Since that code is on the verge of a major change, U.S. residents would be wise to make the move to Life Membership before the end of 1986. Just check the Life Membership box on the dues notice and enclose $400, and feel good about helping your Society and yourself.)

By Ronald Butters

Life Membership is, tax deduction considered, a relatively inexpensive way to support the Society. If one pays in December, one saves about $150 by April 15 of the next year (in taxes and the first year’s annual dues)—at least in my tax bracket in North Carolina. So the “gift” is really only $250.

Even if I had to borrow that $250 from Master Card, at 18 percent I would end up paying only about $50 during the first year in interest. and if one deducts the $20.22 (postage included) that one saves in December 1987 (from not having to pay dues, of course), the cost of a Life Membership during the first year (assuming one lives the first year) is really less than $30! Uncle Sam, the State of North Carolina, and Master Card are paying the rest.

Note that if one doesn’t borrow the money, but instead takes it from even a high-yield bank account paying say 12 percent, then the cost is reduced to $30 interest less $20 membership, or only $10 the first year.

And of course if dues go up in future years, the cost will be even less. Not to mention the prestige value of being a Life Member of such an august organization. Think of it! One can be a hero for as little as $10 the first year!