



# LISTENING POST

Newsletter of the International Listening Association

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## ILA CONFERENCE IN FRANKFURT, GERMANY

JULY 18-22, 2007

## LISTEN AND MAKE THE CONNECTION

Find conference details on pages 3-8!

## PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

### WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

By Dr. Maria F. Loffredo Roca, President



I cannot believe that nearly a year has gone by since I assumed the position of president of the International Listening Association. This is my last "President's Perspective" and it seems like an appropriate time to both reflect and look ahead.

Perhaps the greatest joy of serving the International Listening Association is the opportunity to work with the membership and with the executive board. ILA members are consistently characterized by their kindness and compassion. Perhaps these are essential personality traits for effective listeners! This year I worked with a remarkable, dedicated team of board members and have had many positive interactions with members of the organization. I extend my thanks to all of you for the opportunity to work with you as part of an organization that has been an important part of my life for many years.

This year was marked with great success along with some concerns. The programs presented at our annual conference in Salem, Oregon, were of high quality and explored diverse aspects of listening. The Fall Listening Forum was engaging and rich in ideas. The long-term results of this Forum will be more scholarly research and publications that will advance the understanding of listening in general and in specific contexts. In addition, changes in the publication of the International Journal of Listening have helped increase its perceived credibility.

However, along with all of ILA's successes this past year, we also experienced a decline in our membership numbers. This is perhaps the greatest challenge

*Continued on Page 2*

# Executive Director's Report

by Jim Pratt, Executive Director



"Mainhattan" is the nickname given to Frankfurt, a combination of the name of the river that flows through the city and New York's Manhattan island. The name signifies Frankfurt's role as the financial center of Europe, a vibrant and bustling city built from the ruins of World War II. Frankfurt's airport is an international hub, with frequent nonstop flights from every major city in the world.

Down an escalator from the main arrival hall is the station for the U-Bahn, and a 15-minute ride will place you on Konrad Adenauer Strasse, in the center of the city's pedestrian shopping arcade and a block from our hotel. Our convention hotel, the NH Frankfurt City Hotel, operated by the Spanish chain Navarre Hotels, is ultramodern and attractive; the hotel offers all the conveniences, from hairdryers and a telephone in the bathroom to internet connections to full room service. Meeting rooms feature all state-of-the-art audio-visual equipment. And of course the hotel is fully air-conditioned. Some of us know how hot it can get in Europe in July!

On pages 13 and 14, you will see the year's financial statement. A challenge and opportunity that faced the organization this year was the transition of the International Journal of Listening to Erlbaum, now Taylor and Francis. We welcome the wonderful exposure that such a prominent company can provide and the added subscriptions that go with it, but in the short term our revenue from the journal has dipped. We also initiated a dues increase last July and it has started to produce additional income. And, since membership has always been the strength of the ILA, you can help by inviting a new member. (Of course, be sure to renew your own membership!)

Thanks for listening.

PS: Please take a few moments to look over the list of new members, published elsewhere in this issue, and you will note that we continue to extend our membership throughout the world.


# President's Perspective

*continued from page 1*

facing the organization in the next year. How do we both sustain and grow the ILA membership? In a time when the skill of listening needs more attention than almost ever before in history, the membership of ILA should be growing, not declining. I am hoping that current members of ILA will take a few moments to think about this problem and will e-mail me with your ideas for how to grow the membership. Are there services you think the organization should be offering that are not currently available? Are there individuals or groups we should be reaching out to? Are there other factors that may be impacting both the attraction of new members and the retention of current members?

The strength of ILA is all of you, our dedicated members. I hope you will take a few minutes to help us develop a strategic plan for the future.

Please e-mail your ideas to me at: [mroca@fgcu.edu](mailto:mroca@fgcu.edu). I look forward to hearing from you! I also hope to see many of you in Frankfurt in July!



**Listening is a 10 Part Skill**  
by Dr. Ralph Nichols,  
"The Father of Listening,"  
is now available for free  
viewing at [Listen.org](http://Listen.org).

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

**ROBERT BERNTSON**  
Bellevue, WA  
[rberntson@bpcpa.com](mailto:rberntson@bpcpa.com)

**ANN MARIE ERICKSON**  
Milwaukee, WI  
[ericksa@alverno.edu](mailto:ericksa@alverno.edu)

**NARINE NANDARAM**  
New York, NY  
[nandaram@un.org](mailto:nandaram@un.org)

**ELISABETH VELAZQUEZ**  
Hamden, CT  
[lisive@hotmail.com](mailto:lisive@hotmail.com)

**ARNELL BRADY**  
Chicago, IL  
[aaarnell@aol.com](mailto:aaarnell@aol.com)

**ANDREW FENNIMAN**  
New York, NY  
[fenniman@exetor.com](mailto:fenniman@exetor.com)

**ANN OSTERHUS**  
Minneapolis, MN  
[aosterhus@gmail.com](mailto:aosterhus@gmail.com)

**NICK VERZINO**  
Saint Louis, MO  
[nverjr1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nverjr1@sbcglobal.net)

**KATHLEEN BULTMAN**  
Milwaukee, WI  
[kathleen.bultman@alverno.edu](mailto:kathleen.bultman@alverno.edu)

**SHARON J. HAMOVITZ**  
Pittsburgh, PA  
[justafootnote@aol.com](mailto:justafootnote@aol.com)

**JOANNA PUCEL**  
Saint Cloud, MN  
[jkpucel@stcloudstate.edu](mailto:jkpucel@stcloudstate.edu)

**STEVE WYROSTEK**  
Des Plaines, IL  
[swyrostek@comcast.net](mailto:swyrostek@comcast.net)

**JINA DAVIDSON**  
Mahwah, NJ  
[jleed63@yahoo.com](mailto:jleed63@yahoo.com)

**JANICE L. HARGRAVE**  
Houston, TX  
[jan@janhargrave.com](mailto:jan@janhargrave.com)

**C. R. VARADARAJ**  
Bangalore, India  
[seeorwe@gmail.com](mailto:seeorwe@gmail.com)



# A Sneak Preview for the 28th Annual Convention of the International Listening Association in Frankfurt.

By Margarete Imhof



The planning for the 28th Annual Convention in Frankfurt in July has made good progress. Thanks to the expertise and the creativity of the membership, we had excellent submissions on a wide range of topics. In fact, we had submissions from five continents: North America, Australia, Asia, Africa, and Europe. The review committee recommended to accept the submissions so that the final program should reflect this international dimension. We sure hope that everybody will be able to come to the convention in July.

The preliminary program is online. Go to [www.listen.org](http://www.listen.org) and click the Frankfurt convention link to find the current status of the program. The convention webpage features several links which are of interest to the traveller, including the International Listener's Travel Alphabet.

Online registration has been available through the ILA homepage for a while now. Make sure that you register early to catch the better price. For your convenience, the convention fees include all lunches (buffet style) during the convention, conference room rental, all AV fees, conference material, snacks and drinks for all breaks, and a surprise banquet in a secret location (no need to bring horse and armor; it will be all provided).

Please make sure that you check the expiration date of your passport. If you visit from outside the EU, you need a passport to leave your country, to go through immigration in Germany, and to get back in. Other photo IDs (e.g., a driver license) do not work for international travel.

For the trip from Frankfurt Airport to the NH hotel, you have two options: a taxi or public transportation. If you prefer the taxi, please use this business card as printed below to explain to the driver where

you want to go. If you take a train, please use the directions printed on page 7 (and available online on the convention homepage). Please do NOT rent a car right from the airport. The traffic in and around Frankfurt is horrendous and I do not want anyone to lose their way. You might be very tired and experience quite a bit of jetlag after a long flight.

✂

**NH FRANKFURT-CITY**

Vilbeler Strasse 2  
D-60313 Frankfurt am Main  
Tel: +49/69/928859-854  
Fax: +49/69/928859-100  
Mtngs.nhfrankfurtcity@nh-hotels.com  
[www.nh-hotels.com](http://www.nh-hotels.com)

PART OF  
THE NH WORLD

As you arrive at Frankfurt airport, you will find ATM machines for your convenience. From my own experience, I would assume that most international banking cards work fine, but to be safe, you might want to ask at your home institution. In any case, you need to have Euro in your pocket to buy a ticket for public transportation, while taxis all accept credit card payment (if you do not have cash available).

As you plan what to bring to Frankfurt, it would be advisable to think summer! It might be rather warm in July. The hotel has air-conditioning, but other places might not. The regional weather forecast is available from [www.weather.com](http://www.weather.com) where you will find details in English if you enter "Frankfurt" (choose MAIN, wherever you are asked to make a selection).

*Continued on page 4*



# Zuhören: Variations on a Theme

## The German Language & Listening

By Margarete Imhof

If you want to talk about listening in German, you need to make the same distinction as in English between hearing and listening. The words in German are hören (for hearing) und zuhören (for listening). The preposition zu (as in tsu-nami) which means "toward" implies selecting and sustaining a specific focus, e.g., a person, a goal, a target, or a spot. The word zuhören implies that the listener concentrates his or her attention on the person speaking and his or her message as in full-face listening. However, zuhören has not traditionally been a privilege. The word zuhören shares the root with gehören (belonging) and gehorchen (obeying). Those who listen are part of a circle of loyalty defined by the extended family, the staff, the servants. They have been expected to be loyal and not to challenge what the leader, chief, landlord, elder had said. The one who listens is the one who is in a position to obey as opposed to having the say or to challenge the orders and opinions of the leader. So, listening or zuhören has traditionally been a double-edged concept.

These days, listening or zuhören experiences a substantial revival and reinterpretation. The incredible boom of audio books which had been lurking in the dark somewhere only a few years ago is only one very visible indicator of the increasing appreciation of listening. The German Listening Foundation has been working hard to convince decision makers and experts in various areas of the public life that listening is important for a functioning communication in a modern democratic society. While listening has always been important in areas such as psychotherapy and counselling, the German Listening Foundation was successful in reintro-

ducing listening into the discourse in education, conflict resolution, healthcare, leadership, and human resource development. This is only a beginning. The German Listening Association is celebrating its fifth anniversary. The idea that listening is picking up impact can be seen in a 30-part radio series on all aspects of listening from acoustics to psychology, from storytelling to spirituality, from historic listening traditions to modern soundscapes.

### *Horch!*

The German word for Hark! (as in Hark the herald angels sing) is Horch! This word is hard to pronounce for a German tongue, but what can you do? Once there was a family by this name and one of their sons, August Horch (1868-1951) started a career as a blacksmith. Later, he became interested in the construction of cars and founded his own car-building factory and called his cars Horch – as Ford cars were named after Henry Ford. However, the Horch cars did not sell very well (although it reached a maximum speed of amazing 32 km / h or 20 mph and kept going an entire day without any technical problems), maybe because people had a hard time even saying the name; so, the entrepreneur decided to change the name and translated his family name into Latin which was quite an unusual choice at the time. As a result, this translation made the word sound much more smoothly and gave it a more charming tone. This is why today the AUDI car is on the market which has been so much more successful than the original Horch models.

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## A Sneak Preview, *continued from page 3*

For travel options before or after the conference and day trips for your family during the conference, please refer to the convention website. We have tried to put together a collection of links which invite you for a virtual or real tour of the German Fairytale Route, the Romantic Road, the German Alpine Road. You may check out the official pages of the German tourism office and of the German railway system which also offers travel packages. Their web pages are also available in English. It is safe and convenient to travel by railway, especially since roads and autobahns all over Europe can be very busy in the summer.

I wish everyone a pleasant trip. If you have any questions, please email me at: [listen2007@uni-frankfurt.de](mailto:listen2007@uni-frankfurt.de).



# Guten Morgen Deutschland!

Travelling has always been considered an educational experience. When I was a student, for example, I enjoyed reading Mark Twain's book about *The Innocents Abroad* which describes a wonderful journey both in terms of space and time for the modern reader. But in the world today thinking and acting cross-culturally is not only for fun and distraction, it is a necessity if we want to survive on this planet. The nations of the world are tied together really closely on many levels. Think about the shirt you are wearing. Where did it come from? Where were your shoes made? Your car? It is amazing how much we rely on each other, globally. Are we not all affected by the changing climate and by the hiccups of the world economy? I find it just as amazing how difficult it is in spite of the global village which we all inhabit, to communicate successfully and to understand each other. What does everyone really know about other cultures and the concepts from which people are working? My favorite example: Let me and you think about Bread and I would expect that the ideas in our minds are worlds apart. I personally believe that it is important to actually go and meet people from other places, try their shoes on and understand their perspectives.

In this process, the English language – or what was made of it – has become a kind of “lingua franca” which so many non-English speakers use as an instrument to communicate. If you are in Germany, do not hesitate to speak English. If the first person cannot help you, he or she will certainly help you find someone who can speak English. Still, it is a friendly sign of good-will if the visitor can use some basic phrases of the language spoken in the host country. Here are some suggested phrases for you to take to Germany:

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Guten Tag!	Good afternoon!	A friendly greeting as you enter a store, a restaurant or as you meet a person for the first time in a day or in your life
Guten Morgen!	Good morning!	Just the right introduction when joining someone at the breakfast table
Sprechen sie Englisch?	Do you speak English?	A friendly way of asking a person to speak your language as opposed to just speaking your language and leaving it to the other person to figure out what you are talking about
Bitte...	Please...	The universal door-opener
Danke.	Thank you.	The universal signal for politeness and appreciation
Auf Wiedersehen!	Good bye!	A traditional parting phrase which literally means: <i>See you again soon</i> , but which you can use even if you know that you won't see a person again (for example, when leaving a store)

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To find out more about the German language, I would like to direct you to some excellent internet pages:

**[www.leo.org](http://www.leo.org)**: an online English-German dictionary which uses sound to illustrate the pronunciation

**[www.dict.cc](http://www.dict.cc)**: an online-dictionary which offers German-English and English-German translations (also with sound)

**[http://www.army.mod.uk/gutersloh/new\\_arrivals\\_info/phrases.htm](http://www.army.mod.uk/gutersloh/new_arrivals_info/phrases.htm)**: a site offered by the US army for their members stationed in Germany (provides a helpful list of everyday German phrases, meanings and usage)

**<http://www.askoxford.com/languages/de/phrases/?view=uk>**: lists useful phrases for travel and everyday life, and, in addition, information on the German language from the perspective of a (British) English native speaker

**<http://www.jiffygerman.com>**: advertises free German lessons and vocabulary-building exercises



## LOOKING FORWARD TO FRANKFURT SIGHTS

Message from Christin Picard of the Local Arrangements Committee

My name is Christin Picard and, as a member of the local arrangements committee, I have put together some material which visitors to Frankfurt might find helpful. As ILA members get ready for the trip to Frankfurt, I assume you are looking for recommendations on where to eat, drink, shop, or just spend your spare time. Make sure to have a look at the website which we designed for ILA convention participants at [http://www.psychologie.unifrankfurt.de/abteilungen\\_und\\_bereiche/pp/personen/imhof/ILA2007/index.html](http://www.psychologie.unifrankfurt.de/abteilungen_und_bereiche/pp/personen/imhof/ILA2007/index.html) (or go to the ILA's main site at Listen.org and click on the link: "28th Annual Convention - Listen and Make the Connection").

The page provides helpful information and gives you ideas about where to go and what to do in the area. Among suggestions for restaurants, cafés, small shops and big stores, it also suggests places for a family trip. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to write to [listen2007@uni-frankfurt.de](mailto:listen2007@uni-frankfurt.de).

### A Glimpse of Frankfurt Sights:

This is where you will arrive by train:



Frankfurt Main Train Station

Learn what there is to see to make your trip a worthwhile experience!



By the River: The Städel Museum  
One of the Finest Museums in Europe



Remains from the Roman LIMES wall near Frankfurt  
When in Germany, do as the Romans do!



The Farmer's Market



Department Store and Imax Cinema

# How to get from Frankfurt Airport to our Convention Hotel

Preferably, *do not* use a rental car from the airport to the hotel. It is hard to find your way around in the downtown area, especially with jetlag in your bones. Following are directions by both taxi and public transportation.

## BRING THE HOTEL ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER:

NH-Frankfurt City  
Vilbeler Strasse 2  
D-60313 Frankfurt am Main  
Tel: +49/69/928859-854

## DIRECTIONS BY TAXI

1. When you arrive at Frankfurt Airport, follow the signs saying Taxi. There are several areas where you can find taxis.
2. All cabs which leave Frankfurt Airport accept credit card payment.
3. Ask the driver to take you to NH City hotel, Vilbeler Strasse—or even better: Cut out the hotel's business card (printed on page 3) and show it to the driver.
4. The total fare to the hotel should be about 30,00 Euro, depending on the traffic. (The train is certainly cheaper.)

## DIRECTIONS BY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

1. When you arrive in Frankfurt Airport, go to Terminal 1.
  - a. Frankfurt Airport has 2 Terminals, Terminal 1 and Terminal 2. Both terminals are likely destinations for your arrivals. If not stated in your papers, you can ask the flight attendant which terminal your flight is landing at.
  - b. If your flight landed in Terminal 1, proceed to #3 of this list.
  - c. If your flight landed in Terminal 2, transfer to Terminal 1, go to #2.
2. If you need to transfer from Terminal 2 to Terminal 1, after you have cleared immigration and customs, please follow the signs directing you to the SkyTrain and to Terminal 1. The signs pointing out Terminal 1 (ABC gates) have an orange dot. The way leads you up some stairs or you may use an elevator.
3. When you are in Terminal 1, look for the signs that say Regional Trains or "Bahnhof." The train symbol is followed by an S and a T. Outside the airport, the "S" is always white on a green circle. Inside the airport, the "S" may appear as a capital letter in white on blue.

4. When you follow these signs, you are directed to an escalator which goes down and, right where you get off the escalator, you will find a ticket vending machine and a ticket office with people in it.
5. When you have your convention ticket ready, you are all set and you do not need to buy another ticket. Just make sure you sign it with your name. If, however, you need to buy a ticket, push "50" on the number pad, push the single person icon, and insert the coins (currently € 3,35; the machine accepts bills of 20, 10, and 5 Euro and returns change) for the ticket.
6. When you look around in this area, you will see another set of escalators going down. Take the one that says "Gleis 1" or "Track 1." If you need assistance to accommodate for a wheelchair, please go inside the ticket office and let them know. English is spoken there.
7. When you are on the platform, please look at the overhead signs, which announce the trains which are scheduled to be running in next. If you cannot see anything there, just wait. The announcement is usually put up about some minutes before the scheduled arrival time.
8. Read this sign carefully. Take any train which is announced with a white letter S in a green circle. Remember this sign, because it stands for "S-Bahn" and is the main part of our public transport system in Frankfurt. There are two S-Bahn lines (S8 and S9) which run through the airport station and you may take either one.
9. You will ride on this train for six stops. The stops are called: Flughafen, Stadion, Niederrad, Hauptbahnhof, Hauptwache, Konstablerwache.) The one you want is KONSTABLERWACHE.
10. From there it's a stone's throw or cat's leap to the hotel.
11. This is your way from the S-Bahn Station KONSTABLERWACHE to the NH hotel:
  - a. Proceed in the direction of the train toward the head end of the station.
  - b. Take exit "Adenauerstrasse" which is on the lefthand side if you have to choose. You may use the escalator or the

elevator to get upstairs and out of the station.

c. When you are out in the open, look for store signs saying CONRAD. This store (together with a beautiful fruit stand) marks the corner of the square where you need to go. Proceed to the front door of the CONRAD store.

d. Walk around the corner of the store so that you have the store to your left and the fruit stand in your back. (Do NOT cross the street here!)

e. Walk up this street and pass the Arabella Sheraton hotel. Keep walking.

f. As you come to cross the next street, you are in front of the NH hotel. It features a glass front and a sliding glass door.

12. Oops – you came out the other end of the square and you see a MCDONALD'S restaurant? OK, there is a way from this corner to the hotel, too.

a. Walk up the street around the corner with MCDONALD'S on your left side, leaving the pedestrian zone at a right angle.

b. Keep walking and turn into the 2nd street on the right. There you see the entrance to a parking garage and a little further toward the traffic light you see the hotel entrance on the other side of this street.

13. Got completely lost?

a. Ask for KONSTABLERWACHE.

b. Ask for the Arabella Sheraton to get directions. Once you see the Sheraton, the NH is less than 50 yards away.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE!

If you want to use public transportation, drop me a note at [listen2oo7@uni-frankfurt.de](mailto:listen2oo7@uni-frankfurt.de) by **July 1st. (This is a deadline!)** I will mail you a conference ticket for you to use for your first trip and throughout the convention.

# CALLING ALL 2007 CONVENTION PRESENTERS!

by Kathy Thompson & Jean Groshek  
ILA-CPRC Co-Chairs

For the past 26 years, ILA Members have heeded the call to study, teach and promote effective listening...and to share their work, as Dr. Ralph Nichols and so many other ILA scholars have so generously shared theirs. Listening papers, articles, and activities by ILA members regularly appear in a variety of print and other media. But many of our great listening ideas—including the ones heard at our convention in Portland, Maine, this past April—still are shared only with a limited audience. That's why the ILA-Convention Paper Resource Center (CPRC) needs your help.

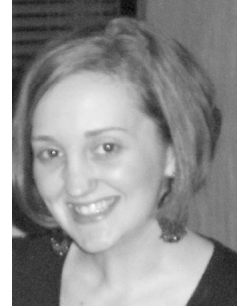
By submitting your 2007 convention paper to the CPRC, you, too, will be sharing valuable listening ideas with others from around the world. And we truly mean "around the world." This past year, we've sent CPRC convention papers to students, interested listening scholars, and business professionals across the globe.

Help ILA promote effective listening. Share your listening insights. Attract new ILA members. Stimulate interest in the listening field. Please plan to submit your 2007 convention paper to the ILA-Convention Paper Resource Center. It's easy. Simply complete the following steps now:

1. Submit a typed and reproducible hard copy of your paper (on white paper with clear, clean, dark print).
2. Submit one (1) electronic copy of your convention paper, via e-mail, in Microsoft Word (5.0 or above).
3. Submit—with each hard copy—a typed/word-processed identification page. [For specific information and/or forms, go the ILA web site: [www.listen.org](http://www.listen.org) and click on ILA Resources.]
4. Submit a signed (by all authors) ILA-CPRC Reproduction Release Form (also available on the ILA web site under Resources).

## ASK A LISTENER

At this year's conference, the Membership Committee is sponsoring a new "Ask a Listener" session. In this session, you will hear what listeners in the field are doing to promote listening from three perspectives.



Specifically, Listeners in Business, Listening Advocates, and Listening Researchers will be present to answer any questions you may have about what they do. Through round table discussions, you will personally interact with these speakers. This is a great opportunity to network with individuals in the field and learn about how listening is being promoted by three different perspectives. So, remember, if you're interested in hearing about the current state of the field or if you've ever wondered how listeners in business promote listening, how academic listeners conduct their research, or what projects listening advocates work on, this is the session for you!

~ Jennifer Gill, Student Board Member

After having completed the four-step process, bring the above items to the convention in Frankfurt or mail all items to Jean Groshek at the following address:

Jean Groshek, Associate Professor  
Professional Communication Department  
Alverno College  
3401 S. 39th Street  
P.O. Box 93234  
Milwaukee, WI 53234-3922

Please consider submitting your 2007 ILA convention paper today. Contact CPRC Co-Chair Jean Groshek for more information: Phone: 414-382-6240 or Fax: 414-382-6354 or E-mail: [Jean.Groshek@Alverno.edu](mailto:Jean.Groshek@Alverno.edu)



# Sharing Expertise and Experience

by Bob Bohlken

ILA has a very diversified membership but all of us have one goal: to enhance the skill of listening—in classrooms *and* training sessions. There is an air of caring and sharing that permeates the atmosphere of the International Listening Association, not only at conferences but also throughout the year.

One good example of this common sharing is the Convention Paper Resource Center. We are indebted to Kathy Thompson, who generously dedicates her time, effort and expertise in soliciting, reproducing, administrating and distributing the Center's valuable information. I personally have donated several "applied research" manuscripts to the Center in hopes that the information will be of value to others. One, submitted in 2005, presents a short course in teaching listening along with activities and exercises. This manuscript is available in paper form or 3.5 computer disk format for a very minimal cost.

Check out the offerings at the ILA web site, [www.listen.org](http://www.listen.org), or contact Kathy Thompson at [kathy.thompson@alverno.edu](mailto:kathy.thompson@alverno.edu). You can become a part of this sharing by submitting your Conference Session's paper to the Center or by submitting an activity/exercise to the "Swap Shop." Send current submissions to Nanette Johnson-Curiskis at [johnsn3@mnsu.edu](mailto:johnsn3@mnsu.edu).

## Swap Shop Request

ILA will again provide its members an opportunity to share favorite teaching/training listening exercises/experiences. The emphasis will be on the opportunity for those attending the Frankfurt Conference to discuss in person their "gems" of listening activities, but all members are encouraged to contribute and in turn receive a compilation of the activities via e-mail or CD. Please indicate on your entry whether you will be attending the conference or wish a copy e-mailed to you.

The format for the activities/exercises is as follows: (1) Name, affiliation, e-mail address, date of conference and title of activity (2) Intended purpose or type of listening being addressed (3) Intended participants. (4) Required time and materials (5) Setting or communication context (6) The activity process (7) Evaluation criteria

Please e-mail your contribution to Nan at [johnsn3@mnsu.edu](mailto:johnsn3@mnsu.edu) by June 1, 2007 .

## MEMBERS ONLY!

Adding Value to Your  
ILA Membership

by Laura Janusik  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President



The membership committee has decided to add value to the membership, particularly for those who cannot make it to the annual convention. Thus, we're currently working on developing resources that will only be available at the "Members Only" portion of the website.

Current ideas include: results from listening course surveys, critiques of listening chapters in basic course and interpersonal course textbooks, and a list of assessment instruments for listening and how they can be located. If you have other ideas that you'd like to see at the Members Only section of the website, contact Laura Janusik, 2nd Vice President, at [laura.janusik@rockhurst.edu](mailto:laura.janusik@rockhurst.edu).

## One Busy Listener!



Our First Vice President elect, Dr. Lisa M. Orick-Martinez has been busy in the Southwest. She represented ILA and spoke on listening at the February meeting of Women Entrepreneurs in Albuquerque, New Mexico. In March Lisa was the invited speaker at New Mexico Highlands University Master's program for social workers and gave a 50 minute talk on the ILA and listening. Dr. Orick-Martinez will also be an expert witness on listening in a court case in Albuquerque later this month.

For national listening month, Dr. Orick-Martinez contacted the local television stations to get the word out to promote national listening month and one station mentioned it on the its morning show.

# DR. NANETTE JOHNSON-CURISKIS

Inducted into the  
Redwood Valley Public Schools  
Alumni Hall of Fame



Dr. Nanette Johnson-Curiskis is an inductee into the Redwood Valley Public Schools Alumni Hall of Fame for 2007. The Redwood Valley Hall of Fame is designed to recognize alumni, former school staff members or community members from Belview, Morton, or Redwood Falls, Minnesota, who have made a significant difference in the lives of others. The Alumni category recognizes distinguished achievement among those individuals who have attended Belview, Morton, or Redwood Falls school districts. Dr. Johnson-Curiskis graduated from Redwood Falls High School in 1966.

Dr. Johnson-Curiskis will be recognized at a banquet in May. Her portrait will be engraved on the school's marble "Wall of Fame." Dr. Johnson-Curiskis was nominated by the wife of her high-school math teacher and her former principal. The nomination was supported by two of her classmates.

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Dr. Johnson-Curiskis is a founding and life time member of the International Listening Association. (Member #75) She participated in the first convention in Atlanta in 1980 where she was part of organizing and filming the first ILA convention video with Harvey Weiss. She have served the ILA as a Board Member at Large, Executive Secretary, and on several committees including awards committee, nominations committee, and archives committee. She has been a presenter at many conventions. In 1983, Dr. Johnson-Curiskis served as the local arrangement's chair for the Minneapolis Convention and again chaired local arrangements in 2005 in Minneapolis. As co-chair of the Archives committee, her current ILA project involves digitizing all the ILA Listening Posts, past board minutes, and conference photos so they are accessible to ILA members as archives for the organization. She is the recipient of two ILA Awards: Outstanding Dissertation Award (2003) and Outstanding Listening Educator of the Year (2005).

*Congratulations Nan!*

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Submit your original quote to [www.ListenersUnite.com](http://www.ListenersUnite.com) for a chance to be featured on the site's front page. ListenersUnite.com hosts a large quote library and features one new quote per week. We featured famous quotes, but new ones, too, and quotes from listeners and listening experts. Your name will be featured with your occupation or company and an optional website link. Your quote will remain on ListenersUnite.com and be moved to one of the site's permanent quote pages. Submit as many as you'd like. There is NO FEE for submitting and NO FEE for being linked. Let other listeners hear what you have to say!

BURIED TREASURES:

# THE GAVEL STORY

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from the Epilogue of Dr. Wesley Wiskell's keynote address at the  
2'nd Annual ILA Conference in Denver, Colorado, March 4, 1981

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I have a hobby of collecting gavels which began years ago when I taught parliamentary law. At that time I stressed listening in leadership roles. Many people have given me gavels. I have an ivory gavel from Alaska, another given to me in Bombay with inlaid ivory. One is from Egypt, others from many other part of the world. The gavels are of all shapes and sizes from 1/2 inch to four feet long. They are made of plastic, wood, metals, solid gold, and silver. However, I couldn't collect all of these gavels without being selfish. So I decided to make gavels. For many years I have enjoyed giving inscribed gavels to people of distinction in various parts of the United States. Before I came to Denver this winter I decided to make a gavel for the ILA. This is the gavel. The head of this gavel comes from a piece of wood I found on the banks of the Nile River across from the Egyptian tomb where Phahhotpe probably was buried. I selected that wood because it symbolizes the long history of attention to listening and its importance. The wood in the handle comes from a cherry tree on the University of Minnesota Campus because, that to me, is the shrine of modern-day listening. There are brass bands encircling the head on either side of the handle. On one brass plate I have inscribed these words: International Listening Association Presidents 1981-2005.

The first name that appears there is Lyman K Steil, our first president. There is space below for 25 names of succeeding presidents to be inscribed on this plate.

On the other plate there are the words: International Listening Association Presidents 2006-2030 and space for 25 more presidents. So it may be that in the year 2030 this gavel with the names of the distinguished men and women who have been presidents of this great organization inscribed on it will be placed in the library of the University of Minnesota as a reminder of 50 years of significant accomplishments of a great organization and its leaders.

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*Buried Treasures is brought to you by archives committee chairs Dr. Nanette Johnson-Curiskis and Harvey Weiss. The column will appear periodically to share historical documents taken from the Listening Posts of the past.*

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The full text of the above speech can be found with the Listening Posts on the ILA website.

## PAST POSTS NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE!

Nan and Harvey of the Archives Committee report: "Every single Listening Post (all 94 issues) have been scanned, converted into pdf documents, uploaded and linked for anyone to open, download and use."

Go to [www.listen.org](http://www.listen.org) → Resources → Listening Post → Archive (1980-2006)  
or go directly to [http://www.listen.org/pages/lp/listening\\_post.html](http://www.listen.org/pages/lp/listening_post.html).

# Notes from the Editor

by Linda Eve Diamond



**Listeners Unite!**  
ListenersUnite.com:

**Weekly Quotes  
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Listening for Peace**  
The **Have You  
Heard? Blog**  
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Things Listening"

Also visit:  
**ListenStore.com**  
"Fun Stuff for  
Serious Listeners"

Hello ILA Friends! This will not be a regular column, but I have a few updates to share and a call for submissions. Many thanks to all of you who have been giving positive feedback on [www.ListenersUnite.com](http://www.ListenersUnite.com). Please feel free to submit your listening news or quotes to [info@ListenersUnite.com](mailto:info@ListenersUnite.com). Weekly quotes are a combination of both famous and new quotes. Original quotes are welcome and, if you submit an original quote, I will be happy to link your website if you have one. All weekly quotes then move to one of the permanent quote pages on the site.

Thanks also to those who have contributed to my **upcoming listening book**. Production was slower than expected, but I will send an announcement when the book is complete. The next book will be a collection of **listening exercises**, so I hope to receive many contributions from ILA members. Thanks to those who have already shared their listening exercises, and I look forward to seeing more! See deadlines under "Contribute to Listening Books!"

While my new poetry book, **The Human Experience**, explores a wide array of topics, many of the poems focus on listening, such as "I, Unleashed," about a woman listening to herself, and "Projections," about a husband and wife who struggle to see and hear one another through layers of projections and perceptions. *The Human Experience* strives to explore connections, even reaching out to the reader through a love poem titled, "You and Me." Please visit [LindaEveDiamond.com](http://LindaEveDiamond.com) for more information and book store links.



## CONTRIBUTE TO LISTENING BOOKS!

Contributors will receive full credit in the book, including your website (if desired). Please send a brief bio with your submissions. (Feel free to send submissions ahead of bios.)

**Call for submissions: Listening Exercises** Share your knowledge, gain exposure, and use your expertise to bring listening education to the next level! Submit as many exercises as you would like. (Feel free to submit exercises shared with the Swap Shop, but please let me know.) *Deadline: Aug. 30, 2007*

**Call for submissions: Listening Anecdotes & Stories** Please send stories or anecdotes of any length, whether touching, enlightening, interesting or funny. They should show, in some way, the importance or impact of listening. *Final deadline to be announced.*

Please send submissions by e-mail to [info@ListenersUnite.com](mailto:info@ListenersUnite.com) or by mail to:  
Linda Eve Diamond, 417 East Sheridan Street, Suite #300, Dania, FL 33004

Questions? Call 954-303-1980



Check out the next issue of *The Listening Professional* for a review of *Teambuilding That Gets Results*, by *Listening Post* Editor, Linda Eve Diamond.





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## INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF LISTENING (IJ) SUBMISSIONS

The *IJ* accepts submissions on an ongoing basis. Of special interest are articles and book reviews on the following topics:

- Listening and Second Language Acquisition
- Listening Assessment
- Listening, Audience Behavior and Media Studies
- Listening, Audience Behavior and Political Rhetoric
- Historical Studies of Listening and Audience Behavior
- Intersections between Listening and Reading
- Listening in Professional or Managerial Communication
- Insights of Cognitive Theory, Psychology or Philosophy on Listening
- Listening and Rhetorical Theory
- Listening Research in K-12 Education
- Listening in Health Communication
- Listening and Service Learning
- The Intersections between Musical Listening and Listening to Messages (listening as aesthetic vs. epistemic process)

Please send submissions electronically to:  
James Floyd, editor, at [floyd@cmsu1.cmsu.edu](mailto:floyd@cmsu1.cmsu.edu).

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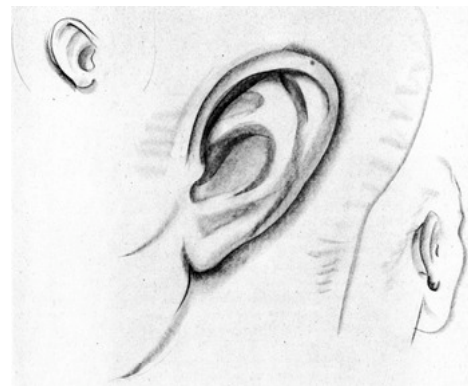
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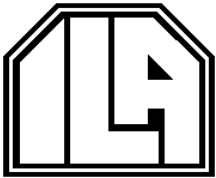


**THE LISTENING POST**  
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- O pen your mind...
- O pen your heart...
- O pen your world...

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