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President's Message

Dear Friends,

The Intersteno board and members started work early in the year, getting a head start on the program for the council and IPRS meetings in Istanbul, as well as the organization for the 2019 Cagliari congress.

Observing the enthusiasm of our board gives me great pride. The widening of the board with two young members gives confidence in the future. I think you will notice the benefits of the team’s work as you participate with Intersteno. Also the efforts of Patti Calabro are a valuable supplement to Intersteno.

So what is new and coming up for the year? E-flash is in your future. From time to time, you may receive an event reminder, a special info flash or info that just cannot wait for an e-news edition. Your group or member event qualifies, so you can contact our editors to create an e-flash.

The 16th edition of the International keyboarding championship by Internet takes place from April 23rd to May 9th. Registration will open March 19th and closes April 22nd. Can we top the 2015 registration number of 1811?

http://www.intersteno.org/intersteno-internet-contests/

Istanbul - October 10th through 12th – Board, Council, Scientific Committee, Jury and IPRS meetings. Final excursion will be October 13th. Our board member, Emrah Kuyumcu, has prepared a fine schedule and arrangements. Information about the program, the agenda of the IPRS meetings and the registration can be found in the following e-news.

And do we hint at next year? Yes, Cagliari! The board meeting and site review was very successful. Our good friend and Italian representative Francesca Marchionne hosted our group warmly and tirelessly. And speaking of tirelessly… Carlo Eugeni interpreted for the board every day. A very big thank-you to all! We will share congress plans as they develop. Be sure to view the press conference on the website!

I wish you a happy Spring season.

Rian Schwarz van Poppel
INTERSTENO president
April 22nd - deadline to register for the call keyboarding competition.

http://www.intersteno.org/intersteno-internet-contests

Last year’s winner, Mark Kislingbury, FAPR, RDR, CRR, of Houston, Texas, placed first in Intersteno’s Internet Keyboarding Competition, held April 17 through May 9, 2017, via its website, in the single language category. Kislingbury recorded a total of 9,200 strokes with only 15 errors total. The second-place winner made 7,357 strokes.

The keyboarding competition consists of writing by machine or typing by keyboard as many words as possible of a selection provided visually on the screen. As part of the format of the contest, the text is automatically entered into an online computer program, which matches the original text against what the competitor entered for scoring.

In the Seniors section, Tori Pittman, FAPR, RDR, CRI, of Wake Forest, N.C., placed 72, and Donna Linton, RMR, of Ashburn, Va., placed 84. The Seniors section includes any competitor over the age of 21. Pittman is also chair of NCRA’s Intersteno Task Force.

Source: NCRA May 22, 2017:

IPRS Report

IPRS will have 5 hours during the Istanbul meeting in October for education and information exchange. The times and dates are set; the presentation time slots are almost filled. But it is not too late to be a part of the IPRS program. Submit your topic to share in Istanbul. As usual, CE forms for those requesting continuing education credit will be available at the seminars.

Scientific Committee Report

The Communication project

Dr. Carlo Eugeni, Chairman of the Scientific Committee

Among the duties of the Scientific Committee announced after the Berlin Congress, the most urgent one was the design of a project to ease communication among all Intersteno members. Given the increasing number of new members from all around the world, the need for the use of English as the only language of communication has become more and more essential. However, not everybody is a proficient speaker of English and this may cause problems in
understanding the different points of view. Even the use of Google Translate has shown
clearly bad results. To try to find a way to overcome such difficulties, the Scientific Committee
has designed the Communication Project, coordinated by Carlo Eugeni and Allen Rotz.

The idea of the Communication Project is to allow people to optimize the good command
of their mother tongue by means of what is called Plain Language. Plain Language is a new
collection to facilitate communication used by the most successful organizations in the
United States. Initially, one may have difficulty writing or speaking in Plain Language.
However, people understand more quickly and easily, if they speak or write in Plain
Language. Once they have written a text in Plain Language, they can use Google Translate.
Studies conducted in the framework of the Communication project have demonstrated
that this solution can bring very satisfactory results. The reason is that Google Translate
makes many mistakes if people write without writing in Plain Language, while it makes a
good job if people write in Plain Language. In this article we illustrate the guidelines to
write in Plain Language. For more details about the Communication Project and examples
of its application, please read the article published in the journal Specializzazione of the
Italian Academy “Giuseppe Aliprandi – Flaviano Rodriguez” at www.accademia-aliprandi.it

Express one concept per paragraph

Try to communicate one thing at a time. Instead of:

- Giacomo, whom I know since ages, is a good friend who will come and visit me at my
parents’ house which is located in Umbria, where Ed Sheeran decided to live because he
thinks London is too chaotic.

prefer: Giacomo is a good friend of mine. I know him since we were boys. He will visit me
at my parents’ house. They live in Umbria, where Ed Sheeran decided to live, because he
thinks that London is too chaotic.

1 - Prefer short sentences (max one verb, if possible)

Prefer one verb per sentence. Instead of:

- Given that today it’s 40°C, the Mayor, after consulting the Council, decided to close
schools.

prefer: Today it’s 40°C. That is why the Mayor consulted the Council. They decided to
close schools.

2 - Use punctuation only to discriminate sentences

Use punctuation only when grammatically needed. Avoid semicolon which can be used
differently according to languages. Only use commas in the following grammatically
necessary cases:

a. LISTS OF ELEMENTS: I have eaten potatoes, onions, melons, and an ice-cream.

b. FRAGMENT CLAUSES: I have eaten a lot, because I was hungry, since I had not eaten
so much.

Avoid using commas in these other cases:

a. LISTS OF VERB GROUPS: I am a boy, do the cleaning, and go shopping.

In this case prefer: I am a boy. I do the cleaning. I go shopping.

b. PARENTHETICAL CLAUSES: James, who is funny, helped me a lot.

In this case prefer: James is funny. He helped me a lot.

c. SIGNAL SYNTACTICAL ODDITIES: Pizza, I ate it with John.

In this case prefer: I ate pizza with John.
3 - Use coherence whenever possible

Use coherence as much as you can. Instead of:
- Real-time transcriptions are mainly done through respeaking. Stenotyping is costly.
prefer: Real-time transcriptions are mainly done through respeaking because stenotyping is costly.

4 - Prefer linear syntax

Try to follow the most common word order, if it is possible: Subject, Verb, Object. Instead of:
- Pizza, with John I ate it, in London.
prefer: In London I ate pizza with John.

5 - Prefer active form

Avoid the passive form in plain language. Instead of:
- In France baguette and camembert are eaten a lot.
Prefer: In France they eat baguette and camembert a lot.

6 - Avoid using grammatical elements to recall a word

When you change the word order of a sentence, you need to use a grammatical element (usually a pronoun) to bridge the gap. Since this may be misunderstood, instead of:
- I met John yesterday, and he told me to go to Budapest together.
Prefer: I met John yesterday. John told me to go to Budapest together.

7 - Avoid ambiguous words and technicalities

Some words are ambiguous in many languages such as “make”, “do”, “thing”. Some words are ambiguous in only one language. Even technical terms can be ambiguous. So, prefer words in their more specific sense and not in the most used one. Prefer “shorthand” or “stenotyping” to “stenography”; “live subtitles” to “real-time subtitles”; and “speech recognition” to “voice recognition”.

8 - Avoid acronyms

Acronyms can be specific to a culture. Even within a restricted community (ex: Intersteno) people use different acronyms for the same concept (ex: ASR, CART, AT, CAT, STT). To avoid ambiguities, even in communication among colleagues, write all the words of an acronym when it is first used.

9 - Avoid colloquial or typically culture-oriented terms

Colloquial phrases or proverbs have a clear meaning in a language but are incomprehensible to people speaking another language. If you try to translate them with Google Translate, you will have problematic translations.

Similar to colloquialisms are words that have a multiple meaning. For example, “Demonstrate” can mean “to show how something works” or “to protest “. Only use words with one meaning.
Council & IPRS meetings in Istanbul

Intersteno Turkish Group (F-Keyboard and Information Processing Association) is ready to welcome the INTERSTENO Council and IPRS members to the Council and IPRS meeting in Istanbul, 10-13 October 2018.

Venue Holiday Inn Şişli Hotel, Halaskargazi Cad. 19 Mayıs Mah. No:206 34360 Şişli İstanbul. Tel.: +90 212 373 3800.

Program [The program may have tiny changes.]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>10th October 2018, Wednesday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Morning</td>
<td>Arrival of Board Members</td>
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<tr>
<td>All day</td>
<td>Arrival of all participants</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.00</td>
<td>Board Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>16.00</td>
<td>Jury Meeting / Scientific Comt. Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>18.00</td>
<td>Auditing Committee Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>20.00</td>
<td>Welcome Dinner</td>
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<tr>
<td>09.00</td>
<td>1. Council Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.30-15.30</td>
<td>1. IPRS Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>16.00-17.00</td>
<td>Palace/University Visit (Belirlenecek)</td>
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<td>17.00-19.00</td>
<td>Guided City Tour</td>
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<tr>
<td>19.00-20.30</td>
<td>Course Visit (tentative)</td>
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<td>Evening</td>
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<td>2. Council Meeting</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2. IPRS Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.30-17.30</td>
<td>3. Council Meeting</td>
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<td>20.00</td>
<td>Farewell Dinner</td>
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<th>13rd October 2018, Saturday</th>
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<tr>
<td>All day</td>
<td>All day excursion</td>
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Participation Fees

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Basic package (single room, 3 nights)</th>
<th>440,00 EUR</th>
<th>Extra night, single</th>
<th>80,00 EUR</th>
<th>Basic package (double room, 3 nights, 2 p.)</th>
<th>730,00 EUR</th>
<th>Extra night, double</th>
<th>100,00 EUR</th>
</tr>
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Optional excursion The Bosphorus Tour (13 October).................................................... 75,00 EUR

The basic package includes:

- 3 nights with breakfast in Holiday Inn, Sisli, Istanbul
- welcome dinner and 2 lunches at the hotel
- use of conference rooms and technical equipment the hotel
- coffee breaks
- guided city tour
- Gala dinner at a Turkish-Ottoman Cuisine Restaurant in Istanbul
- Use of parking garage at the hotel
- Use of fitness and wellness facilities at the hotel, as well as massage services, with booking at least 12 hours in advance
- tourist tax

Registrations and payments

Registrations will start in the next days, directly on the website of the Intersteno Turkish Group www.interstenoturk.org. We will also inform you on the Intersteno website as soon as possible.
News from Countries

Austria

Hello from Vienna!

As the new head of the reporting office of the Austrian Parliament, I would like to send warm regards to all IPRS-members all over the world!

If you happen to come to Vienna and find a huge building site where you thought to find our parliament, don’t worry: The Austrian Parliament, built at the end of the 19th century, has never undergone major renovation. (During a plenary sitting last year on a rainy day, water from a leaking roof dripped down next to the stenographers’ desk) Now time has come, and for three years the Austrian Parliament relocated to the grounds of the Hofburg, the former imperial palace. The reporting team was lucky: We moved to one of the oldest parts of the Hofburg that dates back to the 13th century – and we have very interesting new neighbours: the famous Lipizzaner horses. At times, discussions in our office are interrupted by a loud nickering … and when we open the windows to the courtyard, it sometimes smells as if we were on farm holidays!

We are looking forward to the next Intersteno congress and hope to see some of you soon! If you are in Vienna, don’t hesitate to drop by!

Best regards,
Bettina

The view from our office to the Lipizzaner horses
Belgium – Intersteno Belgium activities

INTERSTENO Belgium consists of the 2 Belgian associations that are involved also in the Intersteno international federation:

- ABW (Academie voor Bureauwetenschappen) in the northern part of Belgium, Flanders, dutch speaking.
- APSB – Association des Professeurs de Secrétariat-Bureautique in the southern part of Belgium, Wallonia, french speaking.

Both associations represent teachers in the field of keyboarding, ICT and technical secretarial skills.

From 2017-2019 INTERSTENO Belgium is represented in the INTERSTENO council by Ms. Agnes Coeckelberghs, treasurer of the ABW.

Activities on the international level 2017

With 43 registered participants on about 11 million inhabitants, Belgium was one of the best represented countries at the 51st INTERSTENO congress in Berlin. Belgium was very active in the organization of the Berlin congress, both in the organization committee and during the congress with a Belgian task force that worked in Berlin.

Also in the organization committee for the INTERSTENO congress 2019 in Cagliari, Belgium is represented twice. For the period 2017-2019, both Georgette Sante and Danny Devriendt were re-elected in the INTERSTENO-board in the function of respectively jury president and secretary-treasurer.

Activities on the local level 2017

ABW (Academie voor Bureauwetenschappen) – Flanders, Dutch speaking

Where the ABW started as association for teachers in shorthand and typewriting, we continuously had to adapt to the evolution in society and educational changes. Shorthand disappeared already about 30 years ago in secondary education and the learning of keyboarding is only left in commercial schools on a very/too limited level.

Next year a total reform of the secondary education will start in Flanders. Notwithstanding a lot of lobbying we fear that our subjects word processing and office skills (use of spreadsheet, databases) will melt away further and will be replaced by the use of social media with security and privacy issues, financial literacy, social welfare... The future of our association is not that bright since the interest in our topics is going down. Also the number of members is consequently decreasing.

We still have our digital revue, called e-Vaardige Vingers (4 times a year) with information on several subjects and practical exercises ready-to-use in the classes. Revue and files are accessible for our members through our website.

Further we have to face the problem that our board members are getting older and our younger board members are already very busy in a lot of fields, so the time they can spend to our association is limited.

We stopped our yearly seminar day, partially because of the workload, but also we face the decreasing interest. This decreasing interest is general in all schools and associations that organize that kind of education for teachers.

We work very well together with our Wallonian friends of APSB, but we face a linguistical barrier in exchanging information and also their educational system is (slightly) different.

On 18th November 2017 the ABW-association celebrated its 45 years of existence.
The comments concerning ABW (§ 1, 2, 4) are true for APSB in Wallonia as well. A reform of the secondary education is also on the way, typewriting is less and less taught, word processing and office skills are now often entrusted to teachers, who are not specialists, and sometimes ignore the exceptional possibilities offered by actual software’s.

In APSB, the most active CA-members are retired but the association goes on organizing, each year, Interschool championships in two disciplines. The first in word processing (only at the level "Use of elementary functions"), students no longer move to a competition-venue, but the jury goes to the school adapting to the specific requirement of the school. The second competition concerns typing-speed and accuracy. Since 2005, we use the Italian TAKI-software. For this competition as well, competitors participate in their classroom. We offer exercises in French and in 5 foreign languages: Dutch, English, German, Spanish and Italian. These championships are followed by an official price giving ceremony and valuable gifts are distributed to the best results. In 2017, Jean-Claude Marcourt (Minister of Higher Education, research and Media) has honoured us with his presence.
Hungary – New year, new leadership

At the end of last year in Hungarian Association (Magyar Gyorsírók és Gépírók Országos Szövetsége, in short Magyosz) was a vote, there they chose a new leadership for the next four years. Formerly was a presidency and a council, but now it’s just a presidency with 5 members (1 president and 4 presidency members). The president is Anna Jakabné Zubály, the members are Judit Árvayné Dani, Bernadett Berencsi, Anita Dobos, Krisztina Kollárikné Terjéki. Bernadett and Anita are also the Hungarian representatives in Intersteno. The members are in Magyosz e.g. schools, students, teachers, individual members.

The main activities are e.g. competitions in Hungary (twice a year). In the spring for students (it’s named Aladár Teöreök, who was a really good and excellent talent in shorthand, but unfortunately he died very young). In the autumn it’s competition also for adults (it’s named Kálmán Kalotay Dr., who was former president of the Hungarian Association and unfortunately he died in year 2015, just in few months before Budapest congress). Among the activities are also to promote of shorthand and 10-finger-typing, education, contact with teachers, representation, interest protection in profession. Many thanks to the kind invitations of every year from Helena and Jaroslav Zaviačič and Marlis and Leo Kulb, we can also take part in Olomouc and in Vienna on international youth competitions. Our competitors take part of course also by Intersteno Internet Contest, many thanks to our really good colleague, Henriett Marton, who helps us a lot in organization. And the best motivation of our competitors is of course Intersteno congress and world championship; it is a peak of our activities. The Hungarian groups are on Intersteno congresses relatively big, we delegate every two years about 25-30 participants.

We are ready also in the future to cooperate with everyone, with our dear colleagues and friends in Intersteno, because the interest of Intersteno is for us also high priority.

We wish to everyone all the best!

Bernadett Berencsi, Anita Dobos
Intersteno Hungary

Korea - Opening ceremony of ‘Stenography Museum’

successfully held, exhibiting traces in history of Korean stenography

Stenography museum opened where we can view history of stenography at a glance from its very beginning in Rome in BC 63, manually typed stenography and computer stenography and finally to smart stenography today.
Opening ceremony of ‘Korea Stenography Museum’ was held at Korea Smart Steno Association on December 12th, 2017.

The event was splendidly held with sixty participants including members of National Assembly, local council, principals of smart CAS stenography academies across the country, chief officers of Japan Stenographer Association, CEO of stenography enterprise for captioned broadcast, faculty member and students of smart stenography department at Bucheon University and the Association’s executives and staff members.

Usba Dakeshi, the Japanese stenographer coming for celebrating Stenography Museum opening, said “Stenography business in Korea and Japan has grown up together hand in hand and let’s keep up the cooperation in the future.”

Ahn Gicheol, the director of Korea Stenography Association, stated “All the participating stenographers would feel proud for the Stenography Museum.” And he also promised “National Assembly will provide as much support as possible with historical data on stenographer.”

Han Jeongseok, the president of Bucheon University, sent a congratulatory message read by Lee Dongwuk, the dean of smart stenography department and it said “Congratulations on meaningful opening of Stenography Museum and I hope the museum to be a place where anyone can freely visit, experience and enjoy stenography and feel what stenographer is about.”

Then there were gift presentation by the director of Japan Stenographer Association and the president of Proceeding Research Institute and donation of proceedings by transitional legislative members and materials for national assembly stenographer training school. Tape cutting, museum trip and banquet followed afterward.

Stenography Museum in 15 square meters encompasses major events in chronological order, stenography equipment, stenography data from other countries including US, China, Japan and Intersteno and materials for captioned broadcast as well.
It displays a comprehensive collection of materials and equipment throughout 24 years from the year of 1994 when the computer stenography equipment was launched and to today’s smart stenography.

Jeong Sangdeok, the director of Stenography Museum, is giving explanations on exhibition.

Key members in the field of Korean stenography are taking pictures after Stenography Museum opening ceremony.

Congratulatory message of Intersteno translated to Korean and presented at the event

Congratulatory message of Beijing Stenography Association translated to Korean and presented at the event
Poland – Interinfo Polska Keyboard Challenge

Written by: Teresa Wawrzynek – President of Interinfo Polska

Competing is always interesting, no matter the field. It is very important for people taking part in it, to find out who is better. Sometimes they do not even realize they upgrade their skills by preparing and taking part in the particular competition.

Competing in touch typing is also exciting. Especially for those, who used to take part in such a rivalry. I used to compete, on the beginning as a real participant, then as a participants teacher, or coach, as I like to say.

From the beginning, that means for already over 20 years I observe, how changes the touch typing skill level in Poland during competitions. Such a rivalry is nothing new. Before it was fast and accurate typing on typewriters. In this field we have great examples to follow, because what else can you say about a typist, who wrote a complete text without any single mistake, without even a possibility to correct one? It is a great example.

In Poland we have great typing traditions and we do our best to recreate this tradition in modern way. This is why results of our competitors are still better and better. Competitions organized on various levels are very good tests. The most important is organized every 2nd year Polish Championship. We also organize an internet contest called Interinfo Polska Keyboard Challenge. At the end of 2017 already 5th edition took place. Every edition has different way of conducting the competition. This year every participant had to write for 4 weeks, 1 text weekly. No one was allowed to skip any text, because the final result was the sum of points from all 4 rounds. From the very 1st edition of this competition we observe a skill upgrade of participants, but what is maybe even more important, also the will to participate is bigger and bigger. In creating such a competition are involved members of our association.
Last year a new competition and training platform was created. Thanks to new, user-friendly interface, easy registration and very clear participants list and classification results, we attracted many new pupils, students and seniors from whole Poland. Thanks to new promotion strategy we managed to gather over 430 participants. Having such a great number of people wanting to compare their skills with others, makes easier to find bigger group of young people with great chances for becoming future champions.

I am really happy because of involvement of many people in this competition: on one site we have got young members of our association who made a huge effort to reach with the information about the contest almost all school headmasters in Poland, on the other site we have great number of teachers, who motivated their pupils to take part in such a competition. For many of those students it was a very first time. In the future, the same teachers are going to motivate those students not only to participate, but also to practice and achieving better results. This goes in the line with main goal of our association: to make as many people learning touch typing as possible. My heart grows, when I see the progress.

Turkey - New participation record to Turkish National Internet Contest with a 33% growth [28.02.2018]

Since the participation record of latest (12th) competition, Turkish Internet Keyboarding Competition got a new participation record again for the participation to the 13th Turkish Internet Keyboarding Competition on 2018.

At the beginning of ever year it is organized by Intersteno-Turk with the participation of college, high school, elementary and even primary school students from all around Turkey, as well as interested individual seniors. Year by year it is getting more popular and more attractive by college and high school students and also especially by young professionals of court reporters from all around the country.

Also, for the last 2 years, it’s held as the name of “Ihsan Yener Keyboarding Competition”. This year the competition was organized between 2nd - 22nd January 2018 with an exceptionnal participation, totally 115 persons from 253 schools and from 61 cities - a new national record. These participation numbers are 33% more than the previous year’s record.

The names of Turkish champions in each category are shown below.

Mother Tongue: Oğuz Berkay Yiğiter (77wpm - Pupils), Mehmetcan Karadeniz (103wpm - Students), Semanur Gönül (127wpm - Juniors), Celal Aşkın (158wpm - Seniors).

Multilingual: Mete Kağan Altun (15 languages - Pupils), Ahmet Yasin Akmeşe (16 languages - Students), Cengizhan Özal (11 languages - Juniors), Celal Aşkın (16 languages, Seniors).

Celal Aşkın has also broken the new national record in mother tongue with 158 words/min.
Board and Organization Committee in Cagliari

The friendly Hostel Marina.

Interviewing the musicians for the anthem

Members of the organization team meet with the director of Hostel Marina to discuss housing arrangements for groups.

The press conference

Vice president Russell Page, on behalf of Intersteno, accepts a welcome gift from the president of the Cagliari council.
## Event Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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| March 19-April 22, 2018 | Registration open for Intersteno internet/keyboarding competition  
|                     | [http://www.intersteno.org/intersteno-internet-contests/ for more details]         |
| April 23 – May 9, 2018  | Intersteno internet keyboarding competition                                       |
|                     | [http://www.intersteno.org/intersteno-internet-contests/ for more details]         |
| May 12, 2018         | 150-year Stenografenbund Germany (Thuringen, Germany)                             |
| June 27-30, 2018     | NVRA annual convention (Myrtle Beach, SC)                                          |
| August 2-5, 2018     | NCRA annual convention (New Orleans, LA)                                           |
| October 10-12, 2018  | Intersteno Council Meeting - Istanbul                                              |
| October 27, 2018     | 50 year Wiener Urkunde (Vienna, Austria)                                           |
| July 13-19, 2019     | 52nd Intersteno Congress – Cagliari                                               |

*This newsletter is published under the responsibility of the Board of the International Federation for Information and Communication Processing - Intersteno - and sent to all e-mail addresses of persons participating in the work of the members of Intersteno known to the Board. Contributions to the newsletter can be sent using the form on the web site. Publication will take place at the discretion of the Board. Text with signatures cannot reflect the official position of the Board of Intersteno, but only that of the authors.*

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