

# netla news

TRANSLATORS ASSOCIATION

Volume IV, No. 12

Fall 2002

A quarterly publication of the New England Translators Association

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*plus, membership form on page 7 – If you've already renewed, pass it on to a friend!*

## Tough Times for Judicial Interpreters

by Jaime Fatás, Judicial Interpreter

In March 2002, the Honorable Barbara Dortch-Okara, Chief Justice for Administration and Management (CJAM), met with judiciary interpreters to explain the effects that drastic cuts approved by the House would have on the Administrative Office of the Trial Court (AOTC) budget. An immediate result was that the operational budget for the Office of Court Interpreter Services (OCIS) had been substantially reduced. The CJAM tried to reassure interpreters, restating her personal commitment to interpreter services. She asked interpreters to bear with the AOTC during the crisis and to propose ideas to streamline interpreter services. A few days later, a large group of interpreters submitted a document with ideas and a request to address long-standing issues. The AOTC has still not responded.

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## A Jog Through the Juniper:

### A Translator's Unhappy Excursion into the Copyright Thicket

by Anne Milano Appel and Carol J. Marshall

The following excerpts are reprinted from the article published in the July 2002 issue of The ATA Chronicle, with the kind permission of The ATA Chronicle and the authors.

### An Aerial View

Here, then, are a few things you should know about U.S. copyright law. This brief overview is by no means a complete discussion of this complex area of the law. I urge you to consult with your own attorney about any issue mentioned here, especially as it concerns your own particular situation. Intellectual property rights can be economically and emotionally valuable to their owners. The consequences of a haphazard and ill-informed approach to copyright protection can be costly.

If you are concerned about the expense associated with legal services, your lawyer may direct you to many fine publications, websites, and arts organizations where you can begin to educate yourself about your legal rights with your lawyer's guidance. The following will start you off with an aerial view of that juniper thicket in which Anne and Giovanni found themselves:

- The United States Copyright Act protects "original works of authorship fixed in any tangible medium of expression." It does not protect disembodied ideas.
- A copyright is actually a bundle of individual rights, such as the right to reproduce the work, the right to perform the work, and so forth.
- The entire bundle of rights or any one right from an author's bundle of copyrights can be transferred to another. An author may even grant another person permission to use one of his rights in a nonexclusive or limited way if he does not want to fully transfer that right.
- The right to create a derivative work is one of the bundle of rights, or any one right, held by the original author. Therefore, permission of the underlying author is required to create a derivative work.
- A "derivative work" is the term the Copyright Act gives to a work based on one or more pre-existing works.
- A translation is a derivative work. This is clearly stated in the Copyright Act.
- The creation of a derivative work (here, the translation), if that work satisfies the requirement of originality and is not itself an infringing work, will result in a separate copyright.

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## NETA Officers

### PRESIDENT

vacant

### VICE PRESIDENT

Diana Rhudick  
[drhudick@attbi.com](mailto:drhudick@attbi.com)

### SECRETARY

vacant

### TREASURER

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## NETA Programs

For the latest update, visit  
our website: [NETAweb.org](http://NETAweb.org).

**Monthly Meetings to be held 6:45 - 9:00 pm  
at a wonderful, new location:**

**The Scandinavian Living Center**  
206 Waltham Street,  
West Newton, MA  
617-527-6566

read more about  
our great new  
meeting place  
on page 9  
of this issue!

**Mark your calendar:**

2002: *October 7 November 4*

2003: *January 6 February 3 March 3 April 7*

**Topics to be announced.**

## Contributions to NETA News welcomed!

NETA accepts contributions of articles and other suitable material for future issues. Send your contributions to [NetaEditor@yahoo.com](mailto:NetaEditor@yahoo.com). We welcome information on interpreting issues, dictionary and software/hardware reviews, annotated translations, articles on translation and translator-related issues, articles on translation approaches in different fields, legal and regulatory issues faced by translators, translation as a business, dealing with translation agencies, and more. Remember: you do not need to be a scholar to share information with other NETAns.

### NETA News

Volume IV, No. 12

Fall 2002

**NETA News** is a quarterly publication of the New England Translators Association. The opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and not necessarily those of NETA. We reserve the right to refuse submissions.

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#### Submissions

Submissions are welcomed. Articles are subject to editing for grammar, punctuation, and space limitations; a proof will be sent to you for review. Suggested maximum length: articles, 1000 words; reviews, 500 words; letters, 300 words.

Schedule of deadlines: spring issue, Feb. 15; summer issue, May 15; fall issue, Aug. 15; winter issue, Nov. 15.

Please submit to [NetaEditor@yahoo.com](mailto:NetaEditor@yahoo.com).

#### Reprint Permission

Requests for permission to reprint articles should be sent to [NetaEditor@yahoo.com](mailto:NetaEditor@yahoo.com).

#### Delivery

NETA News online edition available at <http://www.NETAweb.org>. NETA News print edition is mailed to all NETA members.

#### Change of Address:

If you find that the information on the mailing labels is inaccurate or if you just moved, please send updates to [s.meek@verizon.net](mailto:s.meek@verizon.net).

**NETA Website:** <http://www.NETAweb.org/>

Webmaster: Ginger Kuenzel  
[ghkuenzel@cs.com](mailto:ghkuenzel@cs.com)

#### NETA Forum:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NETA/>  
To post messages to the entire group:  
[NETA@yahoogroups.com](mailto:NETA@yahoogroups.com)

**Membership information:** NETA accepts individual members only. A one-year membership costs \$30 and runs September 1– August 31. Renewals are now due! Contact Sherri Meek: [s.meek@verizon.net](mailto:s.meek@verizon.net) for more information. A membership application form is included in this issue of the NETA News. Subscription to this newsletter is included with membership.

## June 29, 2002 Board of Directors Meeting

by Diana Rhudick

- 1) Minutes will be made available to membership through NETA News. Anyone wishing to read the full minutes may contact the secretary for a copy.
- 2) Judy Lyons and Isabel Leonard to form a new Program Committee, which will assign someone from the group and the Board to attend monthly meetings and introduce speakers. The committee will take care of publicity/announcements, refreshment coordinating, and ensuring the venue is available.
- 3) Julia Bartlett will devote her energies to organizing one-time-event workshops.
- 4) New venue for monthly NETA meetings: The Scandinavian Living Center, 206 Waltham St., West Newton, MA 02465 (tel: 617-527-6566)
- 5) Dates for 2002-2003 NETA meetings: Sept. 9, Oct. 7, Nov. 4, Jan. 6, Feb. 3, March 3, April 7. No snow dates were set. Note that this year, we plan to have our last meeting in April and the Conference in May.
- 6) Vacant Positions: President, Secretary, Conference committee chair.
- 7) Bylaws can now be found on NETA's website. Please send Diana Rhudick any changes you would like to make to them.
- 8) The incorporation process is stalled; we are in the process of finding another accountant so we will be able reconstruct our financial information as required for incorporation.
- 9) Renting our mailing list to selected companies: After some debate, the consensus was that we will not do so at this time.
- 10) The website redesign committee is being led by Julia Bartlett who has 2 volunteers working with her.
- 11) Membership card: Diana Rhudick to consult with a graphic design professional to incorporate the logo.
- 12) The next Board of Directors meeting will be on Saturday, Oct. 19, 10AM, at the home of Sherri Meek in Newton. Please confirm attendance.

## Letter from the Vice President

Dear Netans,

You may have noticed a slight change to the title of this column. That is because we are currently without a president! Terry Coe filled that role quite capably last year, but he is unable to repeat the performance this year. I have agreed to continue as NETA's vice president, but our organization really needs a president. The commitment in this position is not so much the time involved, but the brain power. In order to grow and delve into new and exciting areas, NETA needs someone with that "vision thing" who can chart a course for us, then delegate the work to everyone else. And there is, in fact, a group of seven devoted board members, as well as ad hoc volunteers within the organization who can help. I am writing this quick letter in the hope that one of you will be brave enough to consider being the new NETA president for one year. If you would like to volunteer yourself or another member who would fit the bill, please contact any one of the Board members as soon as possible. Please see contact information on page 2 of this newsletter.

Sincerely,

Diana Rhudick

P.S. Unfortunately, NETA also needs a secretary and a committee chairman for our annual conference. The board will entertain any and all ideas you may have.

### NETA Budget

According to Suzanne Owen, NETA's treasurer, our balance is currently \$16,343, which is a significant increase over what it has been the last couple of years, thanks to many new members as well as the NETA Fair.

## An Interview with Kenneth Kronenberg

by Rudy Heller

*Ken Kronenberg is a member of the Board of Directors and former NETA President*

RH: You were President of NETA during four very eventful years for the organization [1997–2001]. What do you think were your greatest accomplishments?

KK: Well, when I started, NETA had about 35 or 40 members and only \$400 to \$500 in the bank. We now have more than 250 members and about \$16,000 in assets. You know, when I joined, it took well over half a year for my membership check to be cashed!

RH: So you recognized that there was a problem.

KK: (*laughing*) Yes! I knew that there was something amiss. I sort of joined because I was translating, and I hadn't been doing it for very long. I joined and then, somehow or other, I ended up at a steering committee meeting with Joan Sax, and Joan asked me to...

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## Tough Times for Judicial Interpreters

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In June, in an effort coordinated by Ernest Winsor, from the Massachusetts Law Reform Institute, freelance interpreters formed a coalition with more than 20 legal organizations (including Greater Boston Legal Services, the American Civil Liberties Union, Massachusetts Association of Hispanic Attorneys, and others) to persuade key legislators to pass a supplementary appropriation for interpreters and to give the CJAM authority through the end of this fiscal year to move money around from one account to another, in order to preserve vital functions, especially interpreter services. Thanks to the joint effort of the AOTC and the coalition of interpreters and legal organizations, the Trial Court was able to retain funding for 7 permanent positions approved last year (6 Spanish; 1 Portuguese) at a time when hundreds of court employees were being laid off. Sadly, several approved improvements (more administrative staff; new office space; a resource center for interpreters; training) had to be cancelled.

Unfortunately, these efforts have not been enough and the Trial Court has begun to scale down interpreter services. After streamlining and eliminating waste wherever feasible, OCIS began to make more difficult and painful cuts. Courts that received all-day coverage now receive morning coverage only; courts that had an interpreter 5 days a week now have one only one or two days; District Attorney's victim and witness advocate units and Committees of Public Counseling Services can no longer rely on OCIS for certified interpreters. Team interpreting in trials is no longer an option. OCIS does not offer translation and transcript services any longer. Judiciary interpreters are receiving fewer assignments; some of these are being compensated at a reduced rate. Interpreters, attorneys and individuals with limited English proficiency –the later mostly from minorities at the bottom of the social ladder– bear the brunt of the cuts. This is particularly worrisome at a time when demand for interpreter services has skyrocketed (according to the AOTC's statistics, OCIS has grown from 7,500 cases in 1997 to 52,500 in 2001).

To make things worse, judiciary interpreters have not been compensated for services rendered in July and August, due to bureaucratic shuffling. This is the third substantial delay in payment in the last 16 months.

Whether a certified or accredited interpreter in the Massachusetts Trial Court, interpreters are mis-classified as independent contractors: interpreters have a long-term relationship with the courts in which they work; they work at courthouses on a work schedule established by the court and under the control and supervision of judges and other court personnel; and they are paid on a per diem basis at rates set unilaterally by the Trial Court. Interpreters are therefore 'de facto' employees –what the IRS would term employees– and not independent contractors. But

**Unlike other court employees, judiciary interpreters are a marginalized group with no benefits, no job protection, no workers' compensation insurance, no unemployment insurance ... and, most importantly, no access to collective bargaining.**

unlike other court employees, judiciary interpreters are a marginalized group with no benefits, no job protection, no workers' compensation insurance, no unemployment insurance or protection from discrimination, no input into certification standards and implementation and, most importantly, no access to collective bargaining. Interpreters do not have direct representation at the bargaining table or anywhere else in the system.

Judiciary interpreters have had only one pay raise in 16 years. In times of crisis, interpreters have endured crushing cuts that do not amount to an equitable

distribution of resources. Without adequate compensation and representation many interpreters are experiencing hardships and looking for work elsewhere, depleting the ranks of experienced members.

Judiciary interpreters are highly-trained officers of the court who perform a vital function to guarantee equal rights and equal access to justice for victims and defendants with limited English proficiency. Many courts can't function adequately without them.

The Chief Justice for Administration says that interpreters are important to the Trial Court. But by failing to give judiciary interpreters the same rights that employees have, by denying us representation, and refusing to observe professional etiquette, the AOTC is not backing these words with deeds. In this poor state of affairs the Trial Court's relationship with its interpreters is getting worse and its commitment to providing equal access and equal rights for people with limited English proficiency is at stake.

## Did you know...?

### September 30th is International Translation Day

On September 30, 1991, the Fédération internationale des traducteurs (FIT), designated that day as International Translation Day, marking the anniversary of the death of St. Jerome, Patron Saint of translators, librarians, scripture scholars, students, and interpreters. Every September 30, the Translator Interpreter Hall of Fame honors individuals for being “outstanding practitioners of the art of translating and interpreting.”

See the article on page 9 of this issue about St. Jerome.

## Upcoming Events

### Wordsmith Richard Lederer to speak

by Diana Rhudick

As part of the Pubsnet Documentation and Training conference [see listing below], Richard Lederer is giving a 1/2 day seminar called “Conan the Grammarian” on October 9 at the BU Corporate Education Center in Tyngsboro, MA. Lederer, Usage Editor of *The Random House Webster’s Unabridged Dictionary*, is a real wordsmith who’ll be talking about a common-sense approach to grammar and usage, as well as taking questions about all matters linguistic. Check out his website: <http://pw1.netcom.com/~rlederer/> (“...for wordaholics, logolepts, and verbivores. Carnivores eat meat; herbivores eat plants and vegetables; verbivores devour words.”) For info on October 9, phone: 978-649-8555 or visit <http://doctrain.com/postcon.htm>. The cost is \$129 and includes lunch and a copy of his book *The Write Way*. I’m quite jealous of anyone who can make it; please tell us about it in Neta News!

### October 25 and 26, 2002 at Cambridge College Cambridge, Massachusetts: “Unheard Voices”

### Massachusetts Medical Interpreters Association 6th Annual National Conference

Keynote Speaker: Jessie de la Cruz

Featured Speaker: Dr. David Werner

#### Conference Objectives

- Examine the role of culture in the bilingual medical interview
- Increase the understanding of diverse cultural/linguistic minority groups
- Build the healthcare provider/interpreter team
- Develop practical skills for the interpreter
- Enhance awareness of all stakeholder issues throughout health care systems

*The Conference will be held in two separate venues this year to accommodate the growing number of attendees: Christian Life Center and Cambridge College. All workshops will take place on Saturday, and will be held at Cambridge College, 1000 Massachusetts Avenue.*

*For further conference information, contact Joy Connell at 617-626-8133 or email at: [joy.connell@dmh.state.ma.us](mailto:joy.connell@dmh.state.ma.us) or Tyrone Gonsalves at 617-727-8146 or [tyrone.gonsalves@dmh.state.ma.us](mailto:tyrone.gonsalves@dmh.state.ma.us)*

WHAT	WHEN	WHERE	CONTACT INFORMATION
Documentation & Training Conference: <i>Tools, technologies and processes (Oct 7 Job Fair)</i>	October 7 - 9	BU Corp. Ed Center, Tyngsboro, MA	<a href="http://www.doctrain.com/index.htm">http://www.doctrain.com/index.htm</a>
Association of Machine Translation in the Americas (AMTA): <i>From Research to Real Users</i>	October 8 - 12	Tiburon, CA	<a href="http://www.amtaweb.org/AMTA2002">http://www.amtaweb.org/AMTA2002</a>
American Literary Translators Association (ALTA)	October 17 - 19	Chicago, IL	<a href="http://www.utdallas.edu/research/cts/alta.htm">http://www.utdallas.edu/research/cts/alta.htm</a>
XML and Localization; Localization Project Management	October 21 - 22	Seattle, WA	<a href="http://www.localizationinstitute.com/">http://www.localizationinstitute.com/</a>
MMIA: 6th Annual National Conference on Medical Interpreting: “Unheard Voices”	October 25 - 26	Cambridge, MA	<a href="http://www.mmia.org">http://www.mmia.org</a>
The LISA Forum Europe: Standards in Localization and translation	November 4 - 7	Heidelberg, Germany	<a href="http://www.lisa.org/events/2002europe/">http://www.lisa.org/events/2002europe/</a>
43rd Annual Conference of the American Translators Association	November 6-9	Atlanta, GA	<a href="mailto:conference@atanet.org">conference@atanet.org</a>
Symposium on Social Communication: <i>Center of Applied Linguistics of Santiago de Cuba</i>	January 2003 20 - 24	Santiago de Cuba, Cuba	<a href="http://parlevink.cs.utwente.nl/Cuba/english.html">http://parlevink.cs.utwente.nl/Cuba/english.html</a>

## An Interview with Kenneth Kronenberg

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RH: To be the president?

KK: (*Laughing*) No, no, no, she asked me that a few days later! They were discussing something on a chart, and she asked me to go up to the chart and lead the discussion. So I did that, and sometime later, she called and asked whether I would—and I hadn't been to anything else, mind you—asked me if I would be the president. I went “gulp” and—Well how did I feel about it? It seemed to me, I mean, I was looking for something. And the question in my mind was: if I were to do this it would probably change my life. And was I prepared to do that? To have my life changed in that way. I became fascinated by what would that look like, what would a more public face look like? After two or three days, I called her and said, “Yes, I'll do it.”

The idea of building something appealed to me. It's not that I had any idea particularly of what I was going to do. At that time in my life it seemed like a good thing to do, a good direction for me to be going in. And it was sort of providential that she asked me, because that pushed me in a certain direction.

RH: Let's get back to that uncashed check.

KK: Well. I hope that sort of thing doesn't happen too often any more. It's very important to let members know that they are being taken care of and that they matter. Here's an example. Someone contacted me a few years ago to complain that he was a member but was not on the NETA Web site. I forwarded his e-mail to Ginger [*NETA's Webmaster*], and within an hour she had e-mailed him the template—and had cc'd me.

RH: Pretty quick action!

KK: That's right, and that's going to make a difference to that person. That person is going to come out of that experience knowing that there are people taking care of business. That is very, very important.

So that was something that I constantly tried to foster. I sent Ginger an e-mail of appreciation. This makes a difference. And that's very different from when my check didn't get cashed for more than six months. What Ginger did creates glue.

RH: Glue?

KK: Yes. The natural tendency of everything is to come apart, decline, run into the ground. It takes a tremendous amount of concentrated energy to build something, and the way you do it is by organizing situations or creating “institutions” that promote cohesion or glue, social glue.

RH: How much time did you spend on NETA?

KK: I'd say that I probably averaged about two hours a day, because I tried to realize every idea I came up with. But I want to get back to the glue. In early 1997, before I became president, I set up a separate page on my own Web site where I put members' names and their specialties, their languages, their qualifications, and their e-mail addresses, etc. Everybody wanted to be part of this web site. And I created an e-mail list. People sent me their information and that became the first “institution” that I built within NETA.

Then, once I was president I made sure there were monthly meetings that were actually about something that might be of use to translators. I used the e-mail list to publicize the meetings, and later I started the OneList [*now Yahoo!*] group. All of a sudden, all those e-mail addresses that I'd collected were connected.

In a way I arrived at the right time. The Internet really did a lot of organizing for me. Whatever I did I tried to figure out how that new thing could come into conversation with, or play off of the other things that were being built. And of course, you have to get to know people, draw them in, encourage them. That's what I mean by creating glue.

RH: Can you give another example?

KK: Another thing was the job ops—that was another thing that fit into this idea of the various things playing off of each other. Because, say, you have a list—what are you going to do with the list? The job ops were a magnet that attracted a lot of people into NETA. And you know what? I didn't understand that when I started it. I didn't think of that. It just happened. It was an aha! experience for me. As an idea it simply made sense, even though I didn't understand the implications.

RH: It created cohesion. Glue.

KK: It was a glue, yes. That's what it turned into.

RH: Did everything happen the way you expected it to when you were getting into it?

KK: I certainly didn't have a master plan. I basically made it up as I went along. I basically went “Hmmm, this sounds interesting,” I can

**Whatever I did, I tried to figure out how that new thing could come into conversation with, or play off of the other things that were being built.**

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## New England Translators Association

2002-2003 Individual Membership

### Important instructions – Please read!

*Print legibly! Fill in completely, even if your information has not changed. We are updating the database and want complete information. Also, if you wish to update your NETA web site listing, contact webmaster Ginger Kuenzel directly ([ghkuenzel@cs.com](mailto:ghkuenzel@cs.com)).*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ I wish to participate in the NETA job ops/discussion list \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ I wish to be listed on the NETA Website \_\_\_\_\_

City/State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (W) \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (H) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle and note below as appropriate:      Translator      Interpreter      Both

Source Languages (Please list all):

\_\_\_\_\_

Target Languages (Please list all):

\_\_\_\_\_

Specialties: (medicine, law, business, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Education/Experience:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Accreditation w/ language pairs:

ATA \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Memberships:

ATA \_\_\_\_\_ NETA \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**IMPORTANT:** Do you have a particular area of expertise that would lend itself to a presentation, workshop, or lecture? Can you recommend people who have such expertise? or topics that you would like NETA to cover?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I would like to help NETA with:

Newsletter \_\_\_\_\_ Program planning \_\_\_\_\_ Membership \_\_\_\_\_ Annual Exhibition & Conference \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send a check (payable to "NETA") for dues in the amount of \$30 (\$20 for full-time students) to:**

**Sherri Meek, NETA, 21 Gardner St., Newton, MA 02458**

*Don't forget to renew your NETA membership by sending in the membership form that appears on the previous page along with the \$30 membership fee to:*

**NETA**  
**c/o Sherri Meek**  
**21 Gardner Street**  
**Newton, MA 02458**

**Note: Full-time students pay only \$20. Send proof of student status along with check.**

*Feel free to use the space below to express your thoughts on how NETA can better meet your needs in the future and what you feel you could contribute to the organization. Thank you!*

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## More About NETA's New Meeting Place

Dear NETAns,

The Scandinavian Living Center is NETA's new meeting place for this year. The SLC is not only for the elderly of Scandinavian descent. The SLC embraces Scandinavian principles of living and welcomes people of all national origins. Here is a quote from the Scandinavian Living Center's case statement to give you a better idea about their vision and what they are trying to achieve for quality of life for their residents and the community at large:

"The proposed Scandinavian Living Center is designed to be a conduit and showcase of the latest innovations in Scandinavian elder care derived from on-site research while reflecting the philosophies of the sponsoring organizations. The Scandinavian approach to elder care can be summarized in four basic concepts:

- 1) Maintaining one's residential reality – being surrounded by one's own furniture and prized possessions within a setting to which a person is accustomed;
- 2) Maintaining one's lifestyle and dignity – what one can do for oneself and one's interests;
- 3) Maintaining one's autonomy – empowering individuals to take responsibility for themselves and their decisions;
- 4) Maintaining active community involvement – participating in cultural activities, pursuing hobbies and group projects with volunteers and visitors.

The facilities depicted and described are designed to empower each resident to take responsibility for his/her life and actions to the extent feasible. The cultural program will act as a catalyst for the residents' active community involvement. The administration and staff of the Scandinavian Living Center are imbued with a philosophy supportive of these concepts as reflected in the operation policies. All elements are thus available to propel our senior living model into the 21st century."

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Otherwise, I'll be looking for your membership renewal in the mail :)

Best wishes,  
Sherri Meek

## St. Jerome, Patron Saint of Translators

by R. Michael Conner [info@rmconner.com](mailto:info@rmconner.com)

*This article has been reprinted, with permission, from the Translator Interpreter Hall of Fame website, <http://www.tihof.org/tihof.htm>.*

Eusebius Hieronymus Sophronius, better known as Jerome, was born sometime between 340 and 347 AD in Stridon, a town on the border between the Roman provinces of Dalmatia and Pannonia (now on the Italian side of the modern Italian-Croatian border). He received a classical education and was tutored in Rome by the grammarian Donatus. At age eighteen he was baptized in Rome by Pope Liberius. He was well read in the Pagan poets and writers, but not as interested in Christian literature at that time.

Jerome traveled extensively throughout the Roman Empire. He began formal theological studies in Trier. He moved to Aquileia in 370, where he met St. Valerian. About 373 he headed to the East. From 374 to 379 Jerome led an ascetic life in the desert southwest of Antioch. During this period, he heard Apollinaris of Laodicea, a leading Bible scholar, who later left the Church. In 379, he was ordained a priest at Antioch by St. Paulinus.

Jerome went to Constantinople about 380 to study scripture under St. Gregory Nazianzus. In 382, he returned to Rome where he became secretary to Pope Damasus, who suggested that he revise the translations of the Gospels and the Psalms.

When Damasus died in 384, Jerome had to leave Rome because his outspoken, often harsh criticism of Roman society created enemies. His travels returned him to Antioch, then to Alexandria, and finally to Bethlehem in 386, where he settled in a monastery. There he translated the Old and New Testaments into Latin. This translation was recognized eleven centuries later by the Council of Trent as the official version of the Bible: the Vulgate.

In 410, Rome came under attack by the barbarian Alaric, creating numerous refugees who sought safety in the Holy Land. In the interest of providing for them Jerome wrote, "I have put aside all my study to help them. Now we must translate the words of Scripture into deeds, and instead of speaking holy words we must do them."

Jerome died at Bethlehem from a long illness on September 30, 420. He is buried at St. Mary Major in Rome.

Jerome's work fell into five main categories: biblical analysis, theological debate, history, correspondence and, of course, translation.

His earliest translation subjects (379-81) included the homilies of Origen on Jeremias, Ezechiel, and Isaias and the Chronicle of Eusebius. But he earned his place in history mainly from his translations and revisions of the Bible. Originally he believed the Septuagint—a translation of the Hebrew scriptures into Greek several centuries B.C.E.—to be divinely inspired. However, his continuing study of Hebrew and discussions with rabbis convinced him that only the original text was inspired. This led to his decision to undertake a new translation of the Old Testament.

This new translation drew chiefly upon Hebrew texts in current use, whereas the Septuagint was translated from an older

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## A Jog Through the Juniper

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- Because of the nature of translation, every sizeable translation is entitled to its own copyright.
- The copyright on any derivative work covers only those elements original to the derivative work. In translation, because the underlying work is pervasive in the derivative work, and the original matter cannot be easily separated from the pre-existing matter, this can be a tricky principle to apply.
- A transfer of copyright ownership (not including nonexclusive licenses), other than by operation of law, whether by the original author to the translator or by the translator back to original author or publisher, requires a writing signed by the owner of the copyright for the transfer to have validity under copyright law.
- If the contract between the original author and translator specifies that the derivative work is a work-for-hire in exchange for a fee, the original author owns the copyright on the translation.
- Otherwise, absent a writing to the contrary, the translator owns the copyright on what is original to the translation.
- Where the translator owns the copyright, rights extend only to the translation and not to the original work.
- Just as copyrights in original works have a lifespan, so do transfers. The law provides that the transferor can terminate the rights of the transferee after a specified period of time.

### A Better Map

A clearly written contract between the original author and the translator can provide a detailed map and well-defined path. Indeed, with enough foresight, the parties can plan their own detour around any potential pitfalls. A few things to keep in mind:

- The rights and obligations of the author of the underlying work and the author of the translation may best be determined by a clearly written contract between them.
- No matter what your personal feelings might be about lawyers, think about consulting one before the fact, rather than after. The task of drafting a contract which clearly expresses the intentions of the parties and covers all the important points should ideally be handled by a legal professional.
- If it is the intention of the parties that the translator own the copyright in the translation, the agreement should specify what use the original author may make of the translation, if any. Because the translation and the original work are so inextricably entwined, the contract should also spell out in detail the translator's rights.
- A potential publisher will probably expect to see a clear chain of ownership of the rights in which it has interest and may seek to establish, among other things: that the pre-existing work was original and fixed in tangible form, and that the author of the underlying work truly owned the copyright to the original work; that he had the right to transfer all or a portion of his rights to others; that no previous transfers of the subject right occurred; and that the transfer of the right to create a derivative work to the translator was clear and exclusive (or, that it was documented as a work-for-hire).
- While not absolutely necessary, it would be wise to follow formalities: original signatures on real paper rather than electronic contracts (although the law now covers that possibility), notarized transfer documents, and Copyright Office registrations and records of transfers. At the very least, creating a clear record puts third parties on notice.

- Other legal requirements and conflict of law issues may come into play where citizens of different nations or U.S. states are involved (contract law and statutory writing requirements, for instance, may differ from state to state). There may also be issues with regard to jurisdiction and venue should a problem arise between parties in different locations. Parties may be able to agree up front to such things as choice of law, proper jurisdiction, appropriate venue, and alternative dispute resolution procedures (such as mediation) to reduce the likelihood of additional hassles should they come into conflict in the future over the subject matter of their written contract.

The joint objective of the parties should be to clearly document a fair, legal, and workable arrangement at the outset. Each deal is different, involving parties with unique motivations and agendas. That is why the written contract is important ...to avoid misunderstandings, lawsuits, bruised egos, economic losses...all lurking in that juniper thicket and ready to ensnare some unsuspecting author or translator.

*Disclaimer: This article is not intended to constitute legal advice to the reader. ... Readers are urged to consult their own lawyers with regard to any matter discussed herein or any particular legal question they may have. - Editor*

### St. Jerome

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Hebrew version, presumably more authentic. Modern critics cite this neglect of the older text as a short-coming, especially compared to the general excellence of Jerome's translation work.

Jerome's humility regarding his own work set a good example for translators who followed him. He freely admitted ignorance, even embarrassment, when warranted, and revisited some of his translations, making corrections and additions. On the other hand, he also pointed out that a translation's accuracy depended greatly on the reliability of the source text: copyists often inadvertently introduced errors, which would be compounded and passed down through the centuries.

## NETA would like to welcome our new members:

Note: If language information is missing, please send an e-mail to [s.meek@verizon.net](mailto:s.meek@verizon.net)

- Yingjie Abel** Mandarin <> English  
**Setsuko Aihara** English <> Japanese  
**Daniel Bossut** English, French, Spanish  
 > English, French  
**Kathy Coleman** Farsi (Persian) <> English  
**Terezinho Esposto**  
**Beatriz Gatto** English <> Brazilian Portuguese  
**Sarah Gemba** Spanish <> English  
**Anamaria Hidalgo** Spanish <> English  
**Patrice Jean** Haitian Creole <> French  
**Irina Kadis** Russian <> English  
**Margaret O'Connell** German > English  
**Bruce D. Popp** French; KiKongo ya Bandundu;  
 Lingala > English  
**Stefanie Ramsden** French <> English  
**Ian Stewart** German > English  
**Naoko Ushimaru** English <> Japanese  
**Milena Vitali-Charewicz** English > Italian  
**Alice Wolfe** English <> Danish  
**Ulrike Zeysel** English, French, German  
 > German, English

### NETA's Vacant Positions

The following positions have not been filled yet:

- President
- Secretary
- Conference Committee Chair

If you are interested in filling one of these positions, contact Ken Kronenberg at [kfkronenberg@earthlink.net](mailto:kfkronenberg@earthlink.net) or Diana Rhudick at [drhudick@attbi.com](mailto:drhudick@attbi.com)

## An Interview with Kenneth Kronenberg

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see how this might play off of that and I would just do it. I would put something together and it would usually work.

RH: What about GBANE?

KK: GBANE [*Global Business Alliance of New England, an umbrella group of trade and other organizations*] was another thing I was trying to hook into, something that already existed, to see if we could leverage it, to see if we could create a synergy. But it never worked out. It was too difficult.

We had this list of people with their specialties, and I hoped that we could make NETA attractive to business people, make it a translation portal that would benefit our members directly. It was unrealistic. Business people don't think that way. They want to call today and have the work yesterday and they're not interested in forging that kind of relationship. It was a good idea, but too hard to do in practice. But the idea was that this collaboration with the groups in GBANE would become an institution that would build NETA, that all these parts would play off each other, and that the result would be greater than the constituent parts.

RH: Were you disappointed?

KK: Not really—if it doesn't work, all right, so it's not the end of the world. It's all part of the process of becoming realistic. GBANE wasn't the only thing that didn't work the way I hoped. You learn from everything.

RH: Did you go through withdrawal when you stepped down?

KK: You bet! I was so used to being at the center of everything! At first I thought, "Oh Jeez, everything is going to fall apart." But at the same time, I sensed that, having been at the center of everything for four years, I was probably discouraging other members from stepping forward. Why bother, Ken's got it under control. That's not good for an organization that depends on volunteerism. And you know what? NETA didn't fall apart! There is a whole group of new people who are taking responsibility for membership, the newsletter, the Fair, to mention just a few areas. I hope there will be more.

RH: In retrospect, what do you think you gained from being president?

KK: I was constantly surprised when something actually worked. But the experience of putting something together... You know, we would have 8 or 10 people coming to Fair Committee meetings at 10 am on Sundays in February. That's amazing! Just the experience of having enabled that... Looking back on it, it was personally very, very satisfying.

RH: That's a really important thing to get in the newsletter so that others will be encouraged to step forward and start new initiatives.

KK: It's a really satisfying thing to take hold of something and make it work.

# Computer Corner

## Windows XP Review

Reprinted with permission from the Computer Training 2000 Website: <http://www.computertim.com/>, the Internet's source for free computer training.

According to Microsoft, Windows XP is the most important product release since Windows 95.

Microsoft Windows XP is a very powerful, complete operating system. The three main improvements in Windows XP are:

- Improved performance
- New, sleek user interface
- New powerful features

### Improved performance

Windows XP is based on the Windows 2000 code base. This means that the actual programming code of Windows XP is from Windows 2000. If you're a user of Windows 2000, upgrading to Windows XP probably won't bring you much better performance.

If you're a user of Windows 95 or Windows 98, Windows XP is an essential upgrade. Most Windows 95 and 98 users are used to a very unstable operating system, with crashes being almost unavoidable. With Windows XP, crashes are much less frequent. Some testers of Windows XP have, however, reported more crashes in it than in Windows 2000 (the code that Windows XP is built on.)

The good performance of Windows XP does come with a price, though: massive system requirements. In order for Windows XP to run on your machine, you must have at least 128 MB of RAM. (Some testers recommend at least 256 MB of RAM.) You must also have an Intel Pentium II-300 MHz or faster. Generally, Intel Celeron processors are not recommended.

### New, sleek user interface

Do you use MSN Explorer? Windows XP's new interface can be thought of as this type of style. (Screenshots of Windows XP can be found at Microsoft's Windows XP web site)

Use of the new interface isn't required, and you can easily switch between the new and classic Windows 2000 versions. Some testers of Windows XP have found the new interface confusing.

### New powerful features

Do you use MSN Messenger? How about NetMeeting? Windows XP replaces both of these products with a bit of MSN Messenger and a bit of NetMeeting. This new product is called Windows Messenger.

Windows Messenger is compatible with MSN Messenger, but not with NetMeeting. Windows Messenger makes online chatting, file sharing, and collaboration easier.

Worried about security with a broadband Internet connection? Windows XP includes a personal firewall. The firewall protects your computer from unauthorized entry. This makes it very difficult for hackers to hack, or enter your system.

Multimedia was a major goal of Windows XP. There are new, easy-to-use tools for anything from digital photography to CD-RW to

## Options for NETA's listserv

by Jill Orenstein

Members have several options regarding how they would like to receive the listserv:

- a) single e-mails
- b) a daily digest, or summary delivered the day after
- c) no mail
- d) deletion from the list.

Choose the option you prefer, and proceed as follows below. If you are not internet savvy and you would prefer that the Membership Coordinator set you up, send an email to [s.meek@verizon.net](mailto:s.meek@verizon.net).

*If you are willing to handle this yourself:*

1. Go to:

<http://login.yahoo.com/config/login?.intl=us&.src=ygrp&.done=http://groups.yahoo.com%2F>

2. If this is your first Yahoo group, create a login and password by clicking on "Sign In" (it is free). If you already have a Yahoo ID, you can sign in with that.

3. Click on the link "My Groups".

4. If you have already signed up for the NETA list, you can just click on "NETA" and then "Edit my Membership". You'll have the options to receive messages, daily digest or no email at all.

5. If you have not signed up for the listserv yet, do a search for NETA and then follow the instructions on screen to sign up.

You can return to change your membership preferences at any time by going to:

<http://groups.yahoo.com>

digital video. Windows XP's multimedia features are a major change to Windows 95 and 98, which included very few, if any, helpful tools for working with multimedia. With XP, it's built right in; no need for third-party software.

### Conclusion

Windows XP is a very powerful product. Your decision to upgrade really depends on what operating system you are currently using. If you're using Windows 95 or 98, and have the hardware necessary for the upgrade, then you should purchase Windows XP. If you have Windows 2000, then you need to see if the new tools in Windows XP would help you.

## Language Laughs

### For those of us unimpressed with spell checkers:

Eye halve a spelling chequer  
 It came with my pea sea  
 It plainly marques four my revue  
 Miss steaks eye kin knot sea.  
 Eye strike a key and type a word  
 And weight four it two say  
 Weather eye am wrong oar write  
 It shows me strait a weigh.  
 As soon as a mist ache is maid  
 It nose bee fore two long  
 And eye can put the error rite  
 Its rare lea ever wrong.  
 Eye have run this poem threw it  
 I am shore your pleased two no  
 Its letter perfect awl the weigh  
 My chequer tolled me sew.

—Sauce unknown

### And from the humor file...

The Japanese eat very little fat and suffer fewer heart attacks than the British or Americans.

The French eat a lot of fat and also suffer fewer heart attacks than the British or Americans.

The Japanese drink very little red wine and suffer fewer heart attacks than the British or Americans.

The Italians drink excessive amounts of red wine and also suffer fewer heart attacks than the British or Americans.

#### CONCLUSION:

Eat and drink what you like.  
 Speaking English is apparently what kills you.

## NETA Sept 8 Brunch

by Jackie Murgida

NETA members who live at a significant distance from Boston often find it difficult to schedule a trek to the regular meetings in town on a week night, which would mean making one's way through city traffic and then arriving home late at night. As Ilse Andrews said, at the Christmas party or annual conference we often "plaintively" express the wish for more activities in convenient locations. When Ilse was researching venues for the conference, she got the idea of having a brunch for far-flung NETAns and whoever else wished to attend at the New England Center of the University of New Hampshire, in Durham. Ilse very generously made the arrangements with the facility and handled logistics.

Seven members and one spouse attended the resulting brunch at the Center's Restaurant on Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup> from 11:00AM to 3:00 PM. The location and facilities were beautiful, there was an extensive buffet with a large variety of foods, and the group had its own meeting room. The latter was made possible by a grant from NETA, for which the group is very grateful.

There was no formal agenda, the purpose being to connect with each other, get acquainted, and discuss informally any topics that came up. The discussion included getting started in legal and medical T&I, payment practices and dealing with deadbeat agencies, and the usefulness and use of the NETA list. On the last topic, members unanimously said they do not find the number of messages burdensome and do find the list to be a valuable forum. The group also expressed a desire to have more activities outside the Boston area. Ilse finished up the pleasant gathering with a tour of the excellent conference facilities of the New England Center. All agreed that it would be a fine venue for a future NETA conference – and one accessible to residents of Northern and Northwestern New England.

The following were present:

Ilse Andrews, Exeter, NH

Ian Stewart, Bethel, VT

Greta Magenis, Milford, MA

Gladys P. Garcia, Portland, ME

Ben Crocker, Gladys's husband

Antje Ruppert-Bousquet,  
 Windham, VT

Hanna DiStefano, Hollis, NH

Jackie Murgida, formerly of  
 North Hampton, NH

## NETA Picnic

by Diana Rhudick

NETA held its first annual summer picnic on June 29 at the home of Alice Berglund in Lynnfield. Alice had wanted to get more involved with NETA, so she and fellow NETA member Isabel Leonard decided to organize a potluck picnic at her home by the shores of a lovely lake. About twenty of us were in attendance, bringing everything from a Far Breton cake to organic strawberries personally grown by Aaron Kromash.

We got to meet the newest NETAns-to-be, Sherri Meek's baby, Harper, and Suzanne Owen's little Robert. Older kids got a ride around the lake in a small motorboat. It's always fun to meet the family and friends of our colleagues in a relaxed atmosphere, and we hope to make this a NETA tradition. Check out the photos at <http://www.netaweb.org/photos6-02.html>. Thank you, Alice!

by Isabel Leonard

For the first time in many years, NETAns met outdoors on a bright June day, shaded by trees and cooled by a breeze from the lake. See the NETA website for pictures. NETA thanks our gracious hostess, Alice Berglund, and photographer Chet Claff.

***NETA  
c/o Sherri Meek  
21 Gardner Street  
Newton, MA 02458***