FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT
FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY

The Newsletter of the American Dialect Society (NADS) cannot be sustained: postage costs have increased, editorial material has been scarce, and ADS members increasingly look for news on the Web rather than in their mailboxes. So, the ADS Executive Committee has decided to discontinue NADS, in both print and PDF formats; yet there is still a need for something like NADS.

Although the ADS Web site serves many of the same purposes as NADS, it is useful only if members think to check it at the right times for certain information (calls for papers and other deadlines, for instance). Forgetful as we all are, many ADS members would appreciate timely announcements or reminders of ADS-related business and activities. The best way to disseminate these nowadays is via an e-mail list.

A new e-mail list, called ADS-M, has been established in order to serve this purpose. Unlike ADS-L, it is not a discussion list: ADS-M is moderated and distributes mail to list subscribers only from ADS or ADS members who submit material to the list moderator (as though to NADS) at administrator@americandialect.org. Only the moderator can post messages to the list, and messages will be posted only if they pertain specifically and clearly to the interests of ADS and its members. Messages will be relatively infrequent, on the order of one per week.

Also unlike ADS-L, ADS-M is available to ADS members only: the list of subscribers will be checked regularly against the list of current ADS members. To sign up for ADS-M, visit http://www.americandialect.org/adsm. Signing up will require that you verify your e-mail address, after which the moderator will verify that you are an ADS member before approving your subscription to the list.

Currently, 59% of ADS members have provided the Society and Duke University Press with their e-mail address. We suspect that many more (perhaps all) members use e-mail, and we hope that all members will soon subscribe to ADS-M so that important ADS news can be distributed to members efficiently.

With the help of Anthony Anstar and Susan Smith, Linguist List has agreed to host ADS-M—many thanks to them and also to Allan Metcalf, Executive Secretary, who edited NADS to the Society’s great benefit for so many years.

GRANT BARRETT
Double-Tongued Dictionary

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