

COLLOQUY

SOL GOLOMB, one of *Word Ways* most prolific contributors, was awarded on February 1 the National Medal of Science by President Obama in a ceremony in Washington, D.C. This is the most recent of many prestigious awards received by Sol honoring his 60+ years of contributions. For more information see <http://viterbi.usc.edu/news/news/2013/president-obama-awards.htm> .

ROSS ECKLER comments on the November issue:

A fine issue! I was especially intrigued by R B Kon's meticulous research on the Eliza Hurst puzzle. Apparently we will never know her answer to the puzzle, but perhaps some reader will still come up with a solution which agrees with more of the clues.

I was amazed by the number of short pangrammatic windows that Sean Irvine came up with, including one of only 48 letters. Apparently really short ones rely more on weird names than on natural-sounding sentence (as in *The Courts of Memory*).

Mike Keith continues to exploit the power of the computer in finding snowball letter distributions of number names. I suspect that it will also require the power of the computer to find (in Simon Norton's article) 26 three-letter words based on the 13 odd letters of the alphabet, many will no doubt be acronyms. etc.

Solomon Golomb shows considerably creativity in finding new 3-L lamas.

JAMES PURDER writes: Another name that Richard Lederer might have included in his list of famous aptronymic personages is that of the renowned evangelist Billy Sunday, who was born William Ashley Sunday in 1862. Before he became an evangelist, incidentally, Sunday had been a popular and successful professional baseball player, playing outfield in the National League for eight years in the 1880s. Had he been born 90 years later, Sunday might have played in the majors alongside noted centerfielder Rick Monday. Only an average hitter, but a speedy and aggressive baserunner, Sunday would probably have batted first or second on that team; when batting second, SUNDAY would likely have been followed to the plate at times by MONDAY, a lifetime .264 hitter and two-time All-Star.

JEFF GRANT notes: Another excellent edition of *Word Ways*! What a buzz to see another Kiwi with an article in the magazine, and on a subject that has always interested me - pangrams. I don't know Sean Irvine but intend emailing him soon. Hamilton is about 220 miles north of where I live in Hastings so we may even get together sometime.

As a proud New Zealander I must correct the errors in a line of Susan Thorpe's 'Numerical Rhymes'. In 1953, NZer Edmund Hillary (two l's, not one) became the first man to climb the world's highest peak, Mt Everest. He was accompanied by the Nepali sherpa commonly known as Sherpa Tenzing (a more correct spelling than 'Tensing'). The fifth line in the third verse on p293 should therefore be something like:

73 Tenzing was sherpa for HILLARY

CHRIS READ informs of possible additions to The Great AEGINRST Machine.

1. Using the internet's White Pages, (<http://www.whitepages.com/>) I was able to find a couple of people named Art Inge. Such people would be ART INGES.
2. The Electronic Software Ratings Board (<http://www.esrb.org/index-js.jsp>) has an E rating. Such things belonging to it, such as descriptors (i.e. "Mild Fantasy Violence") I figure would be E RATING'S descriptors.

I first found out about the AEGINRST Machine while reading Ross Eckler's "Making the Alphabet Dance," and I find logology interesting.

SIR JEREMY MORSE has been investigating the longest isograms that can be made from truncated alphabets, and finds as follows. He invites readers to improve on this list.

A-C CAB
A-E DACE
A-F FACED
A-H CHAFED
A-I BIGHEAD
A-K HIJACKED
A-N BLEACHING
A-O BLOCKADING
A-R DEMOGRAPHIC
A-S DEMOGRAPHICS
A-U PNEUMOGASTRIC
A-Y DERMATOGLYPHICS