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Presidents message



My dear Intersteno Friends,

First of all, this e-news focuses on the Internet Keyboarding Competition 2021, a report written by Geert Bonte.

Attention is also paid to a book about Franz Xaver Gabelsberger, who has meant a lot in the field of shorthand. The book is written by Horst Pinsker. Danny Devriendt, our Secretary Treasurer, has two copies of the book, which he is happy to make available to an interested reader. First come, first served! The book is written in German language. Mail to marlenerijkse@intersteno.org.

There are also contributions from our loyal contributors Anita Dobos and Víctor González. I cordially invite the readers of the e-news to contribute to the next e-news. Now that we haven't seen each other for so long, it's extra important that we share information about things related to matters Intersteno stands for.

Also in this e-news message I cannot avoid reflecting on the state of affairs of the pandemic, partly with a view to the possibility of meeting at the council meeting in Bordeaux next October. In many countries, measures are being relaxed, but in other countries they are being tightened again. Based on the current situation, a council meeting in Bordeaux is not possible. Fortunately, we have had good experiences with a council meeting online, but that is second best.

The following e-news will appear in October. The deadline for submitting articles and activities for the Event Calendar for the October e-news is the 21st of September (to be sent to – please note, other email address – marlenerijkse@intersteno.org).

I wish you all an agreeable holiday time in own country or abroad with proof of vaccination or negative test.

Rian Schwarz van Poppel
Intersteno president

2021 Internet Keyboarding Competition

By Geert Bonte

This year, the Internet Keyboarding Competition was held from March 15th till May 12th. What is striking this year is the relatively small number of participants compared to previous years. The 2021 competition was attended by 841 typists from 20 countries. That may seem a lot, but it is the lowest number of the past 16 years. In the peak years, from 2013 to 2016, the number of participants was more than twice as high!

Since last year's competition was exceptionally free, it was somewhat to be expected that there would be fewer candidates this year than last year, but so much less was a surprise. On the other hand, the average number of languages per participant has never been higher than this year. All typists together completed a total of 2,774 different tests, an average of 3.30 per participant!

This year the competition featured a few novelties. To begin with, a limit was imposed on the number of languages in which you can participate. Although there are currently 17 available languages, each participant is allowed to participate in a maximum of only 16. This limitation came about because otherwise the Japanese participants would actually be favored. After all, most participants from Japan can type all Western languages quite smoothly, but no Westerner manages to type Japanese (kanji characters). As a result, in previous years (except in 2020 when there was no Japanese text available) the best Japanese typists were able to participate in as many as 17 languages and were therefore more likely to achieve a higher overall score than the best non-Japanese typists with only 16 languages. But this new rule could not prevent that the best typist of 2021 came once again from Japan. Takayuki **Nakayama** won this year's competition with 82,144 points. Nakayama previously won the competition three years in a row (in 2017, 2018 and 2019), and became second last year.

Another novelty was the addition of a new language: Serbian, in both a Cyrillic and a Latin variant. Serbian is not actually a completely new language: both Serbian and Croatian are two variants of Serbo-Croatian. Croatian has been available since 2007. Competing in Serbian or in Croatian will automatically exclude you from competing in the other. But more important is the fact that you can now choose from not one but two languages in the Cyrillic alphabet (the other language being Russian). A total of 24 participants chose to type in Serbian; 16 of them used the Latin alphabet and 8 used the Cyrillic alphabet.

Just as last year, the Czech Republic and Turkey are the countries providing the highest number of participants with 177 (21.05%) and 164 (19.50%) typists respectively. Somewhat strangely, the country with the largest population, the United States, is represented by only one participant: Sean **Wrona**, who won the mother tongue competition with an astonishing speed of 797 strokes per minute. Wrona has now won this competition a total of 7 times, an unparalleled achievement!

Second and third place on the senior classification list for mother tongue are Andrea **Farsi** from Italy and Erdi **Çiller** from Turkey. Last year, Farsi was still a junior. Mete **Özen** from Turkey is in first place on the junior list, closely followed by Jonáš **Vala** from the Czech Republic and Massimiliano **Polilli** from Italy.

The multilingual competition was won by Takayuki **Nakayama** from Japan, followed by Andrea **Farsi** and Koki **Tanaka**. Somewhat surprisingly, we only find Sean Wrona in 13th place in the senior multilingual list. But Wrona had started the competition quite late this year and could only complete in 11 languages instead of his usual 15. The multilingual classification list of the juniors is headed by Jonáš **Vala**, with a very large lead on numbers two (Martin **Kozáček**) and three (Sebastian **Pospiech**).

A young age is not a handicap when it comes to typing. This was demonstrated once again by Utsuke **Kihara**, Nisan Maya **Tunçoğlu** and Adéla **Klementová**, who became 1st, 2nd and 3rd, respectively, in the category pupils (multilingual). Added together, these kids achieved a total score of 178,288 points, which is higher than the combined total of the top three juniors (165,003 points)!

The full classification lists can be viewed on the Intersteno website:

<https://www.intersteno.org/intersteno-internet-contests/classification-lists/>



About one of the Hungarian competitors of the future

By Anita Dobos

Since the founding of the Hungarian Association (Magyar Gyorsírók és Gépírók Országos Szövetsége) the issue of competition has always been at the center of its activities. Previously competitions were held only for shorthand, later also for text production and text correction.

For the first time, two decades ago, our Association organized a national competition for shorthand, text production and text correction for students (for students only, for those who have just started learning). Hundreds of students from more than 50 schools competed. There were two rounds of the competition at the time and the best competitors took part in the final competition.

There was still a lot of interest from schools, so the Association also held a national student competition the following year. The competition was named after Aladár Teöreök (1894-1917), who was an excellent stenographer and competitor. Unfortunately, he passed away very young.

This year the competition was held online in April. Unfortunately, the impact of the pandemic was also seen here (in previous years more students competed)...

Of the 154 text production competition work, 142 were successful, of which 66 were flawless.

A very young talent also took part in this competition. She is 12-year-old Hanna **Szalavetz**, who achieved really excellent results! She got 1st place in the first national text production competition of her life! Here is a short interview that will help you get to know our new Hungarian competitor.

Where do you study?

I study in Budapest and I attend the Budapesti Fazekas Mihály Gyakorló Általános Iskola és Gimnázium. This school is one of the best schools in Budapest. My favorite teacher is Erzsébet Alanyai, who teaches English as a private teacher and has made me realize that one can grow up to the tasks and that one is capable of doing more than one think one can. My whole life is happening in front of a computer (at least I had to spend a lot of time in front of the computer, e.g. during online education due to the pandemic), so I decided to be as good as possible in typing.

How did you come into contact with typing?

As the school requires more and more, I had to learn to type fast, much faster than thunder, which strikes here and there. My parents tried to find me a typing teacher for a long time and finally they got extremely lucky as they met Krisztina Kollárikné Terjéki (who is also a member of the Hungarian Association's presidency). Although in terms of her qualifications, she is not a teacher, but to me she is the best typing teacher! She has won numerous typing competitions in Hungary and I am proud that she is my 'teacher'!

Would you share some thoughts about your first competition?

When I became skillful enough in typing, Kriszti suggested that I take part in a competition. At first I was like 'That's sounds like a good idea' but then before the competition I got extremely nervous, which blocked me a lot, but I believe I can get over it.

How did you practice?

Every day and on weekends, too. Usually I listen to music during my typing exercises because it makes me relax and I can concentrate more on it.

What is your goal in the future?

As a competitor of MAGYOSZ, I would like to participate in as many national and international competitions as possible. To do this I will need persistent work, strong will and lots of practice. I would like to thank Kriszti for her training and I hope we will continue to achieve good results together.

Hopefully we will meet in the coming years at Intersteno congresses and world championships as well!

Good luck, Hanna! 😊



Her first national (online) competition



Hanna's competition controllers without a mask

Gabelsberger, pioneer in the history of shorthand

(Presstext)

From "windy writers" to parliamentary stenographers:

"Very briefly: Franz Xaver Gabelsberger and shorthand"

"One of the noblest and best of the Bavarian people" - Sudden death in 1849 in Munich's Theatinerstraße

Out of love for home and work, the workshop for black art was founded in 2009 in the ancestral home of the Pinsker family. This is in Mainburg on Gabelsbergerstraße directly opposite the house where Thomas Gabelsberger was born, the grandfather of the ingenious inventor of a shorthand system, Franz Xaver Gabelsberger (born February 9, 1789 in Munich).

As the author and at the same time the publisher Horst Pinsker writes in his introduction, it has now taken more than 60 years before he correctly realized what a fascinating man came from this house.

Now he has made a book out of it: "Very briefly: Franz Xaver Gabelsberger and shorthand". With the help of selected sources, quotes and letters with his students, Horst Pinsker proves in this bibliophile booklet that the bust of the great master rightly stands in the Hall of Fame on Munich's Theresienwiese. Because there he is "one of the noblest and best of the Bavarian people". At that time there was only talk of men. That women, too, could earn a lasting contribution to humanity was unthinkable at the time!

Readers learn about Gabelsberger's childhood in poor circumstances, his happy marriage, the painful loss of his son, the fate of his early retirement, many applications that could not be "accepted", the exceptionally positive relationship with students and much more.

The story of the inventor is embedded in the reality of life in the Kingdom of Bavaria at the beginning of the 19th century. After many attempts, Gabelsberger was able to further develop his invention with the support of Kings Max I, Joseph and Ludwig I, and a brilliant report by Johann Andreas Schmeller in 1829 brought the breakthrough.

The "windy writers" has become the highly recognized profession of parliamentary stenographer - both in the state assemblies in Bavaria from 1827 and today in the state parliaments in the Bundesrat and Bundestag. Based on the shorthand system of Marcus Tullius Tiro, a slave of Cicero, Horst Pinsker traces the path from shorthand to German unified shorthand. There is also a crash course to familiarize non-stenographers with the system.

Gabelsberger's roots in Mainburg also have a special place in this book, from the master baker's family, from which three mayors emerged, to the "warm money rain" through the "Lower Bavarian inheritance" to the grammar school that bears his name and the Gabelsberg pharmacy.

And Horst Pinsker can also report on a great party in 1927 - the unveiling of the memorial plaque at the main building at Gabelsbergerstrasse 12 (at that time it was still possible to celebrate!).

It is true that the gods had put sweat before success with Franz Xaver Gabelsberger too - economic success and recognition for the height of his invention almost never reached him. A blow hit him on January 4, 1849 on the way to the post office in Munich's Theatinerstraße, where the Hypo-Kulturstiftung's art gallery is today.

The honors, indeed the veneration, took place mainly posthumously - but these were very extensive and above all very moving. There are touching obituaries, stenographers' associations that sprung up

in all countries, Gabelsberger monuments that have been erected and a Gabelsbergerstrasse has been dedicated in many cities, and commemorative publications that have been published for the anniversaries.

The "master" was not only highly recognized for his groundbreaking invention, but also loved and valued as a self-sacrificing family man, humble civil servant and loving teacher. "He was just as distant from pride in success as complaining of failure," writes J. G. Schwäbl in his memoirs.

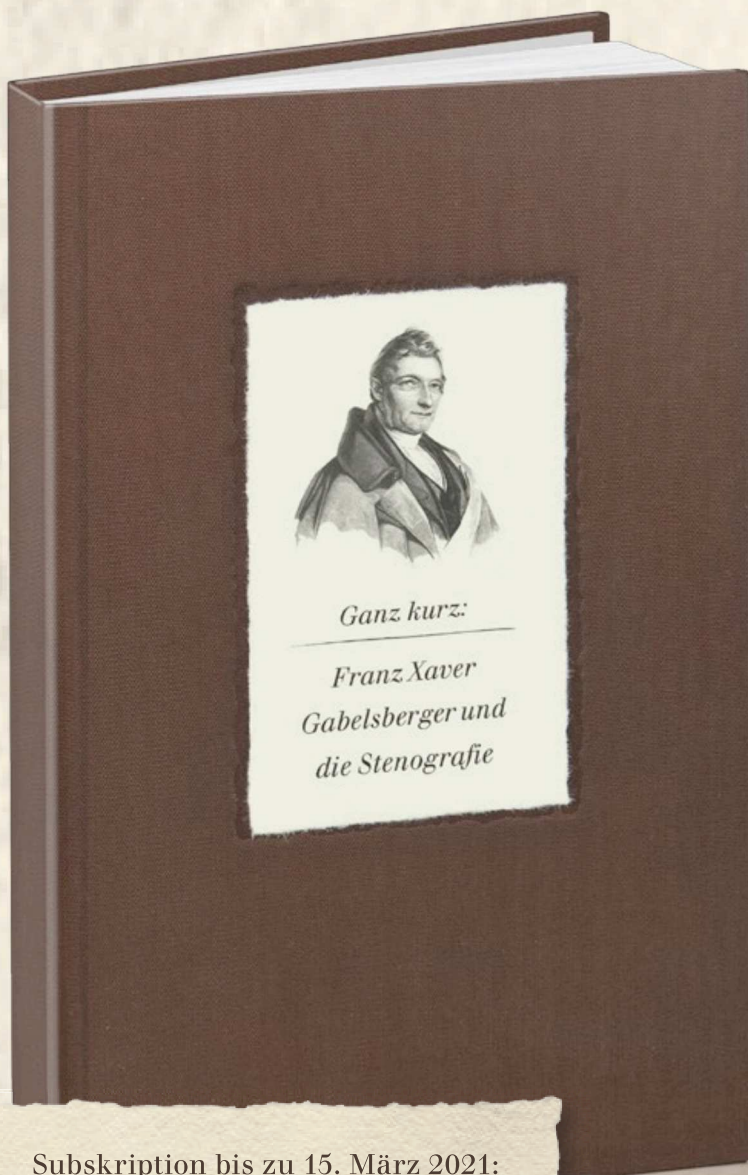
The friendly relationship Gabelsberger had with the inventor of lithography and stone printing, Alois Senefelder, naturally interested printing technician Horst Pinsker in particular. He describes the genesis of the textbook, which was finally ennobled as a "shorthand Bible" and takes the reader on a short journey through time to the lithographic workshop of the 1830s.

The Werkstatt für Schwarze Kunst has also packed a lot of high-quality details into this homage to its "almost neighbor": the classicist font matching Gabelsberger's lifetime, a reader-friendly make-up, really good typography, the silky fabric tape with two handmade paper cards glued into the book cover, noble Paper from the handmade paper factory Gmund am Tegernsee, a resealable banderole with the "Thron_Rede SKM v. Bavaria (...) on November 17, 1827 "and much more. - just as the master deserves.

Horst Pinsker's little book with lovingly researched facts is both very interesting and amusing, e.g. with the curious story about the inauguration of the Gabelsberger monument, with a smart anecdote from the Bundestag, and the master also passed on a nice "bedtime story"!



*Vom Singknaben im Stimmbruch
bis zu den Parlaments-Stenografen:*



Subskription bis zu 15. März 2021:

16,00 EUR

Lieferung frei Haus Deutschland

Man begrüßte ihn mit „Herr Sekretär“, seine Schüler nannten ihn „Meister“, er sagte zu seinen Schülern „Jünger“ – Franz Xaver Gabelsberger war „einer der Edelsten und Besten des Bayerischen Volkes“.

Neben der interessanten und bewegenden Geschichte von FXG überrascht Horst Pinsker seine Leser*innen mit amüsanten und tragischen Szenen im Leben des „Geheimen Kanzlisten“.

Verkaufspreis im Buchhandel:

18,90 EUR*

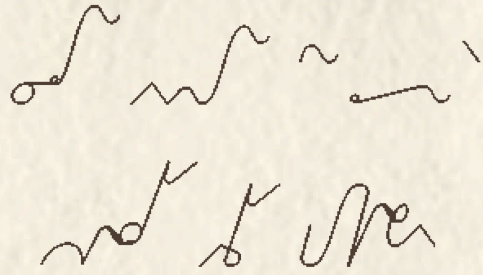
- Hardcover-Buch in Fadenheftung und seidigem Gewebe
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** Jahr der Aufstellung des Gabelsberger-Denkmal*

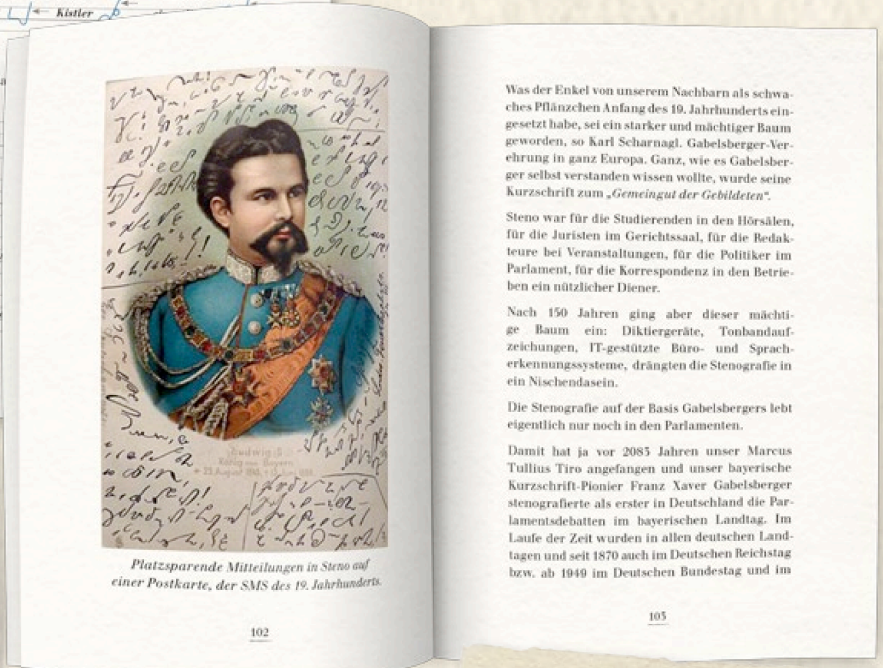
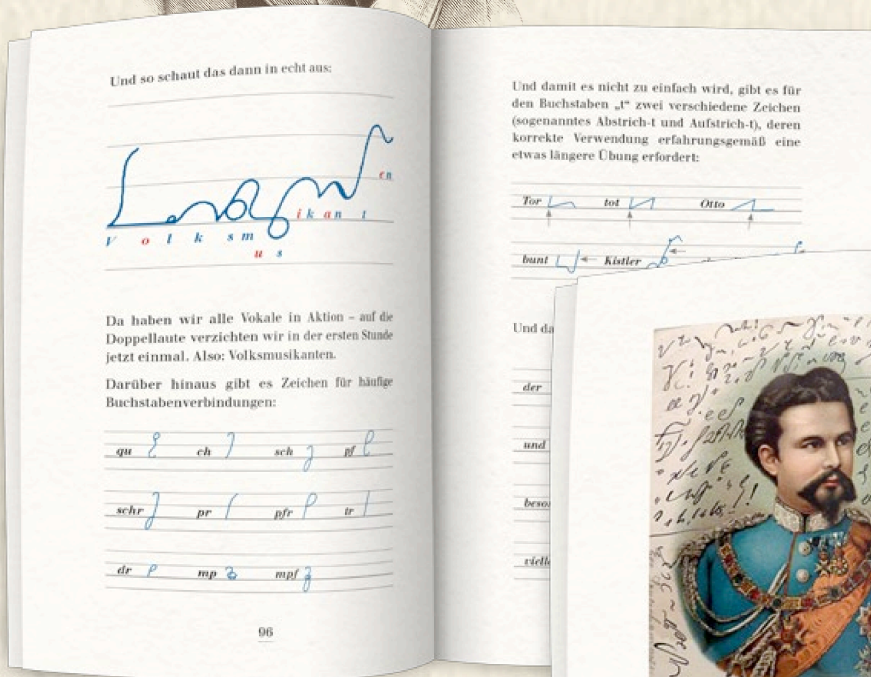


Werkstatt für Schwarze Kunst

seit 1879



„Selten ernten den Lohn der Künste erste Begründer!“



Tiro war eigentlich Ciceros Sklave, diente ihm aber als Sekretär und er entwickelte eine altrömische Kurzschrift, die man später „Tironische Noten“ nannte. ... Berühmt geworden ist dabei die Aufzeichnung der Rede Ciceros gegen Catilina vom 5. Dezember 63 vor Christus. Cicero schenkte seinem Sklaven aus Dankbarkeit die Freiheit.

Es folgte ein endloser Reigen von Kranzniederlegungen am Fuße des Monuments und vernünftigerweise verzichteten viele Vereine auf weitere Grußworte, weil die Festgäste mehr und mehr dem Sonnenbrand und dem Hitzschlag zu erliegen drohten.

Seine Frau Fanni erzählt über ihren Mann:

„... Da stand ich auf und fand meinen Mann noch wach, nötigte ihn zur Ruhe, und, wie er sich umdrehte – sah er das Glas, da fiel ihm ein, dass er um 8 Uhr Durst gehabt hatte. Vor lauter Arbeit hatte er den anfänglichen Durst vergessen.“

Unser lang geschmähter Franz Xaver Gabelsberger nahm die Predigt zu dieser Feier stenografisch auf, schrieb sie auf Stein, druckte den Inhalt der ganzen Predigt im Steindruck und überreichte sie persönlich dem König – nach 47 Minuten!

Bundestagspräsident Dr. Wolfgang Schäuble musste eingreifen und seine „Fürsorgepflicht gegenüber den Stenografen“ einbringen.

Leseproben

Meeting between the AAPT and the Deliberative Council of Córdoba City

By Victor González

The AAPT met with Mr. Miguel Correa, current legislative secretary of the Deliberative Council of Córdoba City, who has a Diploma in Parliamentary Law and Legislative Technique (Universidad Siglo 21), a Diploma in Municipal Law (Universidad Siglo 21), and a Diploma in Public Management (Universidad Católica de Córdoba).

The secretary mentioned his point of view about the Covid-19 impact on the areas of the Deliberative Council. He remarked the Council's change of political sign in December 2019 and the subsequent pandemic a few months later; therefore, there has been a change involving the adaptation process of the Council's new authorities and the workforce, but also a big change caused by the pandemic — as a consequence of isolation and social distancing, staff could not continue working within building of the city council of Córdoba.

In the first months, the number of persons working in the Deliberative Council was largely reduced because there were personnel with pre-existing diseases and people with disabilities, so that only a minimum portion of the staff remained working to cover the different areas of the job. Moreover, a Zoom platform was adopted for all committee meetings and plenary meetings where only the authorities, all councilors and stenographers were virtually present.

Both the administrative and legislative areas were affected. This includes the work of the stenographers' team, composed of six stenographers and a proofreader, who, faced with this reality, had to adopt the teleworking system.

For all meetings of the Deliberative Council, a protocol was drawn up for entry and stay in the building with strict rules to control the health condition of each person participating in these meetings. Gradually, a blended system was adopted by councilors, in accordance with rules and regulations.

Regarding digital transformation, the pandemic caused the implementation of new technological tools. An alert was triggered regarding the parliamentary council's operation, due to the lack of a virtual access to information. Faced with this new reality, new tools were enabled so that each councilor as well as legislative and operative officials could remotely access the information of each area and thus carry out their work properly.

Based on the decision of the vice-mayor Daniel Passerini to carry out digital management of legislative issues in its execution plan, and, with the collaboration of the IT department, a cultural change took place, including digital signature and virtual submission and tracing of bills.

As for the stenographers' work, the challenge was to change the place of work — instead of working in the meeting hall, they quickly had to adapt to work through the Zoom platform. Despite this distance, stenographers could still work together with the legislative secretary to carry out all the changes. Of all the meetings to date, there were no problems of any kind, including connectivity, and the shorthand transcripts have been carried out perfectly and submitted to councilors through the public network of the Deliberative Council.

Regarding the council accessibility, this is a great personal challenge for Vice-mayor Daniel Passerini because during his administration the Disability Committee was created, which decided that all meetings should be broadcasted through YouTube with sign language. Moreover, a bill was submitted so that all meetings are subtitled.

Therefore, despite the pandemic, the deliberative council had a greater workload compared to past years and other parliaments. There is still a greater challenge ahead of updating the legislative systems and making the Council's website accessible to all citizens of Córdoba.

