

## PALINDROMIC NAMES

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There are lots of palindromic given names, for example ADA, ANNA, BOB, ELLE, EVE, HANNAH and OTTO. More unusual ones include ABBA, AOITOA, ESEESE, LERREL, NEVEN, ODDO and VYV.

Palindromic surnames are just as plentiful: CIRIC, EDE, IYAYI, MASSAM, RETTER, SILLIS, YELLEY. I'm sure you can think of others. The world of women's tennis is a particularly rich source, with Monica SELES, Sylvie SABAS and Angela KERREK.

When it comes to full-name palindromes, examples are much rarer. Possibly the most well-known name of this type is LON NOL, president of Cambodia from 1970-75. The shortest is undoubtedly U NU, Burmese premier in the late 1950s and early 1960s.

The Palindromicon, completed in 1991 and published in 1992, contains 2332 palindromic terms, including a number of full-name palindromes. Dan Tilque and I have extended the palindrome collection to 3443, in the process finding many more palindromic names. We are aiming to stretch the total to 4004 entries before Palindromicon 2 is released, hopefully in the year 2002.

Here is a complete list of full-name 'dromes currently listed in our files. Some are real people, others nicknames, pseudonyms or coinages. All have appeared in print at some time. Otherwise unidentified names can be found in the 1992 Version 1.1 of Phonedisc (ProCd New Media Publishing, Marblehead MA), and probably in most other national telephone directories. Names of fewer than six letters (OH HO, ED EDE) have not been included, nor have single-word names like REINIER, an ancient monk of Liege.

AGA KAGA a character in "Protest Note", a short story by Keith Laumer, found in the collection Galactic Diplomat (1965)

ANNA ANNA a lady in Patton PA

ANNA DANNA a retired film editor mentioned in Word Ways May 1981  
(page 110)

ANNA HANNA the name of eight people on Phonedisc

ANNA NANNA a person in Burlingame CA

ANNA SANNA Italian deputy, member of the Party of the Democratic Left (Who's Who in World Politics, 1991)

ANNE ENNA a person in East Haven CT

ANNE HENNA the name of five people on Phonedisc

ANNE KENNA a person in Minneapolis MN

ANNE SENNA a person in Orinda CA  
 ATTA ATTA a former resident of Ata, in Attica, Greece (Ripley's Mammoth Believe it or Not, 1955, page 92)  
 BOB BOB a person in Wichita KS  
 DALU LAD a person in Ontario CA  
 DAVE VAD possible nickname of David Vad, Battineau ND  
 DAWN NWAD a person in Nyack NY  
 DEE REED the name of six people on Phonedisc  
 DOT TOD possible nickname of two persons named Dorothy Tod  
 DUANE RENAUD a person in New Sharon IA  
 EARL RAE the name of two people on Phonedisc  
 ELI KILE possible nickname of two persons named Elinor Kile  
 EMORB BROME the name of a Somerset squire's son (Paul Dickson, Names, 1986, page 8)  
 ENA CANE a person in *Who's Who of American Women*, 1975-76  
 ENA KANE a person in Monson MA  
 ERIC CIRE a person in Azle TX  
 EST TSE a person in San Gabriel CA  
 EVA CAVE the name of two people on Phonedisc  
 EVA NAVE a person in Hominy OK  
 FLO ROLF possible nickname of persons named Florence Rolf  
 GILES ASA SELIG pseudonym of Joseph S. Thompson, author of *The Miracle and Other Verses*, 1945  
 HAROLD LORAH the name of four people on Phonedisc  
 HERB REH assumed nickname of Herbert Reh of St. Louis MO (1995 St. Louis telephone directory)  
 KAVON NOVAK a suggested (but discarded) nickname for film star Kim Novak (Leslie Dunkling, *First Names First*, 1977)  
 LEE KEEL the name of four people on Phonedisc  
 LEE NEEL the name of five people on Phonedisc  
 LEE PEEL the name of two people on Phonedisc  
 LEE REEL the name of four people on Phonedisc  
 LEE TEEL the name of three people on Phonedisc  
 LEO JOEL a person in Silver Spring MD  
 LEONA NOEL a person in Oneill NE  
 LEON NOEL French ambassador to Poland before World War 2 (*Marshall Cavendish Illustrated Encyclopedia of World War 2*, 1972)  
 LEO NOEL the name of twelve people on Phonedisc  
 LISA BASIL the name of three people on Phonedisc  
 LISA VASIL writer of children's books *Dark Secret* and *Escape From the Future*, 1991 (probably a pseudonym)  
 LON NOL president of Cambodia from 1970-75  
 MAE BEAM a person in Spruce Pine NC  
 MARBA ABRAM a personal name in Elsdon C. Smith, *Treasury of Name Lore*, 1967  
 MARC CRAM a person listed in the 1991 Las Vegas NV telephone directory  
 MARG GRAM possible nickname of Margaret Gram of Exeter NH  
 MARK KRAM the name of two people on Phonedisc  
 MARK RAM the name of two people in the 1990 Montreal telephone directory

- MARY BYRAM the name of two people on Phonedisc
- MARY RAM a person in Montgomery MA
- MIKE KIM the name of six people on Phonedisc
- MILO LIM a person in Escondido CA
- MILT LIM possible nickname of two Milton Lims on Phonedisc
- MORT STROM possible nickname of two Morton Stroms on Phonedisc
- NEBELOW WOLEBEN a former resident of Marengo IL (Elsdon C. Smith, *Treasury of Name Lore*, 1967)
- NEIL LIEN a name reported by Michael Gartner in *Word Ways* November 1973 (page 250)
- NEL GLEN possible nickname of Nelson Glen of Longview TX
- NELLA ALLEN heroine of Kathleen Winsor's *Wanderers Eastward, Wanderers West*, 1965
- NELL ALLEN the name of seven people on Phonedisc
- NORABEL LEBARON a name reported in Richard Lederer, *Adventures of a Verbivore*, 1994
- NORA CARON a person in Lewiston ME
- NORMA DAMRON the name of two people on Phonedisc
- NORMAN NAMRON a person in Brooklyn NY
- OTTO OTTO the name of three people on Phonedisc
- OTTO STRAPPARTSOTTO pen name of a fictitious teacher of ancient languages, mentioned in a newspaper article by Hugh Mulligan (Boston Associated Press)
- OYO OYO former Nigerian member of the International Football Federation's executive committee
- RAE LEAR an individual on the New Zealand Electoral Rolls
- REDA NADER a person listed in the 1989 Los Angeles South telephone directory
- RELDAN NADLER the name of three people on Phonedisc
- REVA HAVER a person in Grand Rapids MI
- REVILO OLIVER a classics professor at the University of Illinois, Urbana, mentioned in Dmitri Borgmann's *Language on Vacation*, 1965
- ROBERT TREBOR pen name of American composer and author William Robert Seigenthaler (*American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers Biographical Dictionary*, 1980)
- ROGER GREGOR the name of three people on Phonedisc
- RONNOC CONNOR a person who once lived in Chicago (Elsdon C. Smith, *Treasury of Name Lore*, 1967)
- SARAH HARAS a person in Pawtucket RI
- SIRRAH HARRIS an infant mentioned in the *Indianapolis Star* of August 15 1987 (*Word Ways* November 1987, page 215)
- STEVE EVETS the name of three people on Phonedisc
- STEVEN NEVETS fictitious name on an office door in a cartoon run by the *New Yorker* in the spring of 1982
- SYDNEY YENDYS pseudonym of English poet Sydney Dobell, 1824-74 (*Webster's Second Edition*)
- TIM SMIT a person in Wellman IA
- WALTER FRETLOW pseudonym for Peter Newby, *Word Ways* author
- WALT LAW assumed nickname of various Walter Laws on Phonedisc