

The year in review and a look ahead to 2006

January

- After a four-month wait, the Fort Worth Development Department approved the plans for renovating our property at 2260 College Avenue, to become known as "Read House." Contractors immediately started work. A photographic history of the renovation work can be seen online at: www.time-binding.org/RH-photos/index.htm
- Four silent 16-mm films found in the IGS archives were converted to digital format, including: 1) film from the 1948 seminar-workshop that features Alfred Korzybski, Dr. Douglas Kelley, and others; 2) film taken by Ken Keyes of Korzybski at the Institute in Chicago in 1944; 3) film of Korzybski and Charlotte Schuchardt taken at Keyes' home in 1947; and 4) film from the 1961 seminar-workshop at Santa Barbara, California.
- Six educational films in the "Know What I Mean?" series, produced by Northern Virginia Educational Television in the early 1970s, were also converted to digital format.
- The microfiche archives of the Institute, consisting of 59 rolls of microfiche with almost 40,000 individual pages, were converted to computer-based image files.
- The Institute's Message Board began operating with an initial user base of about 40 registered members. We end the year with more than 230.

February

- Eleven of the IGS book titles, including all of Korzybski's works, were registered into the new Google Print program, making them assessable through the new Google book search program.
- The first of four quarterly commentaries by IGS Executive Director Steve Stockdale was published in the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*. (www.ThisIsNotThat.com/published.html)

March

- IGS sponsored an exhibit booth at the 2005 "Entrepreneur Expo" trade show at the Fort Worth Convention Center, sponsored by the Women's Business Assistance Center.
- IGS also sponsored an exhibit booth at the annual convention of the National Science

Teachers Association in Dallas, attended by an estimated 10,000 teachers.

April

- IGS and the New York Society for General Semantics (NYSGS) co-sponsored a successful weekend in New York City for the 53rd Alfred Korzybski Memorial Lecture (AKML) and Colloquium. Anthropologist Robert L. Carneiro, Ph.D., from the American Museum of Natural History presented the lecture after the attendees enjoyed dinner at the Ocean Grill. Dr. Carneiro's lecture was titled, "From Autonomous Villages to the State: An Irresistible Trend in the Grand Sweep of Human History." The following day's colloquium addressed the topic "Envisioning the Emerging Future." [See pages 14-21]
- Former International Society for General Semantics Executive Director and current Editor of *ETC: A Review of General Semantics*, Paul D. Johnston, received the 2005 J. Talbot Winchell Award as part of the AKML activities.
- Three new Trustees were elected during the quarterly IGS Board meeting: Phil Ardery from Louisville, Kentucky; Nora Miller from Tucson, Arizona; and Jackie Rudig from Wauwautosa, Wisconsin.
- IGS Member Lou Iacobelli presented a program on general semantics at the Ontario Association of Students At Risk Conference in Toronto, under the title, "Don't Go Crazy in the Alternative Classroom."
- Books, files and teaching materials from the Thomas E. Nelson Estate were shipped from Connecticut to Fort Worth. Tom, a former science teacher and long-time IGS Trustee, died in 2004 and left a significant amount of educational materials which the Institute obtained through agreement with his daughter, Molly Nelson Haber.

May

- IGS office mailed out a special double issue of the *Time-Bindings* newsletter with

May (continued)

an insert recognizing everyone who had donated gifts to the Institute's *Building Our Time-Binding Legacy* capital campaign.

- Nora Miller and Ben Hauck accepted the very important volunteer roles of co-moderating the IGS online Message Board.
- The Institute's accounting firm began the financial audit for 2004.
- The originally-scheduled completion date for the Read House renovations was May 27th. However, due to a variety of construction, inspection and design issues, the completion would be delayed for another four months.

June

- Trustee Gregg Hoffmann was invited by the NYSGS to speak at the Media Ecology Association meeting in New York.
- Steve Stockdale represented IGS at the 2005 National Media Educators Conference in San Francisco.
- The IGS office hired Kristen Harford on a part-time basis to take over running the office as Administrative Manager.

July

- The Institute was mentioned on the National Public Radio's "Diane Rehm Show" when Ms. Rehm read an emailed question submitted by IGS Executive Director Steve Stockdale. The mention inspired an article that appears in the January 2006 issue of *ETC: A Review of General Semantics*, under the title, "Response Side Semantics."
- IGS and Alverno College in Milwaukee co-sponsored a most successful seminar-workshop which included a good mix of Alverno students and IGS members.
- Major progress on the Read House renovation work was made, but some setbacks were also experienced, including unanticipated electrical issues with the city and power provider and a burglary.

August

- King Features Syndicate columnist Charley Reese wrote about the Institute and general semantics in his August 3rd column, "The Ground is Right." Reese had

previously written about general semantics in December 2004, and later mentioned GS in a November 2005 column.

- IGS received the first installment of Dr. Sanford I. Berman's \$200,000 pledge to the capital campaign. His generous gift will provide for the Irving J. Lee Seminar Center in Read House and will also underwrite the Berman Scholars Program.
- IGS conducted the first Trustee Orientation weekend in Fort Worth, with new Trustees Phil Ardery, Nora Miller and Jackie Rudig joining Board President Andrea Johnson and Executive Director Steve Stockdale for two days of training and orientation.
- Steve Stockdale began teaching his Special Problems in Communications: General Semantics class at Texas Christian University. [See page 28]

September

- The city of Fort Worth approved a temporary certificate of occupancy for Read House on September 15th, just 8 days before the Read House Dedication activities were scheduled. All of the Institute's books, archives, office equipment and files were moved and made ready for the September 23rd reception.
- Read House was officially dedicated during a banquet and program on the evening of September 24th. [See page 1] Highlights included fond remembrances of Charlotte Schuchardt Read and Allen Walker Read by IGS Trustee Susan Kodish and her husband, former IGS Trustee, Bruce Kodish.
- The IGS Board of Trustees elected two new Honorary Trustees, Sanford I. Berman, Ph.D., and Harry E. Maynard, in recognition of their many contributions to the organization and general semantics. The Board also posthumously named three stalwart teachers of general semantics and former Trustees as Fellows of the Institute — Kenneth G. Johnson, Stuart A. Mayper, and Robert P. Pula.
- IGS Trustee Martin Levinson and his wife, Katherine Liepe-Levinson, offered a well-received free workshop to Fort Worth area teachers based on their work in "Overcoming Student Alienation" in conjunction with the Read House Dedication.
- The Institute's financial audit for 2004 was completed by the Fort Worth accounting firm

of Sanford, Baumeister, and Frazier, with no discrepancies or issues.

October

- The Teaching Conference on General Semantics which had been planned for Las Vegas was unfortunately canceled due to low registration.
- The IGS office staff began to gradually settle into Read House, unpacking and organizing materials that were finally consolidated from three different storage areas.

November

- The printing house Cushing-Malloy provided blue line proofs for the 3rd printing of the 5th Edition of *Science and Sanity*. The new printing will be available in January, with the only changes consisting of updated logo and contact information for the IGS office in Fort Worth.
- Distribution agreements for IGS publications, primarily *ETC: A Review of General Semantics*, were updated and agreed to with EBSCO Publishing, Thomson Gale, ProQuest Information and Learning Systems, and the Copyright Clearance Center.
- The Institute announced that three graduate students will share the first Berman Scholar Award, beginning January 2006. Jane Arrowsmith, Erica Gann, and Cristina Martinez were each introduced to general semantics in Steve Stockdale's course at TCU. [See page 30]
- Andrea Johnson, Gregg Hoffmann and his wife Pauline, and Steve Stockdale represented the Institute in Pittsburgh at the 2005 annual convention for the National Council of Teachers of English.

December

- The IGS Board of Trustees in its annual meeting approved the Annual Operating Plan for 2006 and re-elected the current officers to another one-year term.
- IGS member and designated representative for Europe, Vanessa Biard-Schaeffer, presented a program in general semantics in Paris, France, at Pôles Universitaires to sixty interested professionals and students. Her program included background information about Alfred Korzybski and general

semantics as well as examples of formulations covering language and behavioral reactions. She also introduced the audience to the Institute, which is planning to conduct a series of seminars in Europe next summer.

- Read House was finally granted a 'permanent' occupancy permit by the city of Fort Worth after completing all inspection requirements, including a facilities inspection required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Looking Ahead to 2006

Now that the Read House renovations and moving issues have been completed, the Institute staff will settle in and get down to work in 2006. Among the key plans:

- G The first Berman Scholars will begin their studies and work in January.
- G The Institute has scheduled three evening seminars at Read House for 2006, as well as a weekend seminar and a 5-day seminar-workshop in the summer.
- G Preliminary discussions have been held for a weekend seminar in San Diego next fall, and two or three two-day seminars in Europe in the summer.
- G The Institute will host the 13th International Conference on General Semantics on October 27-28 in Arlington, TX. The theme will focus on "Making Sense."
- G The 54th Alfred Korzybski Memorial Lecture will be held in conjunction with the conference on October 28th and will feature Dr. Renee Hobbs, a founder of the Alliance for a Media Literate America and head of the Media Education Lab at Temple University.
- G The Institute will attend national trade shows, including the National Science Teachers Association in Anaheim in April and the National Council of Teachers of English in Nashville in November.

The IGS staff will continue to do all the things necessary to maintain the organization, sell books, process memberships, etc. We recognize that the financial support of members like you makes all of this possible. Thanks for your continued confidence, encouragement and support!