

NOTIS NEWS

Northwest Translators and Interpreters Society

July 1988

Contents:

	<u>Page</u>		<u>Page</u>
NOTIS Inauguration.....	1	ATA Conference.....	3
Calendar of Events.....	2	Computer Talk.....	4
Notes from the President...	2	Letters to the Editor.....	4
Members in the News.....	3		

Inaugural Meeting Great Success

The inaugural meeting of NOTIS at the University of Washington on June 4 was attended by close to 100 translators and interpreters from the states of Washington and Oregon. The rented university classroom was filled to capacity, and Membership Chairman Chaouky Kaboul and Secretary Jean Leblon had to move their NOTIS materials and ATA display table to the corridor in order to make more room for participants. Topics of discussion were the objectives of NOTIS, the forthcoming ATA Conference (see p.3 for update) and the joys and frustrations of working with a computer. About two dozen of the attendees have joined NOTIS to date, and membership applications handed out at that meeting are still being received. (If you lost your application form, or if you were not at the meeting and would like an application form and the NOTIS bylaws, please send a SASE to the address below.) A membership list will be printed in a future issue of NOTIS NEWS.

Next NOTIS meeting July 20. See page 2 for details.

Social
hour
at the
June
inaugural
meeting.



=====
NOTIS and NOTIS NEWS address: P.O.Box 25301, Seattle, WA, 98125-2201.
=====

Editor: Willy Evans

Members in the News

Congratulations to the following NOTIS members who recently passed ATA accreditation exams:

- Patricia Blanchett-Lee - French to English
- Jean Marcel Leblon - English to French
- Jean-Jacques Malo - English to French

Also congratulations to Helen Szablya who received the National Federation of Press Women "Affiliate President's Award." (Helen is a writer, translator and columnist, and President of the Washington Press Association.)

Note: If you receive a special award or recognition for an activity related to the interests of the NOTIS membership, please inform the editor.


ATA Conference

We in the Northwest have the unique opportunity to attend the annual ATA (American Translators Association) Conference right in our area this October. It will take place at the Stouffer Madison Hotel in Seattle, October 12 through 16 and will have workshops, discussions and lectures to suit everyone's interests. A sampling:

- "Pick your Partner: Alternatives to Freelancing"
- "The 'Informatization' of Japan" -"Translation and Information Transfer"
- "Translation History: The Basic Strategies" (Literature)
- "Nontraditional Reference Sources" (Translator Training)
- "Automation of Multilingual Publishing" (at U.N., IBM, Hewlett-Packard)
- "Translation and Desktop Publishing . . ."
- "Community Interpreting: Meeting Diverse Needs for Interpreters" (panel)

This is only a small sampling from over 50 sessions offered Thursday through Saturday. Furthermore, on Wednesday (Oct. 12) there are three special all-day workshops: "The Computer Demystified," (understanding computer hardware and software), "Legal Terminology and Translation (English/Spanish)" and "The Basics of Searching MEDLINE" (utilizing a medical database). (Note: these workshops have individual registration fees and can be taken without registering for the conference itself.)

If you would like to receive the complete preliminary program and registration packet, you may call Seattle numbers (206) 487-1462 or 361-0369, and your names will be forwarded to ATA headquarters.

<p style="text-align: center;">WE ARE ACTIVELY SEEKING EXPERIENCED INTERPRETERS IN ALL LANGUAGES FOR MEDICAL AND LEGAL ON-CALL INTERPRETING ASSIGNMENTS THROUGHOUT WESTERN WASHINGTON.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CALL OR SEND RESUME TO: 874-4211 [Ask for Marylee] 292-0555 [Ask for Betty] P.O.Box 98996, Sea.WA 98198</p>	<div style="text-align: center;">  WASHINGTON ACADEMY of LANGUAGES </div> <p style="text-align: center;">Foreign Language Classes 5-Week Terms Translation Services Group and Private Programs University Credit Available Self-instructional Programs English for Non-native Speakers</p> <p style="text-align: center;">98 Yesler Way • (206) 682-4463</p>
---	--

Letters to the Editor

Since this is the first issue of NOTIS NEWS, no letters have been received yet. Contributions are warmly invited!

+++++++

Computer Talk - Getting Started on a Budget.
By Michael Broschat

In my address at the first meeting of NOTIS I tried to make two points: that the computer can function better as a typewriter than can electronic typewriters, and that once we master the fundamental techniques of using a computer, writing with one transforms the function of the machine from an extended typewriter to that of a creative writing tool.

Getting started with computers can be difficult, however, both because of the newness of the idea for so many people and also because of the cost.

Computers are available at a great range of prices. For the higher prices, one usually gets more for the money, but the beginner can get a basic fully usable (IBM compatible) computer for about \$600 to \$700 and a full system with printer for around \$1000.

Used or closeout (non-IBM compatible) computers can be much less. One sometimes sees used Kaypros, for example, for about \$200. Computers like my CP/M system are no longer "current," but they can function quite well for English-language word processing. (For languages in foreign scripts one must use a graphics-capable computer such as an IBM compatible or Macintosh.) Tredex (800-338-0939) advertises a (new) Xerox 8/16 with hard disk and WordStar for \$350 (total price \$430 including shipping, etc.).

One aspect that can alarm the low-budget translator is the cost of software. WordPerfect and Microsoft's Word seem to sell for about \$200 at discount outlets, but suggested retail prices are considerably higher than that. However, it is possible to obtain free software to get used to a computer without making an uncomfortably high initial investment. Seattle's own PC-Write can be legally copied from anyone (or you can call the company, Quicksoft, for a low-cost disk of your own). Then, if you like it. you can comply with the company's request for about \$90 (which includes a more complete printed manual).

Free software (often called "shareware") is available for nearly every task one can conceive of. It can be had for both IBM and CP/M systems from the Public Domain Software group (check the user group listings in the "Public Domain Software" ads in the Puget Sound COMPUTER USER — available free at many local supermarkets and other outlets).

+++++++

=====
The next NOTIS NEWS is planned for the third week of August. Deadline for submitting material is August 8. Suggestions for topics to be covered are welcome.

+++++++

Advertising rates: 1/8th page block: \$15 first insertion; \$10 each additional one (less 20% for members). Classified ads (members only): \$0.25 per word.

=====