

## MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

*Natalia S. Kissock*

My term as the Administrator of the Slavic Languages Division is nearly over. I am very grateful to have had this opportunity to serve my colleagues. I saw my role as that of coordinator of the Division's efforts. Everything accomplished by and for the SLD has come about through the efforts of volunteers. I would like to thank everyone who in any way contributed to the *SlavFile*, Slavic issues of the Chronicle, ATA conference presentations and events, or participated in other SLD endeavors. I would like in particular to thank Jim Walker, who for two years coordinated the issues of the Chronicle focusing on Slavic languages, and has helped with other SLD efforts. I am very happy to announce that Jim has agreed to run for SLD Assistant Administrator for the next two-year term. (See Jim's statement to the right.)

I think we can be very proud of our quarterly newsletter the *SlavFile*. It is always not only entertaining, but informative, containing truly helpful materials. The *SlavFile* has shown itself to be dedicated to enhancing our professional skills, and this is just what we all seek in any professional publication. I am pleased that SLD members working with a variety of languages in addition to Russian have become more active in contributing to the *SlavFile*. This has been one of our major goals. I hope that the Polish issue will be followed by special issues devoted to Czech, Slovak, etc. We have also encouraged translators from other countries to share their experience with us in the pages of the *SlavFile*, and this, too, has been a success. I would like to thank Lydia Stone, Laura Wolfson and Galina Raff for their efforts and accomplishments.

We now have a Web site ([www.americantranslators.org/divisions/SLD/index.htm](http://www.americantranslators.org/divisions/SLD/index.htm)). It is modest, (given our low membership fees, we could not afford many bells and whistles) but it works. Dozens of people from all over this country and abroad have contacted me after finding us on the Web. A number of them have joined the division and/or contributed to the *SlavFile*.

The most important event of the year for the ATA (and SLD) is our annual conference. The conference, this year in St. Louis, is THE time and THE place for us to learn and share. Once again the SLD has a number of interesting presentations and events to offer. You can find information about them in this issue of the *SlavFile*. One such event that

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## STATEMENT BY JAMES E. WALKER ON HIS CANDIDACY FOR SLD ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR

I have been asked to accept nomination as assistant administrator of the Slavic Languages Division, and therefore I thought it would be a good idea to assess the extent to which I meet SLD member Paul Gallagher's excellent criteria (cited in the last issues of *SlavFile*) for a successful candidate.

**1. Commitment, dedication, a willingness to get the job done.** This may be my weakest point. It would certainly be easier to sit back and tell Natalia what a good job she is doing, but I was asked to help. In my moderately extensive experience with volunteer work (Boy Scouts, church, and a few small tasks for SLD), it has always been my policy not to accept any job that I would be reluctant to perform. To be blunt, I would prefer that someone else take this position, but apparently everyone else who was asked said no. (It's not too late; other candidates may still step forward, and we could have a real election with multiple candidates.) So my yes, however hesitant, was apparently the winner of the top score for willingness. Nevertheless, I promise that if elected, I will do the job to the best of my ability.

**2. Vision, a sense of what should be done, a sense of direction.** As I understand it, my primary function as assistant administrator would be to relieve Natalia of some of her burden, so that she can continue to do such an excellent job as Administrator. However, I do have one specific goal in mind. I would like to add a bulletin board to the SLD Web site, where members could post questions and answers, and other information. My son Josh designed the current SLD site, and I have discussed the ques-

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## TWENTY ISSUES LATER

*Galina Raff, SlavFile Layout Editor*

This is the 20<sup>th</sup> issue of *SlavFile* I have worked on. To mark this milestone and to answer the questions that I am frequently asked, I would like to describe here the technical aspects of publishing our newsletter and the changes that have occurred over the last 5 years. In 1994, *SlavFile* was 10 pages long and duplicated on a copy machine. Today, as I work on my 20<sup>th</sup> issue as layout editor, our standard size is 16 pages, and the newsletter is offset printed.

When I took over the layout, everything was done in WordPerfect, the word-processor of choice at the time. The first few issues were laid out in WP6.1 for DOS with Russian Module and WordPerfect 6.1 for Windows. Eventually, I graduated to a Pentium PC with 16 Meg of RAM. That's when we switched to PageMaker.

Now, I use a 266 MHz Pentium II by Dell with 64 Meg RAM and a 17 inch Trinitron monitor, and occasionally an HP ScanJet 5P. The *SlavFile* files are archived and backed up on Zip disks. *SlavFile* is offset printed from camera-ready copy that is produced on a 600-dpi Postscript HP 5MP printer.

The layout for this issue of *SlavFile* was created on PageMaker 6.52. To work efficiently and ensure a uniform and consistent look for the publication, PageMaker's templates, styles and libraries are used. The whole editorial staff uses the Fingertip Cyrillic Keyboard software that was donated to us by the publisher. During the "production phase" for each *SlavFile* issue, which lasts from 2 weeks to over a month, we make active use of email sending both text messages and binary files. Most of our editing is done in MS Word. We make extensive use of the Revise feature to indicate corrections. To spell check Russian files in MS Word, I use an Orfo spell checker, which is sold in the US as Russian Proofing Tools. For Russian spell checking and hyphenation in PageMaker, spell checker from Agama is used.

Our standard word-processing format is Word 6/95, so any submission received in a different form is converted. Word 6/95 was selected as our standard because it's a common word-processor and its Cyrillic and Central European files can be placed in PageMaker seamlessly with correct representation of non-Latin characters. The encodings we use are code page 1251 for Cyrillic files, and code page 1250 for Central European files. These are the standard Microsoft Windows encodings.

For English articles, conversion is not a problem, as all word-processors are able to read all other formats. For non-Latin alphabets, sad to say, the problem is as bad now as it was 10 years ago, when I started using a computer for Cyrillic word-processing.

I use several methods to convert non-code page 1251 files to the Windows standard. First, I try to open a file in the application in which it was created. To accomplish this, I run several versions of WordPerfect (WP5.1DOS and 6.1Win) and MS

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### ADVERTISING RATES AND SPECIFICATIONS

(width and height not to exceed the following measurements in cm)

Full page (19 x 24)	\$75
Half page (19 x 12 or 9.5 x 24)	\$50
Quarter page (9.5 x 12)	\$25
Small ad/Business card (9 x 6)	\$12

#### TO PLACE AN AD

All ads are payable in advance.

Send artwork by mail, and advertising copy in electronic format to the Layout Editor, Galina Raff. Ad copy must be accompanied by payment in full. Make check payable to "ATA."

#### 1999 DEADLINE

Winter 2000 issue December 11

#### DISCOUNTS

20% discount for SLD members

10% discount for second and each consecutive ad on calendar year basis.

Only one discount is allowed.

**OFFERS OF WORK FROM EMPLOYERS AND CLIENTS ARE PUBLISHED FREE**

was inaugurated last year, the Susana Greiss Lecture, promises to be extremely interesting again. Thanks to Laura Wolfson we will have the opportunity to meet and listen to a talk by the eminent lexicographer Kenneth Katzner. This year, instead of our traditional SLD dinner, we plan to have a reception. We hope this format will give members a chance to socialize and network with a larger number of people than our previous sit-down dinners (though chairs will be provided for the sore of foot).

Serving as SLD Administrator has given me the chance to communicate with an enormous number of people. During the last two years I have responded to hundreds (maybe even more than a thousand) e-mail messages. It is a source of real satisfaction to me to help new translators and interpreters. Sometimes it has occurred to me that I should be writing a "Dear Natasha" column. I have referred our members to many translation companies seeking translators working in particular language pairs. I know that some of these referrals resulted in work for our members, and this, too, is a source of satisfaction to me.

Although I will not deny that being SLD Administrator has sometimes required rather a lot of work, I truly enjoyed it, not only for the personal satisfaction it has given me but also because it has helped me to become better practitioner in the field. Since no other candidate has come forward, if the membership elects me, I am willing to continue in this capacity. I have gained experience and an understanding of what needs to be done and how to do it. Watch your mailboxes this fall for SLD election ballots. Thank you.

*Editors' note: The SlavFile staff would like to state that it has been a great pleasure to work with Natasha for the last two years and we greatly look forward to further work with her. We do feel, however, as the tone of the above column demonstrates, that she has one glaring fault: She is FAR TOO MODEST. Incidentally, we would love to add "Dear Natasha" to our set of regular SlavFile columns.*

tion of a bulletin board with Galina Raff, so I am aware of the difficulties. But I think this is something that ought to be done, and I will do my best to see that it is accomplished.

**3. The ability to involve others and to delegate responsibility.** No problem. I am enthusiastic about delegating responsibility.

**4. The ability to listen.** In my opinion, one of the greatest shortcomings of being a freelance translator is working alone on a computer. I enjoy working with people, I like translators, and I particularly like Slavic-language translators. In fact, I have never felt so comfortable with any other group of people as I do with my fellow Slavic translators. Within the constraints of time, I will be more than happy to listen.

**5. And maybe more.** Let me be frank. I think the division should try to have even more fun. I would like the SLD to be known as the party division. But that's just my opinion. I could be wrong.

Thank you for your confidence. I hope to see you all in St. Louis.

*Note from LRS and LEW: Jim Walker is one of SLD's true heroes, who has not only done a terrific job at everything he has undertaken for the division but by his own efforts and talents has raised himself from former "fruit tramp" to candidacy for the illustrious position of assistant administrator. (See SlavFile for Spring, 1997 to learn about Jim's odyssey from migrant farm-worker to full-time freelance Russian > English translator.) As we (the editors) told Jim, the honesty of his candidacy statement reminds us of another of our all-time heroes, Gene McCarthy. (If you do not know who Gene McCarthy is, look it up; research is good for the soul.)*

*Jim can be reached with suggestions for SLD party-type activities and communications on other subjects at 376 Southern Road/Ellijay, GA 30540; phone and fax (706) 273-3465; e-mail: perevod@ellijay.com*

## TO DO LIST

(cut along dotted line and mount on your refrigerator)

1. Register for the ATA Conference and reserve accommodations.
2. Make travel arrangements for St. Louis.
3. Sign up for Slavic Division Reception on Conference registration form.
4. Send idioms to Lydia and Raffi for *Idiom Savant* session.
5. Volunteer to review a Conference session for *SlavFile*.
6. Enter the "Slavists are Better" bumper sticker contest.

# Александр Сергеевич



**Я вас любил: любовь еще, быть может,**  
В душе моей угасла не совсем;  
Но пусть она вас больше не тревожит;  
Я не хочу печалить вас ничем.  
Я вас любил безмолвно, безнадежно,  
То робостью, то ревностью томим;  
Я вас любил так искренно, так нежно,  
Как дай вам бог любимой быть другим.

(1829)

***I loved you once, nor can this heart be quiet:***

*For it would seem that love still lingers here;  
But do not you be further troubled by it;  
I would in no wise, hurt you, oh my dear.  
I loved you without hope, a mute offender;  
What jealous pangs, what shy despairs I knew!  
A love as deep as this, as true, as tender,  
God grant another may yet offer you.*

Babette Deutsch, in A. Yarmolinsky (ed.) *The Poems, Prose and Plays of Alexander Pushkin*. New York: The Modern Library, 1936.

***I loved you once, and this love still, it may be,***

*Is not extinguished fully in my soul;  
But let's no longer have this love dismay you:  
To trouble you is not my wish at all.  
I loved you once so wordlessly, so hopelessly  
Tortured shyness, jealous rage I bore.  
I loved you once so gently and sincerely:  
God grant you to be loved this way once more.*

Larissa Shmailo, with kind permission of the author.



***I loved you once; perhaps the love I bore you***

*Has, even now, not fully died away.  
But do not let this grieve you, I implore you;  
I would not cause you hurt in any way.  
I loved you once, with timid desperation  
And wordlessly endured my jealous pain.  
I loved you once— God grant such adoration  
And tenderness will come to you again.*

Lydia Stone

***I loved you: and the feeling, why deceive you,***  
*May not be quite extinct within me yet;  
But do not let it any longer grieve you;  
I would not ever have you grieve or fret.  
I loved you not with words or hope, but merely  
By turns with bashful and with jealous pain;  
I loved you so devotedly, as dearly  
As may God grant you to be loved again.*

Walter Arndt, in *Pushkin Threefold*, New York: E.P. Dutton & Co., 1972.

***I loved you — and my love, I think, was stronger***

*Than to be quite extinct within me yet;  
But let it not distress you any longer;  
I would not have you feel the least regret.  
I loved you bare of hope and of expression,  
By turns with jealousy and shyness sore;  
I loved you with such purity, such passions  
As may God grant you to be loved once more.*

Author uncited, published in September 1992, National Geographic, with permission of that publication.

***I loved you, and I probably still do,***

*And for a while the feeling may remain...  
But let my love no longer trouble you,  
I do not wish to cause you any pain.  
I loved you; and the hopelessness I knew,  
The jealousy, the shyness — though in vain —  
Made up a love so tender and so true  
As may God grant you to be loved again.*

Genia Gurarie, with kind permission of the author.

***I loved you: love, it very well may be,***

*Within my soul has not quite died away;  
But let it give you no anxiety;  
I do not wish to grieve you, come what may.  
I loved you silently and hopelessly,  
By jealousy and shyness overcome;  
I loved you so sincerely, tenderly...  
May you be loved thus by some other one.*

Mark Suino in C. Rydel (ed.) *Ardis Anthology of Russian Romanticism*. Ann Arbor, MI: Ardis, 1984.

# Пушкин (1799-1999)

When you attempt and finally succeed (in relative terms) in translating a poem, especially a great poem, you tend to feel that you have produced the only acceptable solution, since you have just finished thinking up and discarding scores of clearly impossible, or at least unacceptable, ones. However, even given the constraints of reproducing meter and rhyme, the simplest poem seems to have an infinite number of minimally acceptable translations into another language. The samples on the opposite page illustrate this point. When a poem is translated, there are a large number of factors to be considered: overall meaning, line for line correspondence in meaning, meter, register/tone, smoothness and normalcy in the target language, various types of verbal effects, such as alliteration and parallelism, avoidance of sins of omission and commission (intrusion of elements not in the original) etc... Obviously (or perhaps it is not so obvious) there is no such thing as a perfect translation. In every line, compromises have to be made regarding some or even all of these factors so as to create the whole. It seems particularly interesting to consider the translations on the opposite page in this light: seeing where each of the authors chose to compromise, and where they all evidently considered no compromise possible. LRS.



Августингер (1823)



Vikram Seth, a modern Indian writer, is an avid admirer of classical Russian literature, although he reportedly does not read Russian. Aside from writing the brilliant *A Suitable Boy*, heavily influenced by *War and Peace* (which, между прочим, it exceeds in length), Seth also wrote a novel in verse about San Francisco yuppies, entitled *The Golden Gate*, inspired by Johnston's translation of Eugene Onegin. SLD member Masha Zarlengo, by translating some of this poem into Russian, has achieved the next best thing to the logically impossible task of translating Pushkin from English into Russian (as contrasted to the merely empirically impossible task of translating him from Russian into English). We have published some of this work, which we greatly admire (Spring 1997, *SlavFile*). Here we provide one heretofore unpublished stanza, which deals with computers in Pushkin-influenced verse, as well as the last stanza of the entire poem, which refers directly to translation of Onegin into English.

He turned his thoughts to electronic  
Circuitry. This soothed his mind.  
He left irregular (moronic)  
Sentimentality behind.  
He thought of or-gates and of and-gates,  
Of ROMs, of nor-gates, and of nand-gates,  
Of nanoseconds, megabytes,  
And bits and nibbles... but as flights  
Of silhouetted birds move cawing  
Across the pine-serrated sky,  
Dragged from his cove, not knowing why,  
He feels an urgent riptide drawing  
Him far out, where, caught in the kelp  
Of loneliness, he cries for help.

Об электронике, к примеру,  
(Предмет ему сей близок был.)  
Он думать стал — и между делом  
О грустных мыслях позабыл.  
Он размышлял об умноженьи,  
И о логическом сложеньи,  
О ПЗУ, наносекундах  
И прочей мелочи он думал.  
Но только лишь на фоне сосен  
Птиц стая пролетела в ночь,  
Из грота дум его выносит  
Нежданного отлива мощь.  
И брошенный на волю вод  
И одиночества, на помощь он зовет.

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# SLAVFILE LITE: NOT BY WORD COUNT ALONE

Lydia Razran Stone

We received the following communication from John C. Decker a propos of our statement that at times we find “Russian” (aka “Brightonese”) more creative than deplorable. “I agree with that. When I first learned the phrase “с удовольствием,” I immediately imagined a situation in which one was obliged for social reasons to express pleasure at having received an invitation, although in actual fact one was anything but pleased. One might say “псевдовольствием!” and in fact this works out even better in cursive writing because one can shift languages right in the middle of writing in English cursive and continue in Russian cursive without even taking the pen off the paper.” Thanks, John, for giving us unfeigned pleasure and adding to the store of phrases we are dying to work into conversation. If anyone else has a word or phrase of this type to contribute, we would welcome it with open arms, not to mention minds.

Elsewhere in this issue, you will find *SlavFile*'s modest commemoration of the Pushkin bicentennial this year. Of course, all interested readers are enthusiastically invited to the Pushkin Bicentennial Panel, moderated by Nora Favorov, to be held at the ATA Conference in St. Louis. An article in *The Economist* (May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1999) suggests that not all tributes to the great artist are in the best of taste, nor for the loftiest of purposes. For example, a plastics factory owned by the wife of Moscow Mayor Luzhkov is producing Pushkin plastic bags. And, as recent visitors to Moscow will be aware, some Coca Cola ads now feature the line «Я помню чудное мгновение», possibly expanding the definition of the set of things that go better with Coke. A survey of Moscow schoolchildren asking who Pushkin was produced a number of answers that, in the words of *The Economist*, “reflect confusing shifts in public iconography since the end of communism.” Selected examples of answers include: “the first man in space,” “kind to children,” “the first tsar,” “builder of Moscow,” and “poet who will be our next president.”

My spellchecker is not only complacently monolingual, but, like some Moscow schoolchildren, is also a cultural philistine. I have become accustomed to declining its suggestions that I replace all mentions of Pushkin with Pushpin. Recently, however, after a lapse of attention while spellchecking a translation of an article about Russian political events, I was amused to find, among the players cited, a Mr. Anatomy Chubby and Mr. Eager Gayer. (I will leave the correct decoding to you.)

During an earlier incarnation as an experimental psychologist, I had the idea that I could supplement my income producing bumper stickers and T-shirts with professionally relevant slogans containing mild double entendres, to be sold at professional conferences in a variety of abstruse disciplines. Examples: “Cognitive psychologists know what they're doing. Interpreters will do it consecutively. Geographers know where it's at.” I have been trying and trying to come up with something suitable for Slavists with vague intentions of having it printed up and sold to benefit SLD's coffers, but have failed dismally. Hence: the

birth of another SlavFile contest. Come up with a “Slavists are better” slogan. Bilingual puns, references or allusions are welcome; moderately salacious but tasteful connotations are optional. Send it to this column. First prize will be a xeroxed copy of a Russian-English-German-French Glossary of color names, produced by the USSR Academy of Sciences, 1986. There are only two known copies extant in the U.S. Alternative prize for the color blind: Drummond and Perkins, *Dictionary of Russian Obscenities*, Oakland CA: Scythian Books; 1987. In the event of more than one entry, decisions of the judges, though undoubtedly arbitrary, will be final.

I never go to a bookstore (new or used) or book sale anywhere, without checking for Russian dictionaries. After all, didn't I get my copy of *Russian-English Aviation-Space Dictionary*, which was my standard when I worked for NASA, at the Unitarian Church book sale in my neighborhood, for seventy-five cents? The other day a trip to Borders yielded *The Exeter English-Russian Dictionary of Cultural Terms* by Roger Cockrell, Exeter: University of Exeter Press, 1998, price at Borders \$29.95, 7,000 terms, 225 pages. The introduction states that the main categories of terms included are the following:

- the ancient and classical worlds;
- art (architecture, painting, sculpture);
- astronomy;
- the Bible;
- culinary terms
- foreign (neither English nor Russian) words and phrases used in English;
- history;
- legends and myths;
- linguistic and literary terms;
- music and opera;
- philosophy;
- political terms;
- prehistory;
- psychology;
- religion;
- theaters, concert halls, museums, etc.

It, of course, should be borne in mind that this is a little book and will not have any but the most important or widely used terms, and also that terms referring to British phenomena are more likely to be found than those referring to American ones (thus it contains Angry Young Me, but not Beatniks, and has neither the Moral Majority (although Moonies makes it) nor Valley Girl (Teddy Boy is also absent). Nevertheless, this is a wonderful browser's dictionary. It is very difficult (for me at least) not to fall in love with a pocket-sized volume that contains the Russian equivalents of such terms as (terms chosen from randomly selected pages): pfeffernuss - маленький круглый пряник, pH - водородный показатель, Mobius strip - лист Мёбиуса, farouche - дикий; нелюдимый, *faute de mieux* - за неимением лучшего, Festschrift - юбилейный сборник, chop-

sticks - палочки, civil rights movement - борьба за гражданские права, *Just So Stories* (Kipling) - «Сказки просто так», *mirabile dictu* - как это ни удивительно, and render unto Caesar that which is Caesar's - Кесарю Кесарево. Well, I would continue indefinitely with great pleasure, but you get the idea. Also to be found is, less interesting but perhaps even more useful, information like Russian transliterations of the names of all U.S. states, major classical composers (not to mention Scott Joplin) and of many Biblical figures. I noticed no typos or anything that I could tell was an error. Highly recommended!

As long as I am on the subject of books, just last week I e-mailed Tom West for help on a couple of terms for a Bank Charter I was translating and asked if he knew of a relatively inexpensive book of U.S. legal documents I could consult for terminology. Not only did he know of one *The Complete Book of Business and Legal Forms*, Lynne Ann Frasier, Naperville: IL, 1996, 268 pages, \$18.95; but I was able to buy it directly from his company's (Intermark, Language Services) website: [www.intermark-languages.com](http://www.intermark-languages.com). I ordered it on Friday afternoon and it arrived on Monday for a shipping and handling charge of \$3.20. I also observed that his company was selling *The Russian-English Social Science Dictionary* by R.E.F. Smith, Birmingham England: University of Birmingham, 1990 for \$30. This is a dictionary I myself resort to constantly despite the fact that it contains all Soviet era terms. This is a real bargain, as the book, when it was in print, sold for about \$50.

Ordered and received (within a week) from Panorama of Russia. Коваленко, Е.Г. и соавт. «Новые сокращения в русском языке 1996-1999» (дополнение к «Новому словарю сокращений русского языка») Москва: ЭТС; 1999, 159 pages, \$11.00. This book is a supplement to the previous work by Kovalenko. In my comparative review of abbreviations dictionaries (*Slavfile*, Fall 1988) I did not rate Kovalenko very highly, preferring Novichkov and Fadeyev. However, the new book came out five years after the former, and two years after the latter, and might certainly be expected to contain some new and potentially useful terms. How many and what sort of terms? In my previous review, I considered the abbreviations on two randomly selected pages from Fadeyev. Each set contained about 25 terms. In these alphabetically defined sets (МГ-МГК and ФОб-ФП, the supplementary dictionary had 22, and 25 terms, respectively to add to the terms listed in the old Kovalenko; of these, 10 and 13, respectively were neither in Novichkov or Fadeyev.

Here is a list of the 10 new terms in the first set: МГ - малогабаритная лампа галогеновая; МГ - масло гидравлическое; МГА - Международная гостиничная ассоциация; МГВ - малогабаритная гирвертикаль; МГГУ - Московский государственный горный университет; МГД - Московская городская дума; МГЖОЗ - Московский государственный жилищный облигационный заём; МГИ (устар.) - Министерство госимущества; МГИ - Московский гуманитарный институт; МГК - Международная конвенция о перевозке грузов по железным дорогам. Our readers will have to decide for themselves if a book including these terms is likely to have other ones they are looking for and can find nowhere else. As for me, I did find it to contain (after the job was submitted, of course) a banking term that I had been able to find in none of my other books (БИК - банк ипотечного кредитования). Considering how frustrated I feel when I cannot expand an acronym and how often it happens. I, myself, am glad to have acquired this book for the cost of a medium pizza.

See y'all in St. Louis

TWENTY ISSUES LATER *Continued from page 2*

Word (Word 7(95), Word 97 and Word 2000). I change fonts and save the file "as" another format, or use the clipboard (copy and save) to move the text to another word-processor. Various combinations of "Save As" are used. To convert from Macintosh or KOI8 format, I use a utility (converter) "Cyrillic Central." I do this only as a last resort, because this conversion method strips the file of all formatting, which then must be recreated manually.

Our standard set of typefaces includes a variety of TrueType fonts—most of them Unicode—that allow us to use the same typeface for English, Cyrillic and Central European alphabets. The body is typeset with PetersburgTT 10/12.6. PetersburgTT is a Garamond-type legible font with attractive Cyrillic lettering and true italics. When we first started SlavFile, we published articles only in English and Russian, and I used an older original version of Peterburg.ttf that was a code page 1251 font, i.e. included only Latin and Cyrillic characters. When our Russian Division became the Slavic Languages Division, I acquired a newer Unicode version of the same font sold in the US by SmartLink Corp. The sans serif font we use in headlines, subheads and boxes is Franklin Gothic, a Unicode font that was included with MS Word 97. For the occasional script and display headlines, we use fonts from various sources, some of them SoftUnion in Russia and Fingertip Software.

Soon, I hope to have *SlavFile* available in PDF format. This format makes it possible to save a printed piece as a file that looks exactly like the original. By using PDF, not only will we be able offer readers an electronic version, but we would also be able to provide hypertext links that, when you click on them, will take you to a Web site if you have an Internet connection. The reader would thus be getting valuable extra features and *SlavFile* would have an attractive form of electronic distribution.

*Editors' Note: Galina Raff's services to SlavFile are not limited to those described above. She handles all advertising, and, as the only native speaker of Russian on our staff, proofs and edits all material printed in Russian, doing so, as far as the rest of us can tell, impeccably. Frequently, too, she notices some glaring error in English that has slipped by the rest of us. She acts as our staff expert on all things computer-related, not only writing articles for this publication from time to time, but reviewing other technical articles for substance, and providing technical support for the SlavFile staff. She is a veritable genius at locating relevant material on the Web, and finds all the quotations from the Russian media that we publish. We welcome this opportunity to advertise her talents and thank her publicly.*



## KIEV RESPELLED: THE NEXT STEP

Vadim Khazin

In the April, 1998 *ATA Chronicle* I initiated a discussion on the English spelling of Ukrainian geographic names—I followed this up by distributing a questionnaire at the ATA Conference to learn the opinions of my fellow translators regarding the names of administrative divisions in English and Russian/Ukrainian. Later this questionnaire was published in the *SlavFile*.

The number of responses I received from these and other sources (e.g. a seminar of Russian court interpreters) was not as large as I had hoped: 20 or fewer on most questions. A question on the spelling of the name of Ukraine's capital was an exception, eliciting 35 responses, because I raised this specific question in a thread on the LANTRA Forum

Here I would like to discuss geographic names exclusively. Poll results appear below. Among the answers I received there were several discouraging ones. They could be paraphrased in one of three ways.

1. Who cares? Spell these names in whatever manner the client prefers.
2. The time has not yet come for standardization in this area.
3. Why bother discussing this when there are official bodies whose word is final?

My response to these arguments:

1. Clients in most cases are indifferent to such nuances. But imagine a client who insisted on a certain improper spelling (in geography or some other area). Would you sacrifice your professional integrity just to go along with his error? I myself would do so only if he put his demand in writing or if I were permitted a dissenting footnote. Some respondents suggested that perhaps different spellings could be used depending on source language (Russian or Ukrainian) This would lead to the same city name being spelled a number of different ways in English, which seems a less-than ideal solution.

2. This was the argument made by one SLD member in particular, who gave mostly dual answers: Kiev or Kyiv, etc. But she did not say how long we should wait before settling on one of the two variants. Centuries? And what are we to do in the meantime? Should we try to find solutions or accept both versions?

3. I found some official and semi-official materials from both this country and Ukraine. In 1996 Ukraine issued an "official" Ukrainian-English transliteration table adopted by the Ukrainian Legal Terminology Commission ([www.rada.kiev.ua/translit.htm](http://www.rada.kiev.ua/translit.htm)). It is obvious that this body's primary goal was to avoid the transliteration of Ukrainian names into English via Russian. Curiously enough, this commission (as far as I know) did not produce similar "official" tables for any other language direction. They provide a table of examples (Yurii, Mykolaiv, and of course Kyiv) but some contradict the very rules they give. Almost the only concession to the traditional English spelling that they seem to allow is *Crimea* instead of *Krym*. Although they proclaim that their system "is binding only for the transliteration of Ukrainian names in English in legislative and offi-

cial acts," in fact it is penetrating the media and leading to a great deal of confusion. It is spreading so fast that one might suspect that it will soon be adopted for universal use, with the probable exception of restaurant menus. (As one respondent pointed out, "Who would order chicken Kyiv?")

Some respondents accused me of opposing the independence of Ukraine, claiming that replacing *Kiev* with *Kyiv* symbolizes freedom from Russia. This is indeed more a matter of politics than linguistics. But shouldn't we be consistent as to who gets to choose? What if the U.S. government were to demand that their Ukrainian counterparts write *Тексас, Аркансо* or *Уошингтон*, instead of *Техас, Арканзас, Вашингтон*? And what if Europeans started demanding that such traditional English spellings as *Warsaw, Prague* or *Vienna* be replaced with *Warszawa, Praha, Wien*? Now, that would be great fun for translators!

But leaving the newly independent Ukraine aside to deal with issues far more urgent than transliteration, what about "official" American sources? Some respondents advised me simply to follow instructions issued by the US Board on Geographic Names. However it turns out that this organization deals only with **domestic** names. Standards for **foreign** names can be obtained from the GEOnet Names Server, developed and maintained by the National Imagery and Mapping Agency". ("Standard for Countries, Dependencies, Areas of Special Sovereignty, and Their Principal Administrative Divisions, FIPS PUB 10-4"). I have always suspected that the decisions made in such governmental agencies might prove no wiser than those of professional translators, regarding transliteration, at any rate. However, what I found on their website exceeded my worst expectations. They list countries and provinces (or other principal divisions) and their approach to rendering the names in English, though not explained, appears to be as follows. Names of countries accord with traditional English spelling. Names of provinces, if the original language uses the Latin alphabet, merely reproduce original names (with no additional letters or diacritical marks), e.g. *Wien* and *Warszawa*). If, however, the original language does not use the Latin alphabet they provide what appears to be an attempt at its closest transliteration, again without regard for traditional rendering. They provide alternative renderings in very rare cases only.

To my disappointment, administrative divisions are given for hardly any of the countries of the former Soviet Union (even Russia). Oddly, they do provide the names of administrative divisions for Ukraine (and Estonia). However, the Ukrainian Commission would probably be disappointed to see *Kyyiv, Misto* (literally, *Kiev, the City*) instead of *Kyiv*. Most of the names are given in adjectival form with excessive use of apostrophes for *ь*, as in *L'viv's'ka Oblast'*.

I was also advised to consult the Getty Thesaurus of Geographic Names (TGN) at <http://www.ahip.getty.edu/vocabulary/tgn.html>, produced by Getty Research Institute in Los Angeles. Their approach is seemingly quite scientific: they use



and cite multiple sources and provide multiple renderings for virtually every geographic name. However in some situations (e.g. their table of contents) they are still compelled to select one rendering (which they call "preferred"). As with the GNIS, they do not specify their approach, nor did they do so when I wrote and asked them. Their preferred name for Ukraine is *Ukrayina*. From this you might conclude that they generally follow Ukrainian pronunciation. But no, you would be wrong. Some of the names really do correspond to the Ukrainian pronunciation: *Kirovohrad*, *L'viv*, but others correspond either to Russian (*Rovno*, *Odessa*, *Ivano-Frankovsk*) or to some mixture of perhaps Polish and German: *Char'kov*, *Vinnica*, *Doneck*, using alternately *j* and *y* for the same sound (*Nikolajev*, but *Kanevskoye Vodokhranilishche*). Other names lack the diacritical marks that would be proper in such renderings as *Cernigov*, *Zitomir* or *Zaporozje*. For the Ukrainian capital the preferred name is ... *Kijev*; other versions are: *Kiyev*, *Kyyiv*, *Kyiv*, *Kiyiv*, *Kiev*, *Kiew* and *Könugard(?!)*

What is the appropriate conclusion? Perhaps you will agree with me that we should not rely on "official" or semi-official sources in the vain hope that they will make these decisions intelligently and save us the trouble.. With this in mind, I proceed to the results of my mini-poll. Numbers refer to percentages of the total number of answers, with the "winning" answers in bold.

1. **Ukraine** (76); the Ukraine (24)
2. **Kiev** (69); Kyiv (23); also mentioned, Kiyev, Kyiv, Kyyov
3. **Kharkov** (55); Kharkiv (30); also mentioned, Harkiv, Khar'kov
4. **Odessa** (79); Odesa (21)
5. **Lvov** (56); Lviv (17); also mentioned, L'vov, L'viv, Ljviv
6. **Zaporozhye** (53); Zaporozhe (16); also mentioned, Zaporizhya, Zaporozh'e, Zaporizhzhya, Zaporizzhya, Zaporizhzhja, Zaporizhia
7. **Chernigov** (74); Chernihiv (21); also mentioned Chernighiv
8. **Chernobyl** (74); Chornobyl (16); also mentioned, Chornobyl', Chornobylj
9. **Nikolayev** (53); Nikolaev (21); Mykolayiv (16); also mentioned, Mykolayev, Mykolajiv
10. **Rovno** (67); Rivne (33)
11. **Krivoi Rog** (45); Krivoy Rog (25); also mentioned, Kryvyy Rih, Krivyi Rih, Krivoy Rog, Kryvyj Righ, Kryvy Rih
12. **Lugansk** (68); Luhansk (16); also mentioned Luhans'k, Lughansjk
13. **Chernovtsy** (72); Chernivtsi (22); also mentioned, Chernivci
14. **Dnieper** (45); Dnepr (25); Dnipro (15); also mentioned, Dniepr, Dnyapro (the latter only for the river as it is referred to in Belarus, through which it also flows)

15. **Dniester** (50); Dnestr (25); Dnister (15); also mentioned, Dnester, Nistru (the latter only for Moldova)

Although in most cases traditional spelling (based on Russian) prevailed, I do not yet consider the problem resolved. Let us continue our discussion, focusing on the following points:

1. In which cases or situations should priority be given to non-traditional (Ukrainian-based) English spelling? A similar question, of course, can be asked about names from other ex-Soviet republics.
2. Is it justified to use different English spellings depending on the source language, the country being discussed (e.g., for rivers flowing through more than one country) or other circumstances?
3. Should we (interested members of SLD or ATA) attempt to create a transliteration table and/or rules (recommendations) for English renderings of geographic names from various Slavic and Cyrillic-based languages? How should we select among different possible options? Should we consider the preferences/perceptions of monolingual English speakers?

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**Пушкин** *Continued from page 5*

Reader, enough of this apology;  
But spare if I think it best,  
Before I tether my monologue,  
To stake a stanza to suggest  
You spend some unfilled day of leisure  
By that original spring of pleasure:  
Sweet-watered, fluent, clear, light, blithe  
(This homage merely pays a tithe  
Of what a joy and inspiration  
It gave me once and does not cease  
To give me) — Pushkin's masterpiece  
In Johnston's luminous translation:  
Eugene Onegin — like champagne,  
Its effervescence stirs my brain.

Читатель, хватит извинений!  
Но удержаться я не мог  
Продлить на несколько мгновений  
Сей бесконечный монолог  
И вспомнить ключ отдохновенья:  
Прозрачный, свежий, светлый, пенный —  
Бессмертный Пушкина роман.  
Я лишь отдать хотел бы дань  
Той радости, что мне принес «Евгений»,  
Всем тем наитиям, порывам, побуждениям,  
Тому неповторимому творенью,  
Что Джонстон перевел с блестящим вдохновеньем.  
«Онегин» как шампанское искрит  
И душу мне и сердце веселит.

## HANDS-ON BOOT CAMP FOR ASPIRING INTERPRETERS

*Mila Haeckel Bonnichsen and Karin Isbell*

Last September's issue of the ATA Chronicle contained an ad which caught our attention. It announced a course in consecutive interpretation and both of us signed up. After taking the course, we realized that consecutive interpretation presents an even greater challenge than simultaneous interpretation. In this article we would like to share some of our experiences gained in the training course in consecutive interpretation taught at Inlingua School of Interpretation, located in Arlington, Virginia.

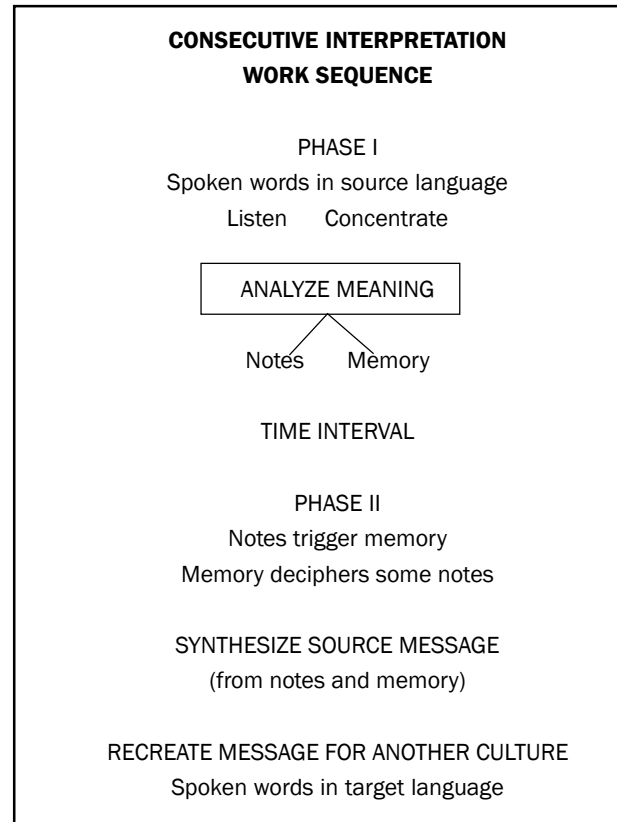
The three-week intensive program afforded those already working as interpreters an excellent opportunity for advanced training, while opening up great career opportunities for beginners. In addition, the course can help an interpreter prepare to take the State Department interpreting test.

Many readers may be surprised to hear that this course is language-neutral, based on the premise that once the interpreter has fully grasped and retained a message in English using the methods taught, (s)he should be able to render that message into any target language which (s)he speaks fluently. The school requires fluency in at least one target language, with the result that the majority of the students tend to be foreign-born. English-to-English interpreting exercises presented during the first two weeks of the course (in which students paraphrase an utterance or represent its meaning in a special form, using English words) allow the instructors to determine whether the students, whose language they do not speak, have grasped the entire meaning and can deliver the message completely, retaining nuances and emphasis. Renditions into foreign languages are usually reserved for the last week of the course when the students are already familiar with meaning analysis and retention methods.

The course, taught by Mr. Harry Obst, had six students with knowledge of four foreign languages (Chinese, German, Japanese, and Russian), from different parts of the United States: Arizona, Oregon, Maryland, and Virginia, and with different cultures and professional backgrounds. (Among us were the owner of a translation agency, a World Bank officer, a court interpreter, and a couple of free-lance interpreters/translators.) Anyone familiar with the field of translation/interpretation knows the name Harry Obst. For many years he was Director of the Office of Language Services at the State Department. He is professionally trained both as a translator and as an interpreter, with many years of practical experience.

Two years ago, he undertook the task of training those who work or intend to work as interpreters, for, according to him, there is a woeful shortage of recognized training programs that can properly prepare candidates for the challenges of interpreting — this being an apt keyword, as going through the course presented a true challenge to all of us. (As this article was going to press, we learned that the professional interpreter training program at Georgetown University is closing down, eliminating a valuable source of training.)

The program was intense and applied, with homework and reading assignments. Our day usually started with memory exercises: visualize, analyze, anticipate, associate etc. We took turns repeating passages read to us — passages that were chock full of dates, names, and events.



Daily memory workouts were followed by extensive note-taking exercises, which, as our instructor warned us, are the trickiest tasks in the complex process of consecutive interpretation. The interpreter records each part of the sentence in a prescribed place on the note-pad to facilitate quick retrieval. We learned to structure our notes appropriately so we would be able to recreate the proper sequence of each passage. We learned to write notes vertically, rather than horizontally, to write using a minimum of words and strokes, to abbreviate words in unusual ways, using end letters as well as the beginning ones, and we learned to put certain endings of abbreviated nouns and verbs in the exponential position (e.g. “c<sup>ee</sup>” for “committee” with “ee” raised half a line above the “c” as in 14<sup>th</sup>). We were instructed that past, present, and future should not be expressed grammatically but rather by positioning certain strokes along a time-line.

A good portion of the first three days was devoted to divorcing us from specific words. Paradoxically, we found that words may often be the interpreter's enemy, because a particular word can have a dozen different meanings, and a particular meaning can usually be expressed with any of a number of synonyms or formulations. Writing down the words “in the spring” is not helpful in consecutive interpreting, because those words may re-

fer to a season, a source of water or a mechanical device for suspension or propulsion. A symbol (ideogram) denoting “water” immediately eliminates the other two meanings and reduces confusion.

Structure and method were only the beginning of what we learned, for the passages Mr. Obst read for us to paraphrase covered a large variety of subjects, e.g., American history, aviation, science and technology, history of the arts, music history, law, the court system and economics, among others. He noted frequently that nothing should be left to chance, that interpreters must have extensive knowledge about all kinds of subjects, as they never know where the next interpretation assignment may lead.

The course also taught reliable strategic listening techniques. The interpreter must constantly make choices, based on a variety of factors, about what to jot down and what to consign to memory. Less experienced interpreters tend to write down practically everything, leaving nothing to “visualize-analyze-anticipate.” Often these futile efforts are cruelly punished in short order, when the interpreter cannot decipher his/her own frantically recorded scribbles. The course included comprehensive instructions on the use of ideograms and on how to devise a personal system of general and ad hoc ideograms. Some of us had to exorcise or unlearn old methods before assimilating the new.

Emotions ran high during the classes, from despair to euphoria to resignation and acceptance of one’s limitations and included some dark nights of the soul and bruised egos. But in the end, everyone, from the beginners to the more seasoned interpreters in the bunch, saw improvement and reason for hope.

In addition to the technical instruction described above, the instructor provided a broad overview of the interpretation market in the United States and abroad, as well as information about professional organizations (including, but not limited to, the ATA).

In large part, it was the force of Mr. Obst’s erudition and personality that made the program such a success. He generously shared his past experience and did so with a great deal of enthusiasm and humor, while at the same time remaining a persistent and demanding teacher. It was a comfort to us to hear that he, too, had experienced embarrassing moments on the job.

We, the students, of course, inadvertently contributed our own comic relief to the course. Two examples: In recreating a passage about Dr. Albert Schweitzer, one student had the renowned doctor, financing his hospital by “organ recycling” rather than through “organ recitals.” In another passage, rattled by an inability to read her notes, one of us placed Thomas Jefferson in the Lincoln Memorial. Ah, the stresses of boot camp!

Let us end on three optimistic notes: First, each of us emerged from this mnemonic Seals training very much alive and purged of the burdens of interpreter hubris and paranoia (before this course we had not realized how closely those two resemble each other). In the same process, we gained enough faith in ourselves and our own abilities to not just jump, but leap into the twilight zone of daunting interpreting assignments — GERONIMO! Second, this course was the beginning of a wonderful journey; and we now have the skills to continue along the road that has been shown to us. Third, each of the authors got a remunerative job thanks to the knowledge and contacts gained during this course. What happier ending could a story about an interpreting course have?

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*Do you spend more time in the company  
of a certain largish scarlet tome  
than you do with your family?  
Don't miss the 1999 Greiss lecture!*

## **KENNETH KATZNER IS COMING!**

**ALL MEMBERS ARE URGED TO ATTEND.**

Please direct all questions regarding this event to Slavfile assistant editor Laura Wolfson.  
See masthead for contact information.

**What:** the Slavic Languages Division’s second annual Susana Greiss Lecture  
**Where:** the ATA conference in St. Louis (check the conference program for details)  
**When:** Saturday, November 6th at 1:45 p.m.  
**Who:** Distinguished lexicographer Kenneth Katzner, author of *English-Russian, Russian-English Dictionary*, (the one with the familiar red cover), the most popular dictionary of its kind published in the United States, will be speaking about the challenges of compiling a bilingual dictionary and the similarities between lexicography and translation.

## TRANSLATION FOR THE BIRDS

*Lydia Razran Stone*

All right, I admit it: I am a near fanatic bird watcher. I spend every minute I can spare and some that I really cannot at the wetland (euphemism for swamp) bird sanctuary near my house. Furthermore, I take all my house-guests and even dinner-guests there (although Ann Macfarlane has gotten a VIP exemption). And since I am still in what my mother calls "my Russian phase," many of these guests are Russian speakers, some with little ornithological vocabulary in English. In the course of discussing with them what we are (or should be) seeing in the way of wetland birds, I have begun to realize that the situation with E<>R translation of bird names is extremely complicated, far more so than one might expect in a semantic realm with exact, scientifically defined referents. Furthermore, the general dictionaries I rely on, mainly Callahan IV and Katzner, leave something to be desired in providing accurate definitions, or at least letting you know that they are providing you not with the biologically appropriate Russian name for an American bird, but with the Russian equivalent for the British/

European bird with the same English name as a taxonomically distinct U.S. bird. I do not know for sure, but I suspect that a similar situation must hold for bird names in other Slavic Languages.

Armed with an American field guide to birds, a similar volume for the former Soviet Union supplemented by (an unfortunately not uniformly complete or accurate) English-Russian Biological Dictionary (Chibisov, Russkiy Yazyk, 1993), I compiled the following table. I am providing it here in the hopes that even those of you who think that birdwatching is for... well, the birds, may find it interesting and even - (as who know to what swamp the vagaries of our common profession may take us next) - useful. Happy birding!

The author wishes to thank Jim Walker for his help in checking this document.

In the table that follows, boldface designates entries where the Russian dictionary equivalent of a U.S. bird name is not the biological equivalent of the bird referred to, or where a similar complication exists. See the comments column for further explication.

Bird in English	Dictionary equivalent	Biological equivalent	Comments
bittern	выпь	выпь	
<b>blackbird</b>	черный дрозд	трупиал (oriole family)	Russian term refers to a Eurasian <i>blackbird</i> (thrush family).
<b>bluebird</b>	<i>absent</i>	(синий) дрозд (thrush family)	<i>Синица</i> is biologically related to <i>chickadee</i> .
<b>bunting</b>	овсянка	овсянка-красотка	U.S. <i>buntings</i> are really tropical buntings, which do not exist in Russia -- our equivalents to Russian buntings are what we call <i>sparrows</i>
cardinal	кардинал	кардинал	Does not have European equivalent
crossbill	клевт	клевт	
<b>chickadee (also bushtit and verdin)</b>	синица	синица	Not blue in the U.S.
cormorant	баклан	баклан	
crane	журавль	журавль	
<b>crow</b>	ворона	американская ширококлювая ворона	<i>Ворона</i> is a <i>hooded crow</i> , or gray race of the Eurasian crow -- which is considerably smaller and lighter colored than the U.S. version; a U.S. crow looks more like a <i>ворон</i> to a Russian.
<b>cuckoo (also roadrunner)</b>	кукушка	кукушка	Although the U.S. and European <i>cuckoos</i> are different species they share the same name in both English and Russian.
curlew	кроншнеп	кроншнеп	
dove, pigeon	голубь	голубь	
<b>duck diving (or sea) duck merganser stiff-tailed duck dabbling duck eider goldeneye mallard pintail scaup scoter teal wood duck</b>	утка	нырок крокаль савка утиный гага гоголь кряква чирок чернет морская турпан (синьга) чирок каролинская утка	The word <i>утка</i> does not seem to be used of any wild ducks native to Russia, but is reserved for domestic ducks, the translation of names of non-native species, and the informal name of the class.

<b>eagle bald golden</b>	орел	белоголовый орлан беркут	Thus there is no bird native to Russia; that is specifically named <i>орел</i> , though that is the name of the family.
<b>finch goldfinch</b>	вьюрок (only examples in U.S. are the localized rosy finches and visitor bramblings) щегол	чечевичник (common U.S. finches, e.g., house and purple) чиж	There is only one Russian bird called <i>чечевичник</i> ; but U.S. birds are related to a group called <i>чечевица</i> ; <i>щегол</i> is a European <i>goldfinch</i> ; <i>чиж</i> really means <i>siskin</i> , but all these birds are closely related.
<b>falcon Peregrine falcon</b>	сокол	сокол сапсан	
<b>flycatcher (also king-bird, phoebe, peewee)</b>	мухоловка (old world flycatcher)	тиранн (empidonax or tyrant flycatcher)	Another case where there are no <i>тиранны</i> in Russia and no <i>мухоловки</i> in the U.S.
fulmar	глупыш	глупыш	
<b>goose Canada goose</b>	гусь канадская казарка		The Russian is more biologically correct - a Canada <i>goose</i> is really a <i>brant (казарка)</i> .
grebe	поганка	поганка	
gull	чайка		Note: technically there is no such bird as a <i>Sea Gull</i> in English.
<b>hawk accipiter (small hawk) buteo (larger hawk)</b>	ястреб	ястреб канюк	The Russian language makes a family distinction made only by bird experts in English. It is interesting that the Russian word <i>ястреб</i> refers to the smaller less archetypal hawks.
<b>heron/egret night-heron</b>	цапля <i>absent</i>	цапля кваква	Within this family U.S. practice distinguishes <i>heron</i> and <i>egret</i> (mainly based on color) and the Russians (with marginally more justification) between <i>night herons</i> and the other two.
<b>godwit</b>	<i>absent</i>	веретенник	
<b>grackle</b>	<i>absent</i>	вороний дрозд	
<b>grosbeak</b>	дубонос	дубонос, толстонос, вечерница, щур	Depending on species; <i>щур</i> is the only species that exists in both hemispheres (pine grosbeak/rosefinch) and is not really a <i>grosbeak</i> .
<b>grouse</b>	тетерев; рябчик	тетерев, рябчик, дикушка	Depending on species
hummingbird	колибри	колибри	
<b>ibis</b>	ибис	каравейка	
jaeger	поморник	поморник	
jay	сойка	сойка	
kingfisher	зимородок	зимородок	
kite	коршун	коршун	
kinglet	королек	королек	
lark	жаворонок	жаворонок	<i>Horned lark</i> is only U.S. species
loon	гагара	гагара	
magpie	сорока	сорока	
mockingbird, thrasher, catbird	пересмешник	пересмешник	
<b>moorhen, gallinule</b>	водяная курочка	камышница	
<b>nightjar, goatsucker, whippoorwill, nighthawk</b>	козодой given for whippoorwill only	козодой	
nuthatch	поползень	поползень	
<b>oriole</b>	иволга	трупиал	Again two different species, one in Europe one in U.S. have the same common name; species are cousins related to <i>starlings</i> and <i>grackles</i> .
osprey	скопа	скопа	
<b>owl great horned owl</b>	сова	сова филин	Widespread U.S. <i>owls</i> except those of the family <i>Bubo</i> are called <i>сова</i> - the only <i>Bubo</i> in the U.S. is the <i>great horned owl</i> .
partridge	куропатка	куропатка	
phalarope	клавунчик	клавунчик	

<b>plover kildeer</b>	ржанка <i>absent</i>	ржанка крикливый звук	
ptarmigan	куропатка	куропатка	
<b>quail bobwhite</b>	перепел	куропатка виргинская куропатка	
rail	пастушок	пастушок	
raven	ворон	ворон	
<b>robin</b>	малиновка, зарянка	странствующий дрозд	A U.S. <i>robin</i> is a <i>thrush</i> , a European <i>robin</i> is also a <i>thrush</i> but smaller and of a different subfamily.
<b>sandpiper</b>	песочник; перевозчик	первозчик улит, песочник, чернозобик	
<b>shearwater</b>	<i>absent</i>	буревестник	
sni pe	бекас	бекас	
sparrow	воробей	овсянка	With the exception of the non-native <i>house sparrow</i> , all U.S. sparrows are <i>овсянки</i> .
shrike	сорокопут	сорокопут	
starling	скворец	скворец	
<b>storm petrel</b>	буревестник	качурка	
swallow	ласточка	ласточка	
<b>swift</b>	стриж	иглохвост	
tanager	танагра	танагра	
tern	крачка	крачка	
thrush	дрозд	дрозд	
titmouse	синица	синица	
<b>towhee</b>	<i>absent</i>	тауи	
vireos	виреон	виреон	Not native to Eurasia.
<b>vulture black vulture turkey vulture</b>	гриф	американский стервятник гриф-индейка	
<b>warbler</b>	славка	славка (European warbler; sylviidae); древесница (parulidae, e.g. parula); древесная славка (dendroicae, e.g. bay-breasted warbler); червеедка (vermivora, e.g. worm eating warbler)	Depending on species. Generally, European <i>warblers</i> are <i>славка</i> (birds of this family in the U.S. include only kinglets, and gnatcatchers). What are usually considered U.S. <i>warblers</i> are one of the other three names.
waxwing	свиристель	свиристель	
woodpecker sapsucker	дятел	дятел дятел-сокоед	
wren	крапивник	крапивник	Only one species in all Russia

*Lydia Stone, SlavFile's editor, lives and birds in Alexandria VA near Washington D.C. She invites SLD members who are birders or potential birders and plan to visit Washington to contact her. You too can have a pretty good dinner and a guided tour of the swamp. Lydia's coordinates can be found on the SlavFile mast-head.*

## CONFERENCE EVENTS

This year we have nearly gavel-to-gavel SLD conference sessions, in addition to social events, and papers in other divisions delivered by SLD members. We are again asking individual presenters of division sessions to recruit reviewers of their presentations for *SlavFile*. If anyone would like to volunteer ahead of time to review a session, please get in touch with the presenter or designated contact at the email address below. In addition, if you attend a non-SLD session at the conference that seems to be of particular interest to our readers, we encourage you to submit a review to *SlavFile*. As was the case last year, we intend to distribute session reviews over a number of *SlavFile* issues so that deadline pressure should not be a problem to volunteer reviewers.

### Slavic Languages Division Sessions

(listed in the sequence in which they are scheduled)

Innovative Adjectival Word-Formation Models in Russian Technical Writing: Thursday 1:45-2:30, *Michael J. Launer* (75312.345@compuserve.com)

Culture-Bound Concepts in Russian Translations of American and British Literary Texts: Thursday 2:30-3:15, *Alexandra Belenkaya* (RussTech@russtechinc.com)

Terminology Usage in Russian > English Commercial Translation: Thursday 3:30-5:00, *Kevin Hendzel* (kevin@asetquality.com)

Russian-English Technical Abbreviations, Friday 10:15-11:00, *James E. Walker* (perevod@ellijay.com)

Labels, Tags, Stickers, etc. Friday 11:00-1:45, *Igor Vesler* (vesler@compuserve.com)

Slavic Languages Division Annual Meeting, Friday 1:45-3:15, *Natalia Kissock* (kissock@infolink.morris.mn.us)

Pushkin in Translation: A Bicentennial Look at How Russia's Greatest Poet Survives in English, Friday 3:30-5:00, *Nora S. Favorov* (HOPAF@aol.com), *Elena Levintova* (103535@compuserve.com)

Idiom Savants: Saturday, 8:30-10:00, *Raphael Alden* (raffialden@aol.com), *Lydia Stone* (lydiastone@compuserve.com)

U.S. Government Assistance Programs for NIS Scientists, Saturday 10:15-11:00, *Dennis W. Wester* (dwwester@3-cities.com)

The Russian, Central & East European Language Network of the Institution of Translation and Interpreting, United Kingdom, Saturday 1:00-11:45, *Eyvor Fogarty* (email not available contact Lydia).

Susanna Greiss Annual Lecture: Problems and Pitfalls in Compiling a Bilingual Dictionary, *Kevin Katzner*, contact *Laura Wolfson* (105456@compuserve.com)

### Slavic Social Events:

Slavic Singalong, Friday 6:00-7:15, contact *Lydia Stone* if you wish to cover the singalong for *Slavfile*.

### Slavic Languages Division Reception

Friday, 7:30-8:30, contact *Lydia Stone* to cover (pay \$25 when register to participate, ticket required).

### SLD Members delivering papers in other Divisions:

*Cornelia E. Brown*  
(cebrown@hamilton.edu)

Medical Interpreting from the Grassroots  
II: Start-up and Beyond, Saturday 11:-11:45

Adventures of an American-Born "Foreign Language" Medical Interpreter, Saturday 3:30-4:15

*R. Michael Conner* (conner@texas.net)(with *Lydia Stone*),  
Newsletter Editors Meeting, Friday 10:15-11:45, ATA Activities

*Ted Crump*(ted\_crump@nih.gov) National Language Needs and Capacities (panel participant), Saturday, 10:15-11:45

*Erika Hendzel* (erika@asetquality.com)(with *Istvan Glynnis*),  
Interpretation Equipment Demonstration:Routes to Profitability for Translation Companies and Interpreters, Saturday 1:45-3:15

*Konstantin Lakshin* (ruslink@aol.com) Portable Translation Tools, Friday 2:30-3:15, Translation and Computers

ATA President-elect *Ann G. Macfarlane*  
(info@russianresourceint.com)

ATA Opening Session, Thursday 8:30-10:00

ATA Divisions Committee Meeting, Thursday 1:45-3:15

ATA Meet Your Board, Friday 1:45-3:15

ATA Committee Chairs Meeting, Saturday 8:30-10:00

*Randall Morgan, Jr.* (randy@asetquality.com) with *Kinsey S. Rawe* Quality-First Translation Management: Bridging the Gap Between Theory and Practice, Friday 10:15-11:45

*Thomas L. West III* (twest@intermark-languages.com)

Preconference Seminar A: Spanish Legal Translation: Part III, Wednesday, 9:00-noon

Getting Started as a Spanish-to-English Translators, Thursday, 1:45-2:30

Preconference Seminar G: French Legal Translation: Part I. Wednesday, 1:00-4:00

Note: The more-than-humanly versatile Mr. West also plays the piano for the Slavic singalong.



### SLD ROOMMATE MATCHMAKING SERVICE

Nora Favorov, who herself is looking for a roommate for St. Louis, has nobly offered once again to serve as a roommate clearing house for SLD.

If you have a room and want a roommate, or are seeking both, you can contact Nora and she will attempt to put you in touch with another SLD member with complementary needs. She can be reached at HopaF@aol.com or 8364 Amber Oak Dr. Orlando, FL 32817, phone (407)-679-8151





Newsletter of the Slavic Languages Division  
of the American Translators Association  
1800 Diagonal Rd  
Alexandria, VA 22314

“ Q. Which of the languages you speak do you consider the most beautiful?

A. My head says English, my heart, Russian, my ear, French. ”

*from an interview with Vladimir Nabokov  
Life Magazine (1964)*