

TRANSLORIAL

JOURNAL OF THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA TRANSLATORS ASSOCIATION

The Story Didn't Happen in English

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TRANSLORIAL is a publication of NCTA, a nonprofit organization for professional translators and interpreters. ISSN 2164-6120. General interest articles are available online at www.translorial.com.

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Sundance Press..... www.sundancepress.com

Layout/Pre-Press

Flight 19..... www.flight19creative.com

Images AleXXw via Wikimedia Commons, Yves Avérous, Larisa Crossno, Tom Duffy, Sarah Llewellyn, Jane Mäger, Ingeborg Weinmann White.

Proofreaders Sarah Llewellyn, Virginia Suarez, Ingeborg Weinmann White, Sonia Wichmann.

YOUR TURN!

Translorial is always looking for contributions. We publish our members’ stories, ideas, and thoughts. Submitting an article also helps maintain your ATA certification and grants you a free “plug” in the Contributors section. Send your ideas to editor@ncta.org. ✓

contributors

TERESA CARBAJAL RAVET earned a B.A. in Spanish Language and a M.A. in Modern Languages. Teresa is a Spanish linguist and has her own business, Sententia Vera, Latino Community Outreach & Communication, specializing in EN <> ES transcreations, localization, public relations and bilingual program development.

JENNIFER MAYA CRANDALL is a bicultural freelance translator who works between Japanese and English. She got her start in interpretation at the age of four when she helped her Japanese uncle navigate a U.S. airport. Years later, she began working in technical translation and documentary subtitling, though currently her primary focus is localization. She lives in Berkeley with her boyfriend and imaginary cat.

MARIAN KINOSHITA was born and raised in the U.S, but has lived in Japan for nearly 20 years. She established MDK Translations, Inc. in 2008, where she handles all Japanese-to-English translations. Marian currently serves as president of the Japan Association of Translators (JAT). During her off hours, she escapes into the fresh air to hike and Geocache!

PAUL LAMBERT was a freelance translator and project manager with 12 years of experience in fields such as finance and enology. Paul also spent five years working as an in-house translator at KPMG in Madrid, Spain. He worked as a translation coordinator for Kiva, a micro-finance non-profit based in San Francisco.

SARAH LLEWELLYN is a freelance French to English translator specializing in marketing, finance and corporate communications. Originally from the UK, she holds a B.A. in Linguistics from the University of London and the Diploma in Translation (DipTrans) from the UK Chartered Institute of Linguists. She currently serves as NCTA Vice President and chair of Continuing Education.

KAYKO WATANABE is a Japanese localization expert with 20 years of experience in localized content creation, project management and QA in the industries of IT and media production. Yet another transplant to the Bay Area, she enjoys living in the hub of San Francisco’s global community.

INGEBORG WEINMANN WHITE is an Austrian born writer, translator and voice actor. While studying German Literature and Drama Theory at the University of Vienna she also completed a four-year-acting program. She continued her theater studies in San Francisco, and her one-woman-show *Don’t Look Don’t Ask* received critical acclaim and 4 Dean Goodman Choice Awards in 2001. She is currently working on a series of short stories and a book (in English). ✓

Unabridged bios at <http://tinyurl.com/76upmdh>

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letter from the president

STAYING CONNECTED

BY SONIA WICHMANN

First, I'd like to introduce you to the current NCTA Board. I am delighted to have Sarah Llewellyn as our new Vice President and Kåre Lindahl as our new Treasurer. (Don't worry, Sarah will continue to direct our continuing education program as well!) Connie Archea is our new Events Director, and we also welcome Judit Marin as interim Secretary. They join Mike Karpa (Membership), Ana Bayat King (PR/Marketing), and Corey Roy (Webmaster). It is truly a pleasure to work with such a talented and dedicated team. I would also like to thank our outgoing Treasurer, Dagmar Dolatschko, and our outgoing Events Director, Kristen Corridan, for their many years of excellent service—we will miss them!

Of course, our organization depends on not only the board members, but also the many other volunteers who make things happen by organizing get-togethers, contributing to *Translorial*, or helping out at meetings. In our new Volunteers section in *Translorial*, we recognize recent volunteer contributions. I'm very excited to see the boom in regional social events organized by our members. In the last few months,

we've had gatherings in Sacramento, Santa Rosa, San Jose, Roseville, and as far away as Eureka and Pasadena. Thanks to Mike Karpa for serving as liaison for these events!

Our new webinar series has been a great success so far, with four webinars to date and more to come. Webinars have the advantage of allowing us to reach more people and to offer instruction on more specialized topics that might not be economically feasible as a traditional workshop. A case in point is our recent JA-EN webinar given by Mike Karpa, which attracted an impressive number of attendees from outside the United States.

And on that note, kudos to Ana Bayat King for expanding our social media program. If you haven't yet done so, consider joining our LinkedIn group, signing up for NCTA tweets, or visiting our Facebook page. While you're there, check out some of the interesting links and posts that Ana has been providing for us.

Whether plugged in or not, I encourage you to stay connected to NCTA, and look forward to seeing you at our May meeting! ✓

member benefits

The NCTA is working hard to promote the association and its members.

Referral service	NCTA's online referral service is one of the easiest ways for new clients to find you. If you aren't already listed, contact administrator@ncta.org for an application form.
NCTA LinkedIn group	LinkedIn is an effective site for networking and increasing your professional contacts. Join the group to display the NCTA logo on your LinkedIn profile and instantly connect to other NCTA members.
Facebook page	For sharing news and announcements of NCTA events and activities, including with non-members who are Facebook users. Spread the word!
Members Yahoo Group list	Don't forget to join the over 300 members on the NCTA listserv to quickly receive answers to your questions, exchange information, or post jobs.
NCTA logo	Enhance your professional image by displaying the NCTA logo on your website, business card, and email signature. Contact administrator@ncta.org to request use of the logo.

BOARD REPORTS

At all meetings, finances, membership, and social media numbers are reviewed, and recent and upcoming social and educational events are discussed.

At the November 2013 Board Meeting

- » Explored possible topics for future GMs
- » Discussed plans for the December GM, Sacramento meeting, New Year's brunch, and happy hours
- » Discussed migration of website
- » Appointed election committee and outlined February election process

At the December 2013 Board Meeting

- » Discussed November ATA conference and outreach efforts
- » Finalized plans for December and February GMs and New Year's brunch; discussed upcoming events
- » Reviewed plans for webinar launch and marketing of webinars
- » Voted to raise membership dues to \$60
- » Brainstormed marketing ideas

At the January 2014 Board Meeting

- » Discussed future board roles
- » Planned upcoming Continuing Education events and reviewed member requests
- » Reported on regional happy hours and future plans
- » Discussed 2014 schedule and plans for *Translorial*
- » Discussed plans for resolving website migration issues

At the February 2014 Board Meeting

- » Reviewed election results
- » Nominated Connie Archea to fill vacated Events Director position
- » Update on webinar launch and Continuing Education events
- » Update on several regional social events
- » Discussed website migration progress
- » Discussed volunteer roles

At the March 2014 Board Meeting

- » Appointed Judit Marin as Director through February 2015
- » Discussed student and graduate memberships
- » Decided on future GM topics
- » Planned annual Board retreat ✓

ANNUAL REPORT

Finances (2012-2013)

Income: \$45,100

Expenses: \$44,000

Surplus: \$1,000

Membership details

(as of January 6, 2014)

- » 494 individual members
- » 58 corporate members
- » 552 total members
- » 498 *Translorial* readers
- » 271 NCTA LinkedIn members
- » 461 Lifetime likes on Facebook
- » 143 NCTAorg followers on Twitter

Activities from the past year

- » NCTA offered 7 workshops, including *Getting Started in Translation*, *Wordfast*, *Terminology for Interpreters*, *Do's and Don'ts of Running a Small Business*, *Preparing for the ATA Certification Exam*, *Contracts for Freelance Translators/Interpreters*, and *Game Localization*.
- » Planned and set up a webinar series which began in January 2014
- » 10 happy hours in SF, including two sponsored by NCTA
- » 2 get-togethers in Sacramento
- » 7 lunch socials in the East Bay
- » 1 summer picnic
- » 1 New Year's brunch
- » 1 ATA Certification Exam sitting
- » 4 General Meetings
- » Co-sponsored a French dictée

Other achievements

- » Presence at ATA conference in San Antonio, Texas
- » Presence at CFI conference in Oakland (3 presenters from NCTA)
- » 2 issues of *Translorial*
- » Membership directory in PDF format
- » Member survey and follow-up ✓



2014 NCTA ELECTION RESULTS

TREASURER

Kåre Lindahl (64 votes)

VICE PRESIDENT

(1-yr term to fill vacancy)
Sarah Llewellyn (65 votes)

SECRETARY

Paul Lambert (63 votes)

DIRECTOR, MEMBERSHIP

Mike Karpa (64 votes)THANK YOU,
NCTA VOLUNTEERS!

In addition to our *Translorial* contributors and proofreaders, who are listed on p.2, we would like to thank the following NCTA volunteers for contributing to our association by organizing social events, helping with *Translorial* production, serving on our nominating committee, and setting up meeting refreshments:

Kim Akashi
Yves Avérous
Raffaella Buschiazzo
Larisa Crossno
Diana Dudgeon
Tine Haurum
Srinapa Hummel
Kazuyo Levitan
Judit Marin
Rita McGaughy
Ana Montoya
Javier Moreno-Pollarolo
Tatyana Neronova
Ariana Schneider-Stocking
Monica Simmons
Isabelle Tallet
Carolyn Yohn

Thank you all! ✓

WELCOME

The following members joined NCTA between

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UNICODES

Find the key to the two letter codes designating members working languages at
<http://tinyurl.com/26umq4g>. ✓

JOIN US!

(SEE OUR MEMBER BENEFITS ON P. 3)

Not a member yet? Visit our website at <http://ncta.org/> and click on **Members** to see an extended list of benefits. Next, click on **Join NCTA** to register yourself, your business, or your organization!

Looking for a way to be even more involved? Visit our website at <http://ncta.org/> and click on **Volunteers** to learn about a variety of ways to participate!

Questions about membership or volunteer opportunities? Contact us at ncta@ncta.org!

A MOMENT TO REFLECT

The Editor's Note.

BY LAUREN WENDELKEN

The other day, my Italian colleague asked me to explain the non-literal meaning of the English word “burden.” I found myself describing how the word felt—heavy, difficult, unpleasant. This is often how I find myself explaining language, as if my mind is not capable of defining words in terms of other words, but rather relies on the emotions and sensations the word evokes. There are words I love, and words I cannot stand. This emotional reaction to verbal sound seems to be an innate human trait.

Although other animals communicate vocally, human language is unique in many ways. Language can be defined on different levels and in many ways can define us as well. This is the theme of our feature piece in this issue of Translational, and I think it is an experience that all multi-lingual individuals can relate to. Many of us may find, as Ms. Weinmann White does, that certain experiences inhabit certain languages better than others, as if the character of the experience requires a specific language in which to be accurately expressed in the re-telling.

Humans have developed a thrilling variety of languages, and within each language can be found modes of expression that simply do not translate—or at least, not easily. Take for example the Portuguese *saudades*, a term used to evoke the feeling

of fond remembrance and wistful longing. We simply do not have an equivalent term in English. In some instances, foreign words are simply adopted wholesale, such as the German *schadenfreude*. An internet search for “untranslatable words” turns up thousands of entries on the topic (and provides plenty of fodder for small talk at your next cocktail party).

Each language has a unique capacity for expression, and each has its own personality, and this personality can seem to almost infect the speaker. For some of us, switching between languages may feel as if we are stepping into an alter-ego. Neuroscience will tell us there is a biological basis for this feeling, as non-native languages are organized differently in our brains compared to native languages. Regardless of the basis, the ability to inhabit different personalities through different languages is a privileged experience of the polyglot.

So as you toil away this summer using your unique linguistic skills to magically transform one language into another, perhaps take a moment to pause and reflect on “who” you are in each linguistic space. Embrace the untranslatable, savor the sounds of each of your favorite words. You never know what you might discover about yourself! ✓



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Kiva believes in the power of connecting people through micro-lending and we support the translation communities that bring these connections to life. Kiva is a proud supporter of NCTA!

GAME LOCALIZATION WORKSHOP

In the fall of 2013, NCTA members attended a unique workshop that led them through the challenges of localizing videogames. BY PAUL LAMBERT

On June 22, 2013, the NCTA hosted a workshop on videogame localization in downtown San Francisco, and the event was a great opportunity for translators from the Bay Area to get an insight into this fascinating and growing field. Sponsored by Kilgray Translation Technologies, the event was run by David Lakritz, President and CEO of Language Automation Inc. With his experience and specialization in videogame localization, David was the perfect person to guide translators of all backgrounds through the pitfalls and peculiarities of this industry.

The workshop was attended by around 20 translators, with source and target languages as varied as English, Spanish, Japanese, French, German and Polish. Despite the variety of languages present, the workshop was very much language-neutral, and focused on the processes and strategies used in localizing videogames. While many in attendance were avid or casual gamers, quite a few of the workshop participants had little gaming experience, and the event provided valuable insight into this field.

Pressing play

The workshop started off with an overview of the localization process, discussing a typical project and the need to be agile and think on your feet. David then talked about the wide range of terminology involved in game culture, with everyone learning a little about terms like HP (health points), PvP (player versus player), and grinding (engaging in particularly repetitive tasks over and over again within a videogame). David then talked at length about the skills required in order to translate for the videogame localization field, outlining the need for a combination of literary translation skills and gaming experience, familiarity with CAT tools, the ability to multitask and, surprisingly to some, comfort with asking questions. This latter skill is invaluable in this field as it is common for little context to be provided, resulting in the need for a lot of communication to ensure a successfully localized game.



Presenter David Lakritz guides attendees through the challenges of game localization.

Overcoming obstacles

Once the basics had been covered and the various challenges discussed, it was time for the participants to have a go at localizing their own version of a videogame. The initial plan was for everyone to localize strings from a game using *memoQ*, providing the full videogame localization experience. However, due to unforeseen technical complications with the server, access to this CAT tool was unavailable. The organizers didn't let that stop them though, and in no time at all everyone was working on translating text into their own target language using an *Excel* document provided.

The texts chosen presented some of the challenges typically faced by those working in the industry, including names of mythical beings, videogame jargon, strings with little or no context, and other similar obstacles. After localizing the texts, the group discussed the various challenges that came up, as well as the strategies translators used to overcome them. A common problem that arose was gender in certain non-English target languages, and how to

deal with this issue as a translator when faced with limited context. One of the workshop participants also discussed the challenge of trying to produce a translation that matches the original in terms of character numbers and segment length, a result of space constraints when the text is uploaded to the game itself.

Despite the technical difficulties that arose during the workshop, David promised to build each participant a localized version of their game so that they could perform QA on the final version before sending it off to the Language Automation review team for feedback. This will give everyone the chance to see their localization efforts in action, and was a great added value to this workshop. As with all NCTA events, the day was not only informative and a great learning experience, but also gave everyone a fantastic opportunity for networking and meeting other translators from the Bay Area. A good time was had by all, and this taster on videogame localization afforded everyone a unique insider view of an industry that is sure to continue growing over the years. ✓

What I like about **SDL TRADOS STUDIO 2014**

See the special offers available to
Translorial readers at
www.translationzone.com/Translorial



- **The ribbon** – I really like it and I also think that this will be helpful for new or basic users of Studio in particular. In previous training sessions, I found that trainees could not always find what they were looking for, whereas the new ribbon makes it much easier.
- **Automatic concordance search** – a very useful feature.
- **“One click” batch tasks** – for example, this makes analysis of a single file and single language combination much faster.
- **Performance speed** – it is noticeably quicker when creating projects.
- **Larger font in Termbase Viewer** – much better for my eyes!
- **MS Word 2007-2013 comments options** – I’m pleased to see that we can now choose whether these are extracted as translatable or Studio comments.

Gemma Cooper

Translations and Training Manager, Alexika | www.alexika.com

Join the conversation

Gemma Cooper 
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COMIDA Y CONVERSACIÓN

BY KAYKO WATANABE

We were delighted to see a great turnout at our monthly get-together on a beautiful fall evening in September. It was also the day of the America's Cup final race—no wonder there were so many people at the waterfront! Among the tourists and spectators, we spread out at a long table at Mijita Cocina Mexicana. Along the table were many friendly faces of veteran NCTA translators and one fairly new member. We talked about topics from the world of translation, current events and world politics.

This regular social event has been a place for the members to mingle over casual drinks and dinner at a cantina in the Ferry Building overlooking our Bay. No set agenda, no host—but do expect lively conversation and much advice or practical tips from colleagues. If you're lucky you may get your technical questions answered by some of our *Trados* gurus. Hope to see you at the next Happy Hour! ✓

Monthly Happy Hours provide a chance to unwind and connect with fellow NCTA members.



NCTA m

STRESS REDUCT

At the December 2013 NCTA stress, just in time for the ho

The final NCTA meeting of 2013 took place on Saturday, December 7th, at the San Francisco State University downtown campus. Despite the approaching holidays and competition from the holiday music playing in the mall below, the meeting saw a healthy turnout of translators and interpreters.

After members enjoyed refreshments and some time to catch up, the meeting began with announcements concerning upcoming events, including information about the new NCTA webinars set to begin in January. We were also updated on the upcoming NCTA board elections, and were reminded that the time has come to renew our memberships to both the NCTA and the ATA.

Stressing out

Following these announcements, Julie Burns, M.Ed., introduced the topic of her presentation, entitled *Stress Busters for Translators and Interpreters*. As a veteran ATA-certified Spanish<>English translator and interpreter with a passion for health and wellness, Julie has a unique insight into the ways stress can impact linguists specifically. She began her presentation by sharing an anecdote about stress from early in her own career, when as a young interpreter working at the



Members attending the December General Meeting participated in stress reduction exercises, led by presenter Julie Burns.

ION FOR LINGUISTS

General Meeting, members were introduced to a variety of techniques for reducing holidays! BY JENNIFER CRANDALL

Children's Hospital in Boston, she found herself sobbing from emotional exhaustion after a long traumatic day of exposure to others' pain and suffering.

As translators and interpreters, we encounter various sources of stress in our workdays: tight deadlines, unreasonable demands from clients, poorly written or spoken sources, the expectation that we are walking bilingual encyclopedias. Julie pointed out some more subtle causes of stress for language professionals, such as information overload, environmental toxins, electropollution from wireless and electronic devices, and the aforementioned vicarious trauma. Electromagnetic frequencies (EMFs), which are produced by devices such as wireless networks and cell phones, may interact with the natural electrical circuits of the brain, possibly leading to symptoms of physical stress such as headache, fatigue, eye irritation, ringing in the ears, and sleep problems. In the short term, these symptoms can cause acute stress, characterized by an irregular heartbeat and the inability to think clearly or make well-planned decisions. Unrelieved acute stress may lead to chronic stress, which can cause long-term health problems and decrease overall life satisfaction.

Learning to cope

Learning about all of these harmful effects was quite stressful in itself. Thankfully, Julie shared four excellent tips on how to prevent or reduce stress for translators and interpreters. The first step is to identify the stress and its obvious or not-so-obvious source. Next comes the task of giving ourselves permission to feel better by getting enough sleep, eating properly, nurturing our minds through recreational activities or meditation, and reducing our exposure to EMFs. To do this, Julie recommends creating a 'safe sanctuary' in the bedroom by removing or at least unplugging all electronic devices (even using a battery-operated alarm clock) and darkening the room. She also suggests switching from a wireless internet connection to a wired connection, using a corded phone in place of a portable phone while at home, and activating speakerphone when using a cell phone.

She taught our group a sequence of Japanese *jin shin jyutsu* techniques as a means of keeping stress at bay. The art of *jin shin jyutsu* is centuries old, and is based on the concept that life energy flows through the body. *The Daily Clean Your House Flow*, compiled by Deborah Myers of Health At Your Fingertips in Santa Rosa, incorporates *jin shin jyutsu* positions and focused

breathing to center and balance the body's energies. After participating in the exercise, several members reported feeling calmer and more relaxed.

Finally, Julie led us through HeartMath's *Quick Coherence Technique*, a method of activating the heart's response to decrease stress. Many members, including myself, were surprised to learn that the heart has its own nervous system. The focused breathing and positive thinking of the *Quick Coherence Technique* promote release of oxytocin, a hormone involved in empathy and emotional bonding. The effects of the technique were clear when members remained smiling for several moments after participating.

At the conclusion of her presentation, Julie provided some 'homework' for members, tasking us with creating a stress-busting plan and encouraging us to share our thoughts with our neighbors. This served as the perfect segue into the socializing and visits to the refreshments table at the end of the meeting. ✓

WEBSITES

Learn specific techniques for *jin shin jyutsu*, and other stress reduction tips, at: <http://heatthatyourfingertips.com>



Left: NCTA Members socialize after another great meeting. Center: Presenter Richard Le introduces the modern library. Right: Tuomas Kostiainen

LIBRARIANS, THE NEW LITERARY TREASURE

At the February NCTA General Meeting, members got an inside peek into the evolving world of the modern day librarian. BY TERESA CARBAJAL RAVET

I have always loved libraries. As a young immigrant I appreciated the free access to books that taught me a new language and culture, as well as those that made it possible to stay connected with my native literature. As an adult, getting to know the librarians at our family's favorite libraries has been a pleasure. They are a wealth of information; the benefits of their know-how and their willingness to share their knowledge are invaluable. This was proven, once again, at the February NCTA General Meeting where members met Richard Le, Reference Librarian at the San Francisco Public Library. Le shared countless resources available to members of the public library system. In addition to checking out the latest novel by your favorite author or the latest movie to come out on DVD, Le discussed the new roles libraries are playing.

The evolving library

First, if you would like to take advantage of the San Francisco Public Library (SFPL) resources shared by Le and mentioned in this article, you will need to get a library card. Residents of California with identification may obtain a SFPL card for free. Applications are available at all branches and need to be submitted in person. In addition to the traditional benefits of a public library, present day benefits include checking out e-books and streaming music as well as movies.

Public libraries have been busy keeping up with modern times and technological

advances. Librarians realize that books and reference texts are not the only reason for libraries to exist. Their new and evolving roles include providing access to public information, digital information, research assistance, and helping teach digital literacy; in short, libraries have become modern, full-service learning centers.

Free information access

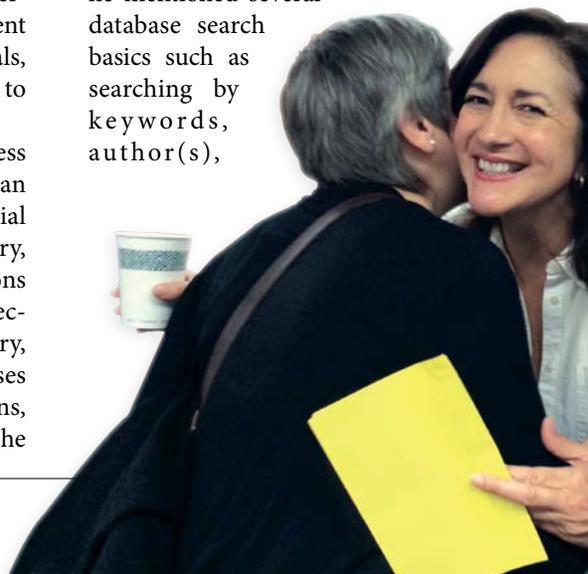
Le's presentation focused on services useful to a professional, whether searching for a new job, learning more about a particular public organization, or doing research for a business project. Research assistance is offered in several ways: a library cardholder may call or visit with a reference librarian, may text, email and chat online, may request research tips and advice, and may have access to research guides. This last resource—reference guides—is of particular value. As you may know, academic journals are authoritative and scholarly reference texts with some of the most current information. Libraries carry these journals, mostly online, and usually have access to archived back issues.

There are five possible locations to access academic journals: at a public library, at an academic (university) library, at a special (private) library, at a government library, or on the internet. Each of these locations has benefits and challenges. Le highly recommended starting at the public library, as it has free access to general databases and periodicals, Link+, interlibrary loans, and provides free research assistance. The

other libraries may have more specialized databases; however, they may also limit access. That is, you may have to be a registered student or organization member and pay a fee.

Effective research

Le shared some benefits of his experience with NCTA members, emphasizing that effective research strategies are vital to doing quality research. According to Le, an efficient research strategy starts with a search through databases of articles on the specific subject of interest. He suggested requesting the assistance of a librarian who is well versed in utilizing search operators, symbols, or specific words within your search terms in order to narrow down your results. He recommended *The Most Common Google Search Commands and Tools* as a good starting point to narrow down your search results. In addition, he mentioned several database search basics such as searching by keywords, author(s),





covers some NCTA business.

journal, article title, etc. Limits, such as publication year, language, document type, publication type, and document format, are also beneficial in order to narrow results. Once your search leads you to a desired article, you may request a copy through the library's document delivery service.

Le shared an extensive list of library databases and e-resources for journal articles that are subject-specific: *Selected Library Databases and e-Resources, and Tools and Websites for Journal Articles*. If interested in obtaining document files of these two sources please contact Juliet Viola Kniffen and request the documents as well as the link to Richard Le's presentation slide deck.

All in all, it was a worthwhile NCTA General Meeting, with an opportunity to catch up with colleagues and friends and meet new members, and I left with a renewed appreciation for the public library and its librarians. ✓



REGIONAL EVENTS

BY MIKE KARPA

After the 2012 NCTA member survey revealed strong demand for events closer to where members live, we embarked on a program of facilitating member-organized social and other events around the state of California. The following are some highlights of events held or planned so far.

Sacramento and the Central Valley

Events in the greater Sacramento region have really taken off. A Roseville coffee hour has met six times already on the second Wednesday of the month, hosted by Carolyn Yohn. Saturday lunches in midtown and downtown Sacramento hosted by Srinapa Hummel have made events more accessible to translators in the area. And a seminar on using OCR programs hosted by Carolyn Yohn and Sacramento language maven Monica Nainsztein Rodríguez at Hacker Labs provided not only information, but a chance to see a coworking space, a new work model that many translators are exploring.

San Jose and the South Bay

The South Bay has one of the largest concentrations of NCTA members, and now the NCTA is helping to bring them together. Host Diana Dudgeon organized an inaugural Friday-evening happy hour at the Black Angus in Blossom Hill (San Jose) that drew twenty-one people. Kazuyo Levitan has volunteered to organize future happy hours to be held in months when there is no South Bay Translators quarterly meeting.

Santa Rosa and the North Bay

North Bay events so far have included a well attended breakfast in Santa Rosa and a lunch in Rohnert Park organized by Monica Simmons. Monthly events are envisioned for the future, with potlucks in the offing as well. Arianna Schneider-Stocking has provided backup.

The Southland

Since the southern California group SCATIA went inactive some years ago, translators in the area have turned to NCTA. In February, NCTA member Tine Haurum spearheaded an effort to foster community with a daytime event in Pasadena. Larisa Crossno has provided backup. Future events planned include a downtown LA weekend event.

The North Coast

An afternoon event has been planned for the Eureka/Arcata/Fortuna area. Local interpreters, translators, language professionals and friends in the Redwood Empire will meet in Loleta, CA on June 14 at the Loleta Bakery. Anna Montoya is the organizer..

Future Possibilities

If you are interested in helping organize any events, please contact Connie Archea (events@ncta.org) or Mike Karpa (membership@ncta.org). To contact event organizers in your area, please consult the online NCTA member directory. ✓

THE STORY DIDN'T HAPPEN IN ENGLISH

A bilingual writer's reflections on the rewards of a life shared between languages.

BY INGEBOURG WEINMANN WHITE



The author in her hometown, Villach, in Austria..

I have been trying to write about what happened to me when I was 13 years old and growing up in a small town in Austria. It is the story of my brother's death and my own survival. People ask me why I don't write this story in German, but even now, more than 35 years later, I can still only write it in English.

A curious thing happened almost as soon as I set foot in this country: I began to feel more free, more like myself, and even though the story I have been trying to write didn't happen in English, it was in this language that I was first able to speak of it.

When I came to America 27 years ago to continue my acting and theater training, American English came quite naturally. Once I was able to deliver a joke with the punch line and get a laugh out of people, I knew I had a pretty good grasp of the language. My new theater classes allowed me to express myself more authentically, and English became the language in which I struggled, for the first time, to find my own voice, at first through improvisation and later through writing my own performance material. I was more comfortable in

my new language—it fit who I was becoming. Immersing myself in English was like sinking into a soothing bath and emerging to live more fully. It was in this country and in this language that I began to think of myself more and more as a writer.

The same German

“Where are you from?” The woman, whose dog is sniffing mine, looks at me with curiosity. We are standing on the paved path along the waterfront at Berkeley's Cesar Chavez Park. After our dogs' leashes have been disentangled we exchange their names and ages.

“I'm detecting a slight accent. German? French?”

This question always irritates me. I feel so at home here, I think in English, and by now consider myself more American than Austrian in so many ways.

My response, “I'm originally from Austria, but I've lived here for a long time,” doesn't deter the woman from intruding further. “Oh, Austria, what a beautiful country.” And before she can start to tell me about her wonderful trip to Austria years ago, I quickly say, “Yes, it's beautiful... to visit.”

“I've always wondered: the German they speak in Austria is not the same as in Germany, is it?”

“It is the same German,” I start to explain. But she interrupts.

“I have an Austrian friend who's almost offended when I call her German. She says Austria is not Germany.”

Yes, I concede, that's true. Almost 150 years ago the Austro-Hungarian Empire was the second largest country in Europe, even larger than the German Empire, and encompassed

a wide array of cultures and languages, including Hungarian, Czech, Polish, Italian, Croatian, Russian, Yiddish... and German, which was its official language. The famous German poet Rainer Maria Rilke and the writer Franz Kafka were both born in Prague when it was still part of Austria—some people, including my voice and speech teacher in Vienna, believe that the most phonetically pure German was spoken back in those Rilke and Kafka days in Prague, one of the cultural centers of “old Austria.”

Almost 150 years ago the Austro-Hungarian Empire was the second largest country in Europe...

Within the nine different states or provinces of today's Austria, nine distinct dialects are spoken. The state where I was born and grew up is called Carinthia and its dialect, music and folklore were a big part of my childhood. The Carinthian dialect was the first language I heard and spoke as a child. I loved to sing the folk songs that reflected its yearning and mood. It was the dialect my beloved nanny used when she held me close or joked with me, and it colored the words my grandmother murmured to me when she tucked me in at night or when she showed me the old grainy black and white photo albums from her childhood on a large farm. But her rural accent

Villach, Kärnten, Österreichs

disappeared as she recited long poems by Goethe and Schiller from memory, sounding just like the actress I longed to become. And when I hung out with my best friend in elementary school, whose family was from Northern Germany, I'd take on her way of speaking, which I secretly admired; it was the way people spoke in the books I read and in the movies I watched. Reading became my favorite pastime; I was the bookworm in the family.

"Come and play outside, get some fresh air!" my mother would call up to my room on a beautiful sunny afternoon while I was sitting in my rocking chair or lying on my bed reading. As I got older, my fascination with the German language only grew. I'd memorize poems and quotes, I'd fall in love with various writers and their particular voice and use of language. I dreamed of being an author one day, writing, of course, in German.

I learned English in school starting at age 10. I didn't know then that it would become the primary language of my adult life. German is the language I learned to speak, read and write first; the language that taught me how to love words, sentences and stories.

During my first few years in this country I hardly spoke German, except during phone calls with my family. English was becoming part of my unconscious. And as I settled into my new life, I delighted in deepening my knowledge of American English and its idioms. I began reading contemporary American literature the way I had read German literature; now I was devouring books in two languages.

"The English language is always in motion, always evolving," a British friend of mine once remarked, comparing her native tongue to French and German, which she found to be more rigid and set in their ways. This seemed to be a metaphor for my life. German became like a



Map of Austria, with the district of Villach in the southern state of Carinthia highlighted.

childhood friend who'd never left our hometown and still lived in her parents' house. We had drifted apart and didn't have much to say to each other anymore, yet we'd always know each other and our connection would never be broken.

Today I'm happy that as a translator and interpreter it is part of my job to stay in touch with the German language and culture. I'm glad to have German and Austrian friends here in the U.S., and as much as I sometimes feel like a split personality when one or the other language rushes out of my mouth, I enjoy being able to express my thoughts and feelings in both.

Widening circles

New neighbors just moved in around the corner and as I walk by their house, I see a man and his young child in the front yard. The man speaks German to his toddler. I address him in our native tongue, and his face lights up. I get a warm feeling in my chest. I'm home. It's a different kind of home from my English speaking American home, but deep down it still feels more familiar.

Two years ago I visited my father in Austria before he died. For several weeks I spent the afternoons with him in the hospital, and what he enjoyed most was my reading to him. I could tell he loved hearing my voice, the way I pronounced the

words in my best stage German. But when we talked we spoke in the everyday dialect we'd always used with each other. And when a new nurse came in to check on him he told her with triumph in his voice, "This is my daughter who lives in California... she speaks perfect German and English, and she even speaks Carinthian!" What a miracle, they both agreed, that I had not forgotten the dialect of my childhood. With my family it's easy for me to slip back into this dialect, this language I was born with—it is deep and primal, private and far away, and I often wonder who I really am when I try to speak it.

In the hours before he passed my father often looked at me as if he wanted to tell me something important.



I could see that he was thinking about our story. I put my hand on his.
 “There’s nothing left unsaid. You did the best you could.”

And once he had closed his eyes and his breathing became more and more labored, the song I sang to him was not one of the folk songs from my childhood, but *Amazing Grace*, my favorite song of prayer, in English. I sensed that he, too, found it comforting.

Not long after that I had to choose a poem for my father’s death notice. I chose one of my most beloved Rilke poems:

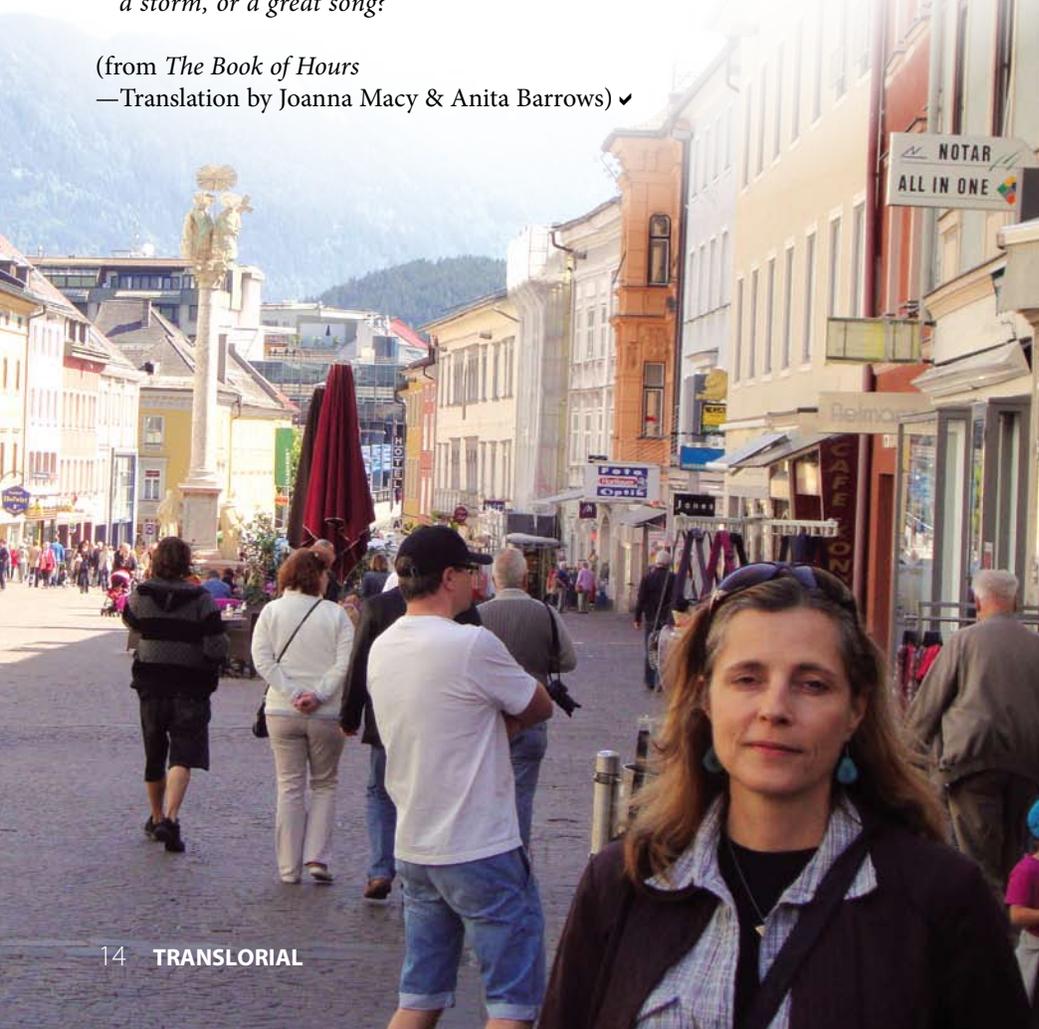
*Ich lebe mein Leben in wachsenden Ringen,
 die sich über die Dinge ziehn.
 Ich werde den letzten vielleicht nicht vollbringen,
 aber versuchen will ich ihn.*

*Ich kreise um Gott, um den uralten Turm,
 und ich kreise jahrtausendlang;
 und ich weiß noch nicht: bin ich ein Falke,
 ein Sturm, oder ein großer Gesang?*

*I live my life in widening circles
 that reach out across the world.
 I may not complete this last one
 but I give myself to it.*

*I circle around God, around the primordial tower.
 I’ve been circling for thousands of years
 and I still don’t know: am I a falcon
 a storm, or a great song?*

(from *The Book of Hours*
 —Translation by Joanna Macy & Anita Barrows) ✓



UPCOMING

Localization Workshop

SATURDAY, 7 JUNE 2014, 1 PM - 4:15 PM
 DOWNTOWN SAN FRANCISCO

Localization: What Does it Take? will offer participants an understanding of the requirements and challenges of the localization process.

Presented by Jose Palomares.*

ATA Exam Prep Workshop

SATURDAY, 23 AUGUST 2014, 1 PM - 4:15 PM
 DOWNTOWN SAN FRANCISCO

Attendees of *Preparing for the ATA SP<>EN Certification Exam* will receive information about the ATA certification program and benefit from tips on how to prepare for the exam.

Presented by Sean Dodd.*

NCTA General Meeting

SATURDAY, 13 SEPTEMBER 2014, 1 PM - 4 PM
 DOWNTOWN SAN FRANCISCO

Details TBA.

Style Translation Webinar

TUESDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER 2014, 9 AM - 10 AM

Russian to English Translation: What’s Style (and How Do I Translate It)? is the next offering from our new webinar program.

Presented by Michele Berdy.*

SDL Trados Workshop

SATURDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER 2014, 1 PM - 4 PM
 DOWNTOWN SAN FRANCISCO

A half-day, hands-on workshop for intermediate users looking to increase their proficiency with *Trados Studio* software.
 Tuomas Kostianen.* ✓

* Pre-registration and fee required to attend.

THANKS!

NCTA WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING EVENT SPONSORS:

Venga Global – December GM
JLS – February GM
The Berkeley Language Institute –
 March 29 Presentation

If you are interested in supporting association events, please contact events@ncta.org for information.

ADDING UP THE NUMBERS

January 2014 marked a milestone—NCTA’s first webinar! This new chapter in NCTA’s history was kicked off by David Jemielity, Senior English Translator and Head of Translations at Banque Cantonale Vaudoise in Switzerland. BY SARAH LLEWELLYN



Webinar presenter David Jemielity

First came across David Jemielity at the ATA conference in Denver, where he was the Distinguished Speaker for the French Language Division, delivering two terrific presentations on how to make financial translations sound less like... translations. When I asked him last year if he would be willing to adapt his presentations into a webinar for us, I was thrilled when he said yes. His presentation had never been offered as a webinar, so we also had a world first!

David entitled his webinar *A Numbers-Based Guide to Where French to English Translators Go Wrong*. The reference to “numbers” was important because David had conducted comparisons (frequency studies) between a corpus of native “Anglo” reports and a corpus of translated annual reports, and quantified how frequently the two languages parted ways.

Decidedly overused

David began by explaining that a given structure or turn of phrase can overlap in the two languages, but that there is a huge stylistic, rather than grammatical, difference in that “middle ground.” So while French and English could say the same thing in the same way, they tend not to. The trick is to

recognize the common middle ground and know when, and under what circumstances, to avoid a literal translation.

David then produced a text that had been translated from French into English and invited attendees to guess what word commonly found in French had been unnecessarily carried over in the English translation. Participants could type their answers in a panel on their screens and I, as moderator, read out the results. The word in question was “decided,” which is frequently found in French, such as: *Le Group a décidé de freiner l'évolution des charges d'exploitation*. You would never come across “The Group decided to hold down operating expenses” in English. Instead, you would just say, “The Group held down...” To prove the point of the overuse of this word in English translations, David showed us a two-column chart, with one column representing the average occurrence of “decided” in an English language report and the other the average occurrence of the same word in a translation. The numbers for the translated report were seven times higher.

***The trick is to
recognize the common
middle ground and
know when to avoid a
literal translation.***

David then talked about the use of the first and third persons in Anglo reports versus in translations. Take the chairman’s letter to shareholders, for example. In a French annual report, the chairman would talk about his company almost exclusively in the third person, whereas in an English-language report, the first person would be used. David and his research colleagues took a sample of 60 US and UK annual reports and 20 translations and compared

them for use of the first person versus the third person. From the numbers, French to English translations are clearly “egregiously under-using the first person.” (Or over-using the third person, depending on which way you want to look at it!) Of course, departing so radically from the source text can be a bit of a tough sell to clients, but David said we were free to use his data if we needed hard evidence to convince them.

Differing frequencies

Next David illustrated some very under-used words in English translations such as “deliver.” In a sample of 65 Anglo reports, the word “deliver” appeared an average of 13 times, versus just 3 times in translated reports. Other underused words were “experience/-s/-ed/-ing” and “drive/-s/-ing/drove,” and again he illustrated the numbers with a chart.

He also discussed differing frequencies in different sub-fields of finance, taking an example of a sentence where *coût du risqué* had been literally translated as “cost of risk.” However, as David explained, it would sound more natural if the phrase was recrafted as “new provisioning needs.”

Then there are what he called “over-caffeinated verbs,” found all too often in translations, such as “soared/jumped/skyrocketed” instead of “increased” or “up by.” On this latter point, he said to avoid at all costs the temptation to use positive adjectives and adverbs with numbers, which is routine in French (*fortement augmenté de 6.2%*, for example) but redundant in English. The numbers have to do the talking, he stressed, otherwise it sounds like you are spinning them.

There were plenty of very interesting questions at the end of the webinar, and although there wasn’t time to answer all of them during the live event, David kindly answered them later by email. Clearly he still has numerous insights to share with French to English translators so we hope to have him back for another webinar soon! ✓

THE TRANSLORIAL TOOL BOX

The Tool Box Journal is an online newsletter that comes to its subscribers' mailboxes twice a month. In *Translorial*, we offer a quarterly digest of Jost's most helpful tips from the past season. BY JOST ZETZSCHE © 2014 INTERNATIONAL WRITERS' GROUP, COMPILED BY YVES AVÉROUS

Take the Lift!

Kevin Flanagan is a PhD student in computational linguistics at Swansea University and a French-to-English translator. As a translator, Kevin was frustrated with the way subsegmenting was implemented in translation environment tools—or more accurately, how it was not implemented.

At this point, tools like *Déjà Vu*, *Trados*, *memoQ*, *Star Transit*, and others have found ways to suggest subsegment matches by analyzing existing TM data. Computers are good at crunching numbers: if there's enough data on which probability analyses can be performed, and one subsegment in the source appears a number of times accompanied by the same subsegment in the target, then there's a great likelihood that it's a match. This is what's proposed to us as we translate, typically in the form of auto-complete suggestions.

But what if there's no existing translation memory data? In that case, the feature does not work (for *Trados Studio 2014*, for instance, you need at least 10,000 translation units in a TM before you can even build an *AutoSuggest* dictionary). So, why not use *external* data to evaluate each segment and come up with suggested matches? That's what Kevin's *Lift* product does.

This process breaks up the mold of the data that we produce—in the form of a TM—and analyzes it with outside data to make it more effective. We still use the high-quality translation that came out of our own fingertips, but we get to analyze it at an even deeper level than has been possible so far.

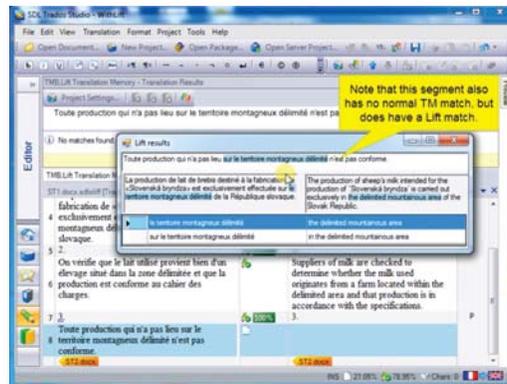
Visit www.kftrans.co.uk/lift/ to find a general overview and video that shows you how it works, with an add-on that Kevin created for *Trados Studio*.

Pssr, I've got a secret!

A couple of weeks ago I realized that one of Microsoft's best-kept secrets is really still a secret, even to my journal and book readers. *The Problems Steps Recorder of Windows 7* or *Steps Recorder of Windows 8* is one of these hidden gems.

When you encounter computer problems, it can be very hard to explain what went wrong to someone on a phone help line. Of course, there are ways to share your computer with someone else—the easiest might be *join.me*—but another way is to record your problem and send the recording to a help expert.

This is exactly what the *Steps Recorder* does. This tool allows you to record everything on your screen. When the recording is done, it is saved as an MHT HTML archive file and zipped up. Once opened, the MHT file gives a screen-by-screen description of what just happened on your computer, as well as a narration of the process and operating-specific information. It really is a freakishly good system and so easy to use (once you know it's there).



This 'n' That

I'm pretty sure that there are no translators in European languages who are not aware of IATE, the large *InterActive Terminology for Europe* database. But I often used to strike out with IATE searches because it was difficult to know what to look for if the exact term was not available. This has changed now with a predictive typing feature that lets you see suggestions as you enter your terms. It's been available for only a few weeks, but the number of successful searches that I have completed on IATE must have quadrupled during that time.

Clear Skies Become Cloudy

Team translation makes a lot of sense for a certain kind and size of project. Unfortunately, it's difficult to use technologies like shared translation memories, termbases, or other resources in most translation environment tools unless someone owns a significantly more expensive and complex-to-use server-enabled edition of the tool.

Some tools have been very good about enabling the real-time sharing of resources between peers, for example *Wordfast* and some web-based translation environment tools such as *XTM*, *Wordbee*, *MemSource*, and *Text United*. While not completely peer-to-peer since one translator generally has to purchase a slightly more expensive version, these make it very easy and practical for such workgroups to exist.

Now *memoQ* has joined the fray with the newly unveiled *memoQ cloud*. Anyone can purchase access to the cloud for a monthly fee, which is essentially a server that is already configured and ready to use.

It is also possible to purchase licenses for the web-based version of *memoQ* (*WebTrans*), which is surprisingly close in functionality to the desktop version. Presently it's possible to have up to five users of that version. All of this is managed through Kilgray's *Language Terminal* (<https://www.languageterminal.com/>). Kilgray is envisioning *Language Terminal* as the industry-wide hub of translation management, with a larger marketplace than what is currently available and integration into existing technologies.

Stay in touch

Twitter has become my go-to place to quickly communicate all kinds of important (and sometimes not-so-important) things. Make sure you subscribe to my (and Jeromobot's) Twitter feed, <https://twitter.com/Jeromobot>. JZ ✓

Read the full version article online at translorial.com

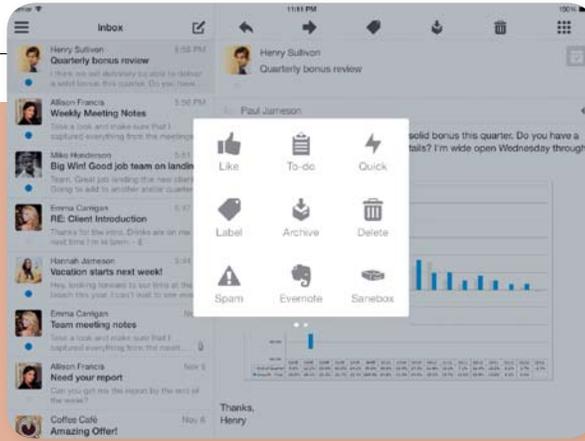
THE TRANSMUG REPORT

Apple Keyboard on a PC

Not long ago, I downloaded *Parallels* version 8. Besides the usual minor tweaks any upgrade will bring, I was delightfully surprised to find my *Apple* Keyboard added to my virtual machine's selection. As a translator, you may need to access special characters in your language and, when you have to work in a *Windows* application like *memoQ*, for example, even the extended US International keyboard doesn't always cut it. With the **Cmd**, **Option**, and **Shift** keys on the *Apple Keyboard*, you can reach a very wide range of characters, and lo and behold, you can now access them with the very same shortcuts in your virtual machine! If you are still running *Parallels 7*, it may be time to upgrade.

Retina displays

When it comes to displays, change is on the way. At the time of this article, the next upgrade of *OS X*®, 10.9.3, seems to integrate *Retina*®



Boxer offers unique features that go beyond *Apple Mail's* offering.

resolution for third party 4K displays attached to *Retina-capable Macs*® (just the *MacBook Pros*®, for now). This is a big deal for people working in front of a screen all day long. It will surely take a while for PC applications to display in full *Retina* resolution, but for those of us who translate in the browser, that should make life much sweeter.

Beyond Mail in iOS

You may be increasingly reading your email on your *iPhone*® or *iPad*®, or you may have forfeited *Apple Mail* altogether. On *iOS*, you will find a series of apps that are worth a try: *MailPilot*

(nifty and pricey), *Mailbox* (smart and solid), and *Boxer* (powerful) are bringing innovation to the tried and true art of managing your inbox.

The Feedly-Buffer combo

If you have a series of blogs and RSS feeds you comb through every day, you may be mourning the closing of *Google Reader*. On its ashes, *Feedly* has risen. From there you can easily send articles to *Pocket*, to *Evernote*, or even dispatch

them to your social networks. TransMUG is using this magic combo to reach them all, and post articles that may be relevant to your *Mac/iOS* experience: on our Facebook page, on our Twitter feed (@transmug), or in our brand new LinkedIn group, iTransMUG. Comment, react and suggest wherever you like it best, and come meet us before the next NCTA General Meeting. In the meantime, you can join TransMUG by clicking on the Yahoo! Groups button at www.transmug.com. See you soon! **YA**

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Even small translation teams can think BIG.

NATURAL ENGLISH IN JA-EN TRANSLATIONS? YES, IT IS POSSIBLE!

The inaugural season of NCTA webinars has found scores of fans, both stateside and abroad, allowing NCTA members to connect and learn a few new tricks.

BY MARIAN KINOSHITA

A few weeks ago, I participated in my very first webinar. Actually, participated isn't quite accurate. I signed up, fully aware that the live March 4th broadcast at the civilized hour of 9 a.m. (in San Francisco) signified a harrowing 2 a.m. for me the following morning (Japan Standard Time). I opted for the recording, available to participants for 90 days after the session. As a webinar neophyte, I wasn't sure what to expect. However, everything was automatic and hassle-free. I received the presentation *PowerPoint* and a link within 24 hours of the event. The recording was a slideshow with presenter Mike Karpa narrating the slides as he went. As there is no video, Mike could well have been presenting in his pajamas, which is the same condition I was in when enjoying the recording! Participants were encouraged to send in questions, which were saved for the Q&A period at the end during the live presentation.

Short and sweet

The webinar was moderated by Sarah Llewellyn, NCTA VP and Continuing Education Chair in San Francisco, with technical support from Maia Figueroa located in Barcelona. Mike Karpa, NCTA's Membership Chair, is also located in San Francisco. The presentation was entitled, *Translation Techniques for Crafting Natural English*. The day I received the *PowerPoint* file I simply left it open on my virtual desktop, referring to it often during the day. Mike's suggestions for common Japanese terms were immediately useful in my business/technical translations, often including microcomputer manuals.

I should emphasize that this was a not a self-help presentation on grammar or typos. Mike specified how to create a less "Japanese-y" result, as I often say, with hints on translating naturally.

My #1 webinar takeaway was this: Shorten verbs! Make them more concise.



When he's not presenting a webinar, Mike Karpa can be found walking his whoodle.

Be descriptive. For example, instead of translating *shimesu* (示す) as "shows" when referring to a figure, opt for the more specific "lists," "depicts," or "plots," depending on figure content. Use "good" verbs and shun vague verbs. Tweak your translation to make the sentence short and sweet. Even the basic can be improved. Take *kikaku wo okonau* (企画を行う). Choosing "planning" instead of "executing a plan" makes a world of difference. Lengthier verbs may work in Japanese, but perhaps not in English. And, at the risk of beating a dead horse, keep the verb active. This is challenging, as passive is the most common voice in Japanese, with "non-live" subjects (a new phrase to me) apparently preferable to the real thing.

Participants' microphones were turned off during the presentation to prevent audio mayhem. However, online attendees could send instant questions and respond to polls. The first poll revealed audience diversity in terms of translation experience: 17% had 1-5 years of experience, 33% had 6-10 years, 33% had 11-20 years, and 17% had over 20 years of experience.

How comforting that "oldies but goodies" such as myself are willing to improve despite 20 years in the business! The polls took less than a minute to implement, with instantaneous results. In this concomitantly global yet isolated situation, a peek at fellow attendees made it all the more interesting.

Hooked!

Mike's persistence in methodically breaking up sentences, finding better (or missing) subjects, and keeping things "active" to make the text more understandable was enormously enlightening. We were provided with the original Japanese, and then introduced to a caravan of versions, from literal to ideal. Of course, editing leeway depends on the client (with some resisting anything that is not word-for-word) and time constraints. As a final tip, Mike mentioned corpus tools—apparently very handy for successful Internet searches. The caveat is... these were covered in two previous NCTA webinars, so I am now tempted to view those recordings as well. I believe I am hooked! ✓

IN MEMORIAM

Bidding a sad farewell to two vibrant members of our NCTA community.

Ann M. Crowe, 1928-2013

NCTA member Ann Crowe passed away on November 6, 2013. After joining the association in November of 1986, Ann was a stalwart director on the NCTA board for several terms and in appreciation was named a lifetime honorary member of the association in 1999. Longtime members will remember Ann and her husband George, an architect originally from New Zealand, from NCTA social events past.

Born in Schenectady, New York, to Scottish immigrant parents, her family returned to Scotland in 1932; after marrying in 1955, Ann and George moved to the USA. Ann's life was interwoven with the love of family, community, the Arts, French literature, and sharing her knowledge through teaching. She taught French at the Oakland and Albany Adult Schools, translated two Pierre Marivaux plays, and was active in *Beaux Esprits* and *Les Amis de la Culture Française*, as well as the League of Women Voters of Berkeley, serving a term as President (1980-82).

Among her professional accomplishments, Ann held ATA Certification, French into English (1987), an MA in French from the University of Glasgow, Scotland (1950), a *Diplôme Supérieur de Français des Affaires* from the Chamber of Commerce of Paris (1986), and a California Teaching Credential in French. She also coauthored, with Maureen Wesolowski, the National Textbook Company's *Dictionary of French Faux Pas*, 1994.

Thank you Ann for helping to build NCTA.

Paul Lambert, 1978-2014

In the early hours of February 12, our friend, colleague and newly elected board member, Paul Lambert, was tragically killed in an accident in San Francisco. He was 35 years old.

Paul hailed from Northern Ireland, and studied interpreting and translating at Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh, Scotland. After graduating, he freelanced for a number of years in Scotland before moving to Madrid to join a small translation agency as a project manager. He then moved to KPMG, where he worked as an in-house financial translator before moving to the Bay Area in 2011 to join microfinance non-profit, Kiva. He was a Volunteer Coordinator for Kiva's Review and Translation Program in charge of coordinating seven Russian, French and Spanish teams.

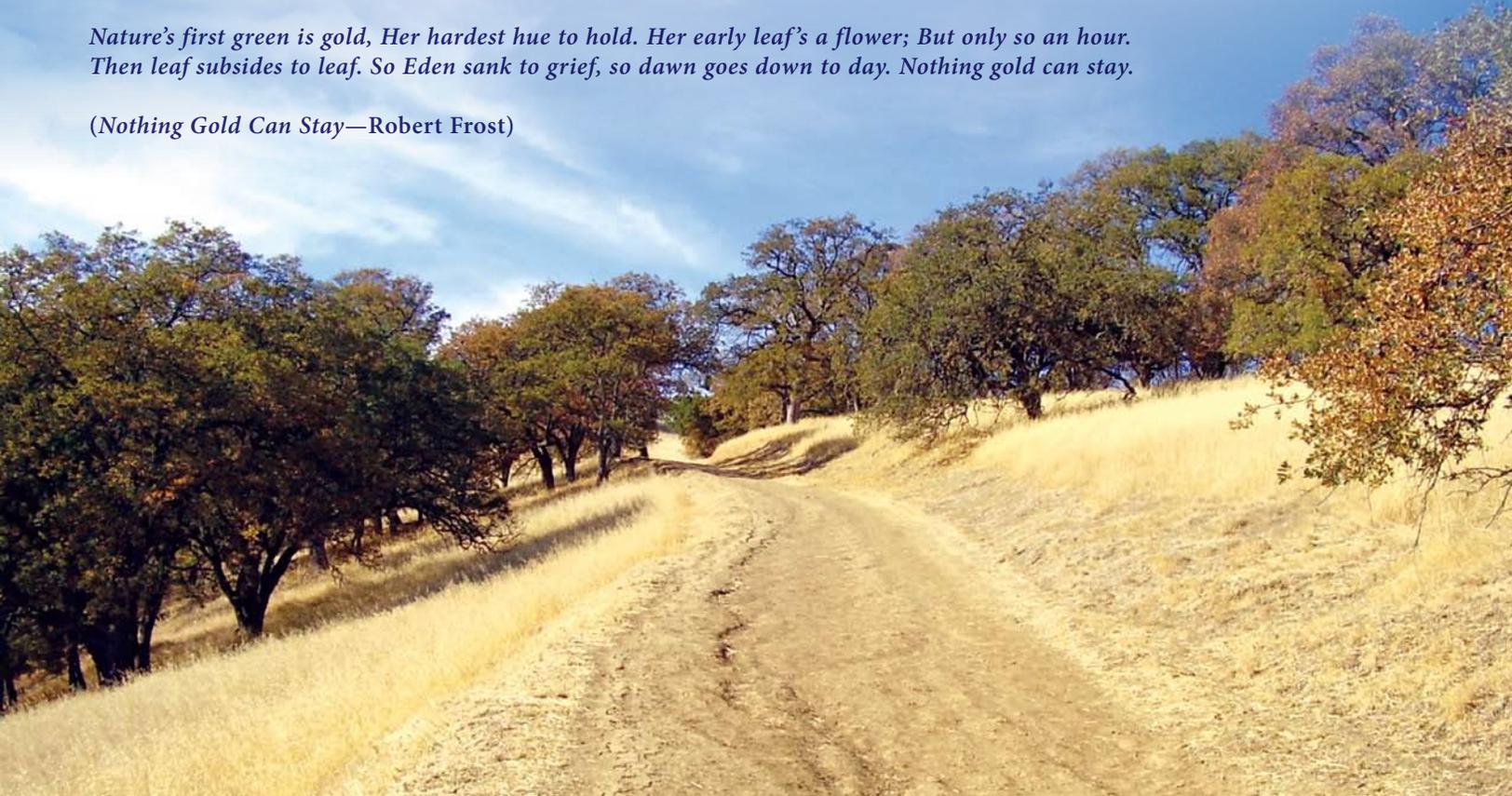
Paul spoke fluent French, Spanish and Russian and was a great supporter of NCTA. He attended many of our general meetings and several workshops, and contributed an article to *Translorial*—a review of last year's game localization workshop—which appears in this issue.

When we were looking for a new secretary for our Board, Paul immediately came to mind. That he would be supremely efficient was a given. But there was something very special about Paul. His warm, caring personality, ever-jovial nature, and genuine helpfulness made a huge impression on us from the moment we first met him. We knew that he would be a terrific fellow-board member and were jubilant when he accepted to run for the position of secretary. We greatly regret not having the opportunity to work side by side with him at NCTA.

We join his family and friends in deeply mourning his loss. ♥

Nature's first green is gold, Her hardest hue to hold. Her early leaf's a flower; But only so an hour. Then leaf subsides to leaf. So Eden sank to grief, so dawn goes down to day. Nothing gold can stay.

(*Nothing Gold Can Stay*—Robert Frost)





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NCTA is a Chapter of the American Translators Association. Become a fan of NCTA on Facebook  and follow us on Twitter  @nctaorg.

NCTA CALENDAR

May 28	Happy Hour in San Francisco	September 13	General Meeting
June 7	Localization Workshop	September 16	Style Translation Webinar
June 8	NCTA Summer Picnic at Tilden Park	September 20	SDL Trados Workshop
August 23	SP<>EN ATA Exam Prep Workshop	October 4	ATA Certification Exam Sitting in SF

See <http://ncta.org/calendar.cfm> for up-to-date information.