

BEGINNER'S LUCK

Liv Bliss (perennially novice translator)

Lakeside, Arizona

A journey of a thousand miles begins beneath one's feet.
The Way of Lao-Tzu

The Black Eyed Peas may have wanted to know "Where is the love?" but more to the point for an aspiring translator is "Where is the work?" Few would put it quite so baldly, but it is a key mantra (can a question be a mantra? no, this is probably a kind of koan) that comes up time and again whenever more established translators ask, "What do you need?"

Simply put, the work is all over the place: the real issue is how to find it.

Let me count the ways:

1) General Job Sites When I was tossed back into the world of freelance translation five years ago, I was on severance pay, so I had almost three months in which to find my feet. A friend sent me a list of general job sites. You know, careerbuilder.com, hotjobs.com, monster.com, vault.com. . . My opinion, for what it's worth: don't bother. Most of them don't even have a category for what we do, and even if they have one, that's not where most (I hesitate to say "any," because life loves to present me with its rarest exceptions) language outsourcers are looking.

2) Freelance and Work-at-Home Sites I've found the same to be generally true even of the slightly more focused sites: elance.com, eWork.com, freelancers.com, guru.com, sologig.com, workaholics4hire.com, WorkOnline.com, etc. and so forth (and don't blame me if any of these outfits is defunct; they can come and go like the summer wind). How do you find them? Just input a word combination along the lines of "freelance work" plus the word "online" into even the feeblest search engine and you'll have entertainment for days. Overall, these don't strike me as productive places for us to be, but if you have the time and the inclination and there is no fee (or a fee that you don't mind paying), by all means list with them.

3) Language-Related Freelance Portals/Job Boards/Job Sites I covered these in my columns in the Winter 2002/3 and the Summer/Fall 2003 issues, which you can access from www.ata-divisions.org/SLD/slavfile.html, and it would probably not be a good use

of bandwidth for me to rehash all that again. The landscape is constantly changing, though, so you might want to input "translation" and/or "interpretation" plus "jobs" into your search engine, and see what is popping these days.

Once in a while I do get an inquiry from one of those sites, and some of them have converted into paying jobs or even ongoing working relationships. In fact, one of my very best jobs to date (a medieval-fantasy novel) came to me out of the blue in response to my long-forgotten listing on a website hosted in New Zealand called www.researchco-op.co.nz. You could have knocked me over with a feather.

Do be careful to find out at the outset if there are any fees attached, if this is a limited-period free trial, and if the site levies a commission. You might also want to try to get a feeling for whether potential clients are being encouraged to troll for the lowest bidder; personally, I have a problem with that. If there is a link to Terms and Conditions, use it, and take the time to read them: this is where you will often find nitty-gritty information that does not appear in the glowing verbiage on the home page. The attitude you take toward fees,

Continued on page 20

Inside:

Berdy on язык Совдепии.....	3
ATA Conference presentations	5,7,14
Negotiations—Переговоры	10
SlavFile Lite	12
Boris remembers Susana.....	13
From our Polish Editor	16
Translating Legal English	17
How to recognize a freelancer	22

SLAVIC LANGUAGES DIVISION

Officers

Administrator: Joseph G. Bayerl
Tel.: 215- 917-8935 Fax: 202-318-2577
b@yerl.net

Asst. Administrator: Elena Bogdanovich-Werner
Tel.: 503-558-1663 Fax: 503-658-1664
elena@hillsdalecorp.com

Membership

SlavFile is published four times yearly.

Articles of interest to Slavic translators and interpreters are invited.

Designation of Slavic Languages Division membership on ATA membership application or renewal form provides full membership.

Write to ATA, 225 Reinekers Lane
Alexandria, VA 22314

Submissions become the property of *SlavFile* and are subject to editing.

Opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the Editor or of the Division.

Editor: Lydia Razran Stone
Tel.: 703-768-5441 Fax: 703-768-1889
lydiastone@verizon.net

Associate Editor: Nora Favorov
Tel: 919-960-6871 Fax: 919-969-6628
norafavorov@bellsouth.net

Associate Editor (Russian and Technical Material, Layout and Typesetting): Galina Raff
Tel.: 704-849-8200 Fax: 704-296-2994
galina.raff@att.net

Contributing Editor (Ukrainian): Olga Collin
Tel.: 847-317-0849
olgacollin@msn.com

Contributing Editor (Polish): Genowefa Legowski
Tel.: 307-745-4220
bartlego@yahoo.com

Copyeditors:
Jennifer L. Guernsey and Christina Sever

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

ATTENTION NEWCOMERS

(TO THE ATA CONFERENCE, SLD OR BOTH)

Each year we try to put together a program for newcomer orientation and introduction.

(After all, who wants to stand around feeling like the new kid in school?) Plans for this year are underway, but have not been finalized enough to publish.

See the announcement in the Fall SlavFile or contact Lydia at lydiastone@verizon.net.

**ANOTHER UNFORGETTABLE
SLD BANQUET VENUE**

For our annual SLD banquet, Joseph Bayerl, has managed to locate a reasonably priced and highly recommended* restaurant within walking distance of our conference hotel.

The gala event is scheduled for Friday, November 3 at Bubba Gump's Shrimp Company. A 4-course dinner with entrée choice of shrimp, fish or steak (or a vegetarian option) will cost \$32/per person including tip and taxes.

Details provided in the Fall SlavFile.

*By Oleg Favorov, husband of Nora, SlavFile Associate Editor and past SLD Administrator.

**LOOKING FOR A ROOMMATE
FOR NEW ORLEANS?**

The time is fast approaching to arrange your accommodations for ATA's Annual Conference.

As a courtesy to our readers, SlavFile will be happy to help conference attendees looking for a roommate. In addition, we welcome anyone with information on less expensive, but convenient, hotels to share it with us so that we can answer queries from others.

If you're looking for a roommate, please send your requirements (gender, smoking vs. non-smoking, etc.) to norafavorov@bellsouth.net

**American Translators Association's
47th Annual Conference
New Orleans, Louisiana
November 1-4, 2006**

The Party Line

By Michele A. Berdy

Reprinted by permission of *The Moscow Times*. Published: September 23, 2005.

Editors' note: We are very lucky to have Michele Berdy as our Greiss lecturer for the next ATA Conference. She will also be presenting a pre-conference workshop on Russian <>English translation. For her fans and those of you who are not familiar with her regular column on language and culture in The Moscow Times, we reprint a column of particular interest to our readers.

After a semester studying in Moscow in 1978, I worked at the Novosti Press Agency as an English-language editor until 1982. Every day, I edited articles for the flagship Soviet foreign publications *Soviet Union* and *Soviet Woman* with titles like the hortatory “Руки прочь от социалистического Вьетнама!” (Hands Off Socialist Vietnam!) or the vaguely minatory “Мы стоим на страже социализма!” (We stand guard over socialism!) or the self-congratulatory “Новый мясокомбинат обеспечивает всю Москву!” (A new processing plant provides meat for all Moscow!). After eight hours of this virtual Soviet reality—punctuated with dreadful political information meetings but comfortably interspersed with hourly breaks for coffee, cigarettes, shopping and gossip with my congenial co-workers—I would go out into the real Soviet world to scrounge for food (hard to find, despite that new processing plant) and then meet up with my friends in the bohemian and dissident set, who were the only people, except informers, who could safely associate with a little capitalist-imperialist like me.

Each of the three worlds of workplace, street and home had its own distinct language. This is, of course, the rule everywhere, but in the Soviet period the distinctions were particularly acute. And the stakes were high if you slipped up at the workplace and showed yourself to be anti-Soviet. You had to make sure you were using the right code in the right place.

For four years, I led a normal, schizophrenic Soviet life. Today, like most Russians my age, I recall that period as a mix of comforting stability; sickening lies and hypocrisy; absolute safety on the streets; moments of unbearable tedium; small but intense pleasures, such as being second in line for the first lemons of the season; glorious high culture; occasional moments of tragedy or fear, such as the arrest of an artist friend; and wildly entertaining, literate, wide-ranging discussions around the kitchen table.

So I opened a new dictionary of the language of the Soviet period the way people open an old high-school yearbook: filled with nostalgic pleasure to rediscover forgotten jargon and phrases, wall posters and slogans, hated authority figures and hilarious in-crowd slang.

The dictionary, compiled and newly revised by the linguists Valery Mokiyeenko and Tatyana Nikitina, is titled *Толковый Словарь Языка Совдепии*, a name which, like much of the language it contains, is hellishly difficult to translate. Совдеп was the abbreviation of Совет депутатов (in full form, the “council of worker, peasant and Red Army deputies”) that came to be shorthand for the Soviet Union. Over time, it came to be used especially in the form Совдепия as a derogatory phrase for the worst of the old regime. To convey the flavor of the original, it might be translated as “The Dictionary of the Worker’s Paradise.” For those who have forgotten that world or never visited it, the dictionary is a gold mine of information. It deciphers all those abbreviations that once slid off the tongue and now are frustratingly opaque: КССР Казахская Социалистическая Советская Республика (Kazakh Socialist Soviet Republic). ПГК? Партийно-государственный контроль (party-state control). БПП? Без права переписки (without the right to correspondence, part of a prison sentence that really meant execution).

The book is filled with hundreds of the stock phrases and clichés that we heard all day, every day. Back in the U.S.S.R., everything was a battle: беспощадная/жестокая/решительная/суровая борьба за победу социализма, за мир, за технический прогресс, за хлеб. (A merciless/fierce/resolute/bitter battle for the victory of socialism, for peace, for technical progress, to harvest the grain.) Loyalty was lauded: Безграничная преданность делу революции (Boundless loyalty to the cause of the revolution). Approval was avid: Программа КПСС получила горячее одобрение партии. (The Program of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union was enthusiastically—literally, “hotly”—approved by the Party.) Socialist countries were brothers: Вместе с нами братские страны! (Fraternal countries are with us!) And victory was always just around the corner: Мы придём к победе коммунизма! (We will achieve the victory of communism!).

Good things got better: Авторитет нашего социалистического государства на международной арене неуклонно возрастает. (The authority of our socialist government on the international arena is steadily rising.) Митинг на заводе явился еще одной яркой



Continued on page 4

демонстрацией братского сотрудничества между СССР и Народной Республикой Ангола. (The rally at the factory was yet another shining example of the fraternal cooperation between the U.S.S.R. and the People's Republic of Angola.)

But bad things were threatening: Мировой капитал - агрессор, стремящийся захватить пролетарскую страну. (World capital is an aggressor striving to seize this proletarian country.) Or sometimes just plain rotten: Нью-Йорк - город контрастов и фальшивых человеческих ценностей. (New York is a city of contrasts and false human values.)

Of course, советский народ (the Soviet people) didn't take this lying down. They rebelled with their language, wittily and wickedly poking fun at the holiest of holies. The dictionary is filled with hilarious examples of anti-Soviet Sovietisms: чучело (scarecrow) for any statue of a Party leader; членовоз (partymobile, or literally a "member carrier") for a limousine that ferried around Party members; Вовчик ("Vladdy") the diminutive of Vladimir used to mean a statue of Lenin; скоммуниздить (to rip something off), in reference to communist expropriation, with some implied obscenity thrown in.

And then there were unintentional howlers committed by the Leninist pious, such as the names they gave their children in the first years of Soviet rule: Нинель (Lenin spelled backwards), Эра (Era) and Энгельсина (Engel-sina) for women and Электрон (Electron), Урал (Ural), Новомир (New World) and Электрик (Electric) for men.

On the street, the language was not entirely party-line, but not entirely dissident either—after all, you never knew who might be standing next to you in line. Someone would ask, Что голоса говорят? (What do the "voices" have to say?), meaning "What are the foreign radio stations reporting?" (from Голос Америки – the Voice of America). Or if there was a line snaking out of a store, you'd ask Что дают? (What's for sale? Or literally, "What are they giving away?").

If you read the dictionary the way I did, from start to finish as if it were a novel—and with an old Bulat Okudzhava tape playing in the background—you dissolve into the Soviet past, which visually comes to life with illustrations of posters and billboards. Anyone who wants to read Bulgakov or Ilf and Petrov in the original Russian will find this dictionary indispensable.

That said, the dictionary has several drawbacks. The compilers included only selected slang, leaving out such gems as джаз на костях – "jazz on bones," that is, homemade record albums engraved on old X-ray film. And they don't always make clear the distinctions between pre-Revolutionary and Soviet usage: For example, the word *говорильня* (gab fest) was used to describe the tsarist Duma, not just Gorbachev-era Party congresses.

Nor do they always include dates for usage or illustrative quotes, which are sometimes from the post-Soviet period and not from firsthand sources. So, for example, if you read their definition of *стиляга* (a hot dresser), you won't know that it primarily referred to imitators of Western fashion in the 1960s. Or while they define *обкомовский* (the adjective derived from *областной комитет* – the regional committee), they don't describe the word's associations. The other day I told a friend: Я вошла в кафе и думала: обкомовская гостиница конца семидесятых! (I walked in the cafe and thought: It's a regional committee hotel at the end of the 1970s.) I'd expected the dictionary to decipher the word so that young folks who never actually saw a regional committee institution in the 1970s would know it referred to somewhat shabby pompous elegance: tables with pleated draping around the edges, bottles of liquor lined up on the bar next to a plate of open-face salmon sandwiches covered with a paper napkin. These drawbacks make the dictionary particularly frustrating for translators, who are oddly not included in the list of potential readers.

And perhaps the authors are themselves too close to the period. There is a slight tendentiousness—a muted contempt—that is understandable and even rather gratifying from time to time, but ultimately not appropriate for a scholarly volume. But this is the second edition. I hope there will be a third that will build upon the extraordinary resource Mokiyeenko and Nikitina have developed so far.

The Dictionary of the Worker's Paradise (Tolkovy Slovar Yazyka Sovdepil) is published by AST-Astrel.

TWO GOOD REASONS TO ATTEND THE NEXT CONFERENCE

Michele Berdy, author of the article on this page, will be delivering
(1) our annual Greiss lecture, "Translating Styles, Genres, and Realities," and
(2) a hands on pre-conference (Oct. 31) workshop, "Torture the Translator" designed for translators working between Russian and English.

Be there!

First Learn to Think Like a Grader:

Taking the ATA Certification Exam

Review of Conference Presentation by Jim Walker and Marina Aranovich

Brian James Baer

One of the most informative and lively sessions sponsored by the Slavic Languages Division at the 2005 ATA conference in Seattle was the one led by James E. Walker, the language chair for R>E certification and Marina Aranovich, his E>R counterpart, entitled “Boon or Bane? What You Should Know about the English>Russian and Russian>English Certification Exams.” Testifying to the importance certification played in his own professional life, Walker encouraged more people to consider taking the exam. This workshop was designed with the specific goals of increasing both the number of people taking the ATA certification exam and the number of people passing it.

The need for such a “test prep” workshop is especially great, considering that translation is always situated in a specific real world situation. Therefore, one’s approach to the translation of a text should be determined by the audience for which the translation is intended (e.g., experts versus lay people), the purpose of the translation (to inform, persuade, or entertain), and the medium in which the translation will appear (scientific journal, general interest magazine, or blog). The ways in which the context shapes the translator’s approach can be described as the aim of the translation. The aim of a given translation may or may not be specifically articulated in a translation brief, but in either case it will—or should—determine the style, register, and even the terminology of the target text. However, the ATA certification exams have, until now, approached translation as if it were largely divorced from the specific real world situations in which translators find themselves working. And while this will change somewhat when every text in the ATA certification exam is furnished with a short translation brief, the more the translator understands the rather unique translation context represented by the certification exam, the more likely s/he is to choose the most appropriate and successful approach.

This workshop sketched out the general, often unstated, translation approach preferred by the ATA and enforced by its graders. After discussing general test-taking strategies, Walker and Aranovich provided a number of interesting errors culled from previous exams in order to teach the audience to think like a grader. Learning the expectations of one’s audience is surely the best way to produce a successful translation. During the course of this exercise, the outlines of a general approach emerged, one that clearly stressed semantic accuracy. Because the number of points deducted for an error depends on the extent to which meaning is felt to be lost or obscured, Aranovich advised

the audience to do nothing that will distort in any way the “message” or semantic content of the source text. She noted that when one edits in order to improve the “naturalness” of the translation, one runs the risk of introducing a host of minor semantic inaccuracies, resulting in the proverbial death by a thousand cuts.

In addition to the discussion and classification of errors, Walker presented a highly informative chart illustrating the distribution of errors and error points on the R>E certification exams. Based on a sample of 20 exams, the chart revealed **misunderstanding** (of source text) to be the reason for the most costly errors (average error points of 5.11), followed by **omission** (4.67) and **mistranslation** (4.02). **Terminology** or word choice, however, was the source of the greatest number of errors (74), with average error points of 2.58. **Usage** errors (for example, misuse of articles) tied with **mistranslation** as the second most common source of errors (50), although the average error points for usage errors was only 1.4, suggesting that meaning was typically not significantly obscured in them. The number of errors fell off sharply in the remaining categories: grammar (19), misunderstanding (18), punctuation (17), too freely translated (11), syntax (9), omission (9), too literal (6), word form (4), register (4), addition (3), spelling (3), style (2), and case (2).

If the best preparation for taking the ATA exam is to learn to think like a grader so as to produce translations that are appropriate for that very specific target text audience, then the first thing one should do is review the materials on the ATA Web site (www.atanet.org) under certification. A testimony to the transparency of the organization and its desire not only to standardize, but also to demystify the grading process, these materials show how graders are trained to think, what they look for in a target text, and how they assess the number of points to be taken off for a given error (see: exam error marking). The flow chart the grader follows in making these decisions is especially helpful and shows the grading process to be anything but capricious.

Another way to learn to think like a grader is to take the practice exam before taking the real one, something both Walker and Aranovich strongly advised. The results of the practice exam can reveal error patterns and grader expectations. Lydia Razran Stone’s article in the *ATA Chronicle* of July 2004 also provides a peek inside the mind of the grader. Stone discusses a number of concrete errors culled

Continued on page 6

ATA Conference in Seattle

First Learn to Think Like a Grader:

Continued from page 5

from certification exams and discusses how the errors were assessed. An expanded version of this article was published in the Fall 2004 *SlavFile* and can be found at <http://www.ata-divisions.org/SLD/slavfile.html>.

While the ATA site contains a number of very useful “Tips for candidates,” Walker and Aranovich offered some additional tips of their own, geared specifically toward those taking the R>E and E>R examinations. First, **bring the right dictionaries**, including: monolingual dictionaries (both SL and TL, such as *Webster’s* and *Ozhegov*); the most comprehensive general E>R and R>E dictionaries available; general E>R and R>E technical, business, financial, legal, and medical dictionaries; as well as any other dictionaries you tend to use regularly in your everyday translation work. Second, **avoid unnecessary risks**. Loss of meaning is far more likely when the translator is being overly creative and radically recasting sentences for the sake of style. Third, **proofread carefully**. The graders noted that on a recent exam an entire sentence was omitted, seemingly as the result of carelessness. This could have been caught through careful proofreading. Walker and Aranovich advise reading through each passage twice, after completing the translation—once to look for omis-

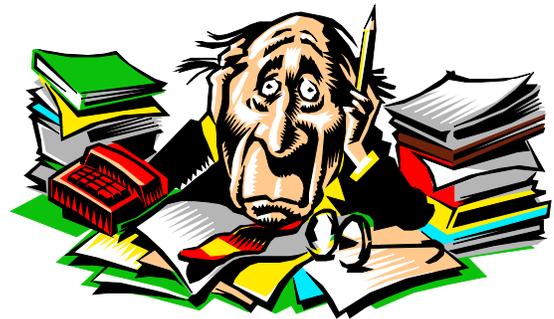
sions, misspellings, incorrect punctuation and other readily apparent mistakes, and the second time to see if the translation makes sense and sounds reasonably natural in the target language.

The ATA is currently in the process of reviewing its certification exam in order to bring it more in line with real world practices, as well as with current scholarship on test taking. In the meantime, test-takers can do a great deal to prepare themselves for the specific translation “situation” represented by the certification exam. Walker and Aranovich achieved their purpose in helping those who plan to take the certification exam to think like graders, so that they will be better able not only to locate errors in their own work, but also to classify them and determine the number of points that are likely to be deducted. But perhaps just as important, they gave a face to ATA graders and in doing so revealed them to be competent, fair-minded professionals.

Brian James Baer is Associate Professor of Russian at Kent State University. He is co-author with Geoffrey Koby of Volume XII of the ATA Monograph Series, *Beyond the Ivory Tower: Re-Thinking Translation Pedagogy*, and is founding editor of the journal *Translation and Interpreting Studies* (TIS).

Интернет-клуб
русских переводчиков
открыт круглосуточно
без выходных.

24/7



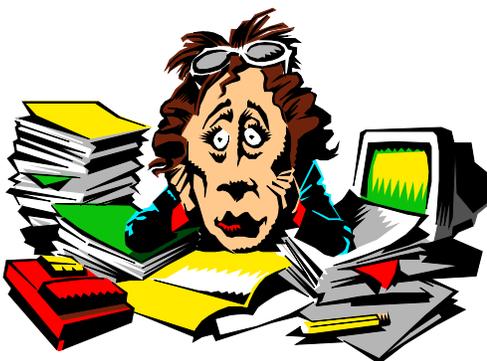
YAHOO RUSSIAN TRANSLATORS CLUB

OPEN 24/7 (INSOMNIAC FRIENDLY)

ALL WELCOME

YOUR SOURCE FOR GIVING OR SEEKING
HELP AND ADVICE, SHARING MATERIALS AND
FINDING HUMAN CONTACT
ON DAYS SPENT STARING AT THE COMPUTER

TO JOIN: CONTACT NORA FAVOROV norafavorov@bellsouth.net



Terminology in Legal and Social Services Brochures

Presented by Emma Garkavi and Vadim Khazin

Reviewed by Liana Loveless

As a brand new student member of ATA, my goal at the 2005 conference, my first, was of course учиться, учиться, и учиться. From every presentation I attended during the three days I took away something different, but the one that left the biggest impression on me was the one I am about to review. From the standing room only crowd to the instantaneous disappearance of every single copy of the handouts, it was evident that I was not the only one looking forward to this presentation, which was geared toward English/Russian translation of terminology used in small claims court, as well as terms concerning wills, tenant rights, social services and education. Expectations were more than fulfilled as the presenters displayed not only extensive knowledge and understanding of the subject matter involved, but also of cultural nuances that affect the perception of the specific concepts discussed.

Ms. Garkavi told us that her material had emerged unexpectedly from her own search for appropriate renderings in Russian of American judicial terminology. Her creative collaboration with Mr. Khazin started when he responded with suggestions to an inquiry she posted on the Yahoo Russian Translators Club.

Many of the terms that were discussed are commonly used in the US, yet are quite new to the Russian-speaking population. Take a living will for example. Using the term завещание could not be an appropriate choice; since it details one's planning for events that occur before, not after, one's death.

During an open discussion at the end of the session there was an outpouring of comments expressing the need

for credible glossaries like this. The topic seemed to raise strong emotions in the language professionals present, who feel they are witnessing firsthand the degradation of the language used by Russian-speaking immigrants. It was empowering to witness virtually everybody in the room united by a desire to preserve the purity of the language. I myself felt a sense of relief and pride in my chosen profession once I grasped the level of expertise and professionalism shared by the seminar attendees. A few months ago I received a study guide for the English/Russian certification exam administered by the Department of Health and Social Services here in the state of Washington, and I just was appalled by the awkwardness and inadequacy of their suggested glossary. It further enhanced my appreciation of the long hours and diligence that Garkavi and Khazin put into this work. Their efforts will help not only empower the Russian-speaking users of legal and social services, but also improve the performance of the professional translators and interpreters who work with them. As a newcomer to the profession, my reactions may be more unabashedly enthusiastic than those of seasoned professionals, but I would think that there could be no divergence of opinion about the tremendous value of sharing collaborative wisdom like this. The editors of *SlavFile* and I agree that publication of the entire list of terms presented at this session would be a real benefit to readers. On their behalf, I thank Ms. Garkavi and Mr. Khazin. Note: The original list is in normal font. Additional notes that I made during the presentation and discussion are in *italics*.

Liana is a native Russian speaker residing in Seattle, Washington. She can be reached at loveless25@comcast.net

SOCIAL SERVICES AND EDUCATION	
Complaint	Устная жалоба (<i>неформальная</i>)
Grievance	Формальная (письменная) жалоба
Fact Finding	Установление фактов
Fair Hearing	Справедливое слушание [дела] (<i>беспристрастное</i>)
Social Security Number	Номер карточки социального обеспечения
Child Support	Алименты на ребенка
Child Support Agency	Агентство, взыскивающее алименты на ребенка
“Qualified” immigrant	«Правомочный» иммигрант
Equal Opportunity Employer	Наниматель, предоставляющий равные возможности
Community service job	Общественные работы
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	Дополнительный доход социального обеспечения (SSI)
High School Diploma	Аттестат об окончании [12-летней] школы
Post-secondary education	Образование после 12 классов
<i>Department of Social and Health Services</i>	<i>Отдел Социальных Услуг и здравоохранения</i>
<i>eligible</i>	<i>правомочный</i>

Continued on page 8

ATA Conference in Seattle

Legal and Social Services *Continued from page 7*

JUDICIAL	
Small Claims Court	Суд малых исков <i>under \$4000</i>
Paralegal	Ассистент адвоката (<i>помощник</i>)
Argue the case	Доказывать свою правоту в деле
Litigant	Тяжущаяся сторона в судебном деле [истец или ответчик]
Sue	Возбуждать иск
Mediation	Процедура примирения сторон [до судебного разбирательства]
Mediator	Посредник
Injury (<i>in small claims</i>)	Ущерб
District Court	Окружной суд
US District Court	Федеральный суд [США] по округу...
Traffic accident	Дорожно-транспортное происшествие (<i>авария</i>)
File a claim	Подать иск [в суд]
“Notice of claim” form	Бланк «Извещение об иске»
Court clerk	Секретарь суда
Secretary of State (<i>not Federal</i>)	Секретарь штата
Filing fee	Пошлина за подачу документа [в суд]
Certified mail	Заказное почтовое отправление
Registered mail	Ценное заказное почтовое отправление
Serve the defendant	Вручить (извещение) ответчику
Proof of service	Доказательство вручения (извещения)
Settlement of a claim	Урегулирование спора [до судебного разбирательства]
Counterclaim	Встречный иск
To the best of your knowledge and belief	Настолько, насколько вы знаете и убеждены
Trial	Судебное разбирательство
Judgment	Судебное решение
Dismissal with prejudice	Отклонение [иска] «с преюдицией», т.е. без сохранения за истцом права на предъявление иска по тому же основанию
Dismissal without prejudice	Отклонение [иска] «без преюдиции», т.е. с сохранением за истцом права на предъявление иска по тому же основанию
Default judgment	Удовлетворение иска вследствие неявки ответчика
Court civil docket	Список гражданских дел к слушанию
Collection agency	Агентство по сбору задолженностей
Garnishment of wages	Наложение ареста на заработную плату
Execution on personal property	Наложение ареста на личную собственность
Superior court	Высший суд <i>Суд Высшей Инстанции</i>
Supreme court	Верховный суд
Lien against real estate	Арест на недвижимость
Workers Compensation Court	Суд по компенсациям работающим
Harassment <i>Sexual harassment</i>	Беспокоящие действия <i>Сексуальные домогательства, приставания</i>

Continued on page 9

ATA Conference in Seattle

Legal and Social Services

Continued from page 8

RESIDENTIAL	
Landlord and tenant	Домовладелец и арендатор жилья
Eviction Notices:	Повестки о выселении:
3 day pay or vacate	Оплатить или выехать в 3-дневный срок
10 days notice to comply	Исполнить в 10-дневный срок
20 days notice to terminate	Повестка о прекращении аренды в 20-дневный срок
Unlawful detainer action	Незаконное удержание помещения
Security deposit	Гарантийный задаток
Rental period	Период аренды
Abandonment	Оставление помещения

WILLS	
Simple Will	Простое завещание
Estate (includes children, money, real estate and personal property)	Наследство (включает детей, деньги, недвижимое и личное имущество)
Estate planning	Планирование наследства
Testamentary instruments	Завещательные документы
Joint tenancy with right of survivorship	Совместное владение недвижимостью с правом на собственность после смерти совладельца
Testator	Завещатель
Guardian	Опекун
Guardian <i>ad litem</i>	Опекун <i>ad litem</i> , опекун-представитель в судебном деле
Beneficiary	Бенефициарий
Bequest	Завещательный отказ
Specific gift	Конкретный дар
Demonstrative gift	Указательный дар [напр., определенной суммы денег или части собственности]
General gift	Общий дар [не являющийся ни конкретным, ни указательным]
Residual gift	Остаточный дар [передача всей собственности, оставшейся после выплаты долгов и завещательных отказов]
(To die) testate	(Умереть) оставив завещание
(To die) intestate	(Умереть) не оставив завещания
Living will	Распоряжение о жизни
Health care power of attorney	Доверенность на принятие решений о лечении
Life sustaining medical treatment	Искусственное поддержание жизни
Health care directives	Указания о принятии решений по лечению
Durable power of attorney	Долгосрочная доверенность
To withhold or withdraw life-sustaining treatment	Не начинать или прекратить искусственное поддержание жизни

FOR DISCUSSION	
Affidavit	Аффидевит, заявление под присягой
Form	Бланк, форма
Chiropractor	Хирупроактор, хиропрактор, Мануальный терапевт
Provider [context!]	Провайдер?
Associate degree	Кандидат в бакалавры, младший специалист

NEGOTIATIONS – ПЕРЕГОВОРЫ

Общение в деловом мире (часть I)

Людмила Измайлова

В современном мире международного и интернет бизнеса можно иногда просто потеряться в обилии фразеологических оборотов, используемых при деловом общении. Как быть, если во время важных переговоров вдруг проскакивают фразы, значение которых вы не понимаете и чувствуете себя дискомфортно? Вроде бы прозвучали простые, знакомые слова, а смысл сказанного непонятен. Фраза “this is a lemon” может значить не лимон, а, к примеру, испорченный холодильник или автомобиль, который постоянно требует ремонта (This car is a lemon). В этой заметке я предлагаю вашему вниманию список фраз и предложений, которые употребляются во время деловых встреч. Такие фразы можно услышать во время деловых переговоров любого уровня.

Milla Ismailova, an English-Russian translator and interpreter, is a native of Baku, Azerbaijan who currently lives in Lake Forest, California. She is Managing Director of the California English Language Center, writes a regular column on business idioms for a Russian magazine, and has translated correspondence for Arnold Schwarzenegger. Milla can be reached at caelc@earthlink.net.

Take the bull by the horns	Действовать решительно, напрямик (брать быка за рога)	Natalie <i>took the bull by the horns</i> and asked for the raise.
Be on the same page	Иметь одинаковое мнение по поводу одной и той же ситуации или информации; понять одинаково одну и ту же информацию	John needs to meet with Alex before the negotiations so they <i>are on the same page</i> when they meet with the Bank CEO.
Think outside the box	Думать неординарно; творчески подойти к решению проблемы	Let’s concentrate on some new and different solutions. Our team needs <i>to think outside the box</i> .
Shoot from the hip	Говорить прямо (напрямую)	Sometimes it is recommended <i>to shoot from the hip</i> during negotiations.
See eye to eye	Соглашаться с собеседником или другой стороной	I like Ben to be on our team. We <i>see eye to eye</i> most of the time.
Bend over backwards	Всячески стараться угодить другой стороне (лезть из кожи вон)	It’s hard to work with some customers. <i>You can bend over backwards</i> to make them happy, but they will never be satisfied.
Lay it on the line	Говорить прямо; откровенно выложить все	Talking to her boss, Mary got tired of hinting around and just <i>laid it on the line</i> .
Back out	Отменить соглашение	Do not trust people who often <i>back out</i> at the last minute.
Give and take	Взаимная уступка	There will have to be a great deal of <i>give and take</i> before they can agree on a budget.
Meet someone halfway	Идти навстречу; уступить	If you would like to make the sale, <i>I will meet you halfway</i> .
Cut the/a deal	Прийти к соглашению (подписать договор)	We spent the whole month before we were able <i>to cut a deal</i> with Airnet.
Water under the bridge (also, water over the dam has the same meaning)	Проблемы, которые остались в прошлом (фраза также означает что проблемы могут все еще быть, но ничего нельзя изменить)	There is no sense worrying about whether we should have fired him long ago; that is <i>water under the bridge</i> .
A win-win situation	Выгодная для обеих сторон ситуация	Both parties could see that this was <i>a win-win situation</i> .

SLAVFILE LITE: NOT BY WORD COUNT ALONE

Lydia Razran Stone

The tribute I wrote in our last issue to our founder Susana Greiss was missing one of my favorite Susaneccdots. I omitted it intentionally, having realized that it failed to cast any particular light on Susana herself, but instead revealed something about, of all people, my mother. To understand this story you have to know about one of my mother's traits (one of my least favorite of her traits, but one that seems forgivable in retrospect). She liked to ensure that the people she met were impressed by the general illustriousness of her family – my father and me. Though I would not say she lied exactly, she portrayed our accomplishments at such length and in such a golden light that they were scarcely recognizable. For example, it was true that during some summers of my college years I accompanied my father to the Soviet Union, where he had a grant to study Soviet psychophysiology. Indeed while there, I did meet and have dinner with some fairly illustrious scientists, of the sort who had institutes named after them. However, my interactions with them were largely limited to my greeting them prettily in Russian, whereupon they kissed me on the forehead, called me a *милая девочка* (because of my small girth and long hair, Soviets were always taking me for younger than I was), and then dispatched some minion, or in one case a grandson, to show me the sights, while they talked with my father. However, to hear my mother tell of this admittedly unusual experience, you would have thought that at the age of 17, I had addressed a plenary session of the Academy of Sciences in perfect Russian.

Now, to get back to Susana. Some time in the early 1990s, when the SLD was just a SIG (Special Interest Group), Susana cajoled me into writing a profile of myself for its newsletter. I cranked something out that I felt was fairly acceptable. Thus I was quite surprised when Susana called me several weeks after I had submitted it to say, in injured tones, that she was very disappointed in it and in me. It seems she had met my mother at an Elder Hostel weekend somewhere near New York. When Susana had mentioned that she was working with Russian translators, my mother asked if she knew me and the flood gates opened. Why, Susana wanted to know, had I written such a dry and pedestrian profile, leaving out all of the exciting events and accomplishments my mother had told her about?

Last spring, some of us were lucky enough to receive a message from Igor Vesler recommending we visit the New York Metropolitan Transit Authority website (www.mta.nyc.ny.us, click on the Russian flag) if we wanted to amuse ourselves with an untouched-by-human-hands, machine-translated website. This recommendation was more than worthwhile: for example, the first page refers to the Long Island Rail Road as *Длинная Дорога Рельса Острова*. At the time I received this message I was totally astonished at the general outrage that seemed to be felt because some

immigrant groups had translated our national anthem into Spanish. In my view the only danger in doing this was that if the translation was a good one, the number of people in this country who actually were able to parse the lyrics might hit double digits. I was thus moved to go to the website providing the translation used on the MTA site and input the first lines of the *Star Spangled Banner* into their Russian translation program. What emerged was: *Oh, мнение, можете вы увидеть, светом рассвета предыдущим, настолько самолюбиво мы окликнули с поблескивать сумерк последний?* We can all sleep easy. Clearly the threat of machine translation to our professional livelihood is about equal to the threat posed to the U.S. of translating our national anthem into Spanish.

I am currently recovering from a mild virus that I think I must have caught from Associate *SlavFile* Editor, Nora Favorov. Now it is not surprising that two people who work so closely together should pass germs back and forth. However, the only contact we have had in the last couple of months has been by e-mail! Not the most common transmission route! On the other hand, she and her family are the only ones I know who have had like symptoms lately, and the incubation period just fits, as her husband and I came down with it at exactly the same time. When I wrote to Nora and told her I now had her bug, she was less than ideally remorseful, and simply suggested cavalierly that I get my virus protector updated.

Speaking of my e-mail correspondence with Nora, for some years now (since an SLD session on idioms in which we discussed how best to translate *Обнимаю*, or even *Обнимаю и целую* as a letter closing, or statement that one wants one's affection conveyed to someone) we have been signing our correspondence *IHIK*, which stands for *I hug, I kiss*. I recommend this practice, particularly because the parallel format encourages the writer to include some tidbit of his or her daily life, which time generally prevents elaborating in e-mails. For example, *IHIK I go see why the children are so quiet, IHIK I go buy shrimp for paella, IHIK I put my aching brain to bed*, etc.

We just got back from a wonderful trip to Mexico. While there I decided to start a collection of unexpected words that are similar in Spanish and Russian while not remotely anything like their English counterpart. So far I have two really good-ones: mother-in-law: *suegra* in Spanish and *свекровь* (*svekvrov*) in Russian, and humpback: *jorobado* in Spanish, *горбатый* (*gorbatyi*) in Russian. If readers know of other off-the-wall cognates to add to this collection, please send them to me. I think it is the case with many people trying to converse in a foreign language that they experience more intrusions from another foreign language than from their native tongue. This is certainly the case

Continued on page 12

with me: I have managed to suppress French intrusions into my Spanish but still struggle with Russian ones. It is interesting to observe which words intrude the most—perhaps those are words that are felt to be particularly appropriate to their meaning. In my case the most persistent intruder from Russian is the word “но”. I also get into trouble because of my predilection for rhyming. The Spanish term for limes means green lemons and is *limónes verdes*. I have to fight with myself not to call them *limónes zelyones*. Similarly, in one town we lived near the main square or *zócalo*, and I am afraid that I kept telling people we lived *okolo zócalo*. Oh well, everyone in Mexico knows that all gringos are a little crazy!

When my friend Elizabeth came over for dinner the other day, I had a surprise for her. Some 40 years ago, when we were in college, I had a Russian embroidered blouse that Elizabeth loved. I promised her that the next time I was in Russia I would get one for her. Shamefully, I never kept my promise. (I think what actually happened is that the next summer I never got to Russia since I got married instead.) A few years ago we were talking about something and she reminded me of this incident, which immediately slipped my mind again. Last month, when we were in Oaxaca (Mexico), a city that has approximately 30 embroidered blouses on sale for every man, woman and child living there, I saw one in tunic style that looked more Russian than the genuine article. I suddenly remembered my promise and got it for Elizabeth. The moral of this story is that if I make a promise to you and do not keep it, don't give up hope; 40 years later I might come through. On the other hand, if the promise is personally or professionally important to you, I suggest you nag me.

It is frog season here, especially in the wetland park where I sometimes hang out. Here is a poem, possibly the only one ever written about a translator and some frogs.

ЛЯГУШАЧИЙ КОНЦЕРТ

Валерий Шульжик

За дальним косогором,
За лугом и ручьём
Поют лягушки хором
Неведомо о чём.

Я чай тяну из кружки
И греюсь у костра,
Весёлые квакушки
Не смолкнут до утра.

Я перевёл охотно бы,
О чем горланит хор,
Но языка болотного
Не знаю до сих пор.

THE TRANSLATOR AND THE FROGS

*after the Frogs' Concert by Valeriy Shulzhik
translated by Lydia Stone*

From hills and fields and swamps and bogs
We're serenaded by the frogs,
Their lullaby goes on and on
And does not cease until the dawn.

They work so hard, these frogs in chorus,
You'd think they had a message for us.
The tune is cheerful and serene.
As for the words, what do they mean?

I'd gladly translate them for you
Indeed, translation's what I do.
But wait! The schools when I was young
Forgot to teach the Swampish tongue.

LINGUISTIC SENSITIVITY IN THE RF

From The Washington Post, July 16, 2006

Mostly absent from St. Petersburg are the young international activists who take part in colorful, and sometimes violent, protests at every G-8 summit. One hardy bunch did set out from Berlin on bikes, among them Adrian Sauter, a Swiss national. He was arrested in St. Petersburg and sentenced the next day to 10 days in prison.

Police charged Sauter with using obscene language in public, according to human rights activists who monitored the brief trial. In court, the judge asked the testifying police officer what language Sauter swore in. “Swiss,” the police officer replied.

“MY” SUSANA GREISS

Boris Silversteyn

I first met Susana in 1994, at the ATA Conference in Austin. I joined ATA in 1986, but this was my first conference; in those days I had a full-time job, and the conference “cost” me a vacation week. It was well worth it! I made new friends, met people whom I had known only by name, did some sightseeing, and had a good time overall.

In retrospect, the Conference highlight—for me—was a Russian SIG meeting. An older woman with a soft voice and a friendly smile on her face was running the meeting. The person sitting next to me (it was Michael Conner, as I found out later) told me her name was Susana Greiss.

There were fewer than two dozen people in the small room, and not a single familiar face. At the beginning, I raised my hand and suggested that each person introduce him/herself so that we would know who was who. With the same friendly smile, Susana said: “I am in charge here, and you are overruled” (or something to that effect). Needless to say, my blood boiled and I muttered, “This is the first and the last Russian SIG meeting I’m ever attending,” to which Michael whispered, “Please reconsider” (or something to that effect). Boy, am I glad I did!

My next “encounter” with Susana was when she set about to transform the Russian SIG into an ATA Division. She called, asking me to sign a petition to establish the Division (at least twenty active members needed to sign). She volunteered to be the first Administrator, and I was stupid enough to ask her if she had a Russian-English or English-Russian ATA accreditation, which, I thought, was a prerequisite for being the administrator of a language-specific Division. Patiently, Susana explained that there was no such requirement, that she was accredited in several (it turned out “several” meant **FIVE**) language pairs, and that she was the only person who would take upon herself this burden anyway. With that, I agreed to “join the club.”

A year later, Susana called again, late in the evening, this time asking me to serve (with Michael Conner, if I remember correctly) on the Division nominating committee, to find a volunteer for the division assistant administrator position. When I said “Yes”—those who know me know I can’t say “No” to a woman—she told me it was the only good news she had had that day: everybody she had been asking to join the nominating committee had declined; plus it was raining all day in NYC, and when she drove across town to an appointment, she had found the office closed. (After several futile calls, the committee did find a “victim”; Alexey Serebrennikov agreed to serve as the assistant administrator for one year.)

I consider myself fortunate to have known Susana and to have been one of her numerous admirers and devotees. Unpretentious and matter-of-fact, she was always friendly, sharing her thoughts on issues of mutual concern. Several years ago we accidentally found out that we had often voted for the same candidates for ATA offices, rejoicing when “our” candidates were winning and (mildly) upset when they did not.

Susana’s was the voice of reason and encouragement. She always went straight to the point, without wasting words or embellishing the subject. The last I heard from her was December 18, 2005. In the e-mail she sent to a colleague and cc’d to several other SLD members, she wrote, regarding problems with then current continuing education requirements for upholding a translator’s ATA certification:

I am sorry I cannot participate fully in this debate. As you may know, I had an accident and am now in Rehab until the end of the year...

I believe the Board is sincere in their desire to serve the translation community and responsive to our needs as kinks show up over time. Let’s not get all in an uproar over something that is fixable. Boris, we are all depending on you to be our champion on the Board. My ‘children’ in the SLD have always come through and I am very proud of you.

Mourning Susana’s departure, I am grateful for her having touched my life.

Regular *SlavFile* contributor Boris Silversteyn was elected to the ATA Board of Directors in 2005. He can be reached at bsilversteyn@comcast.net.

SlavFile is eager to publish the translator profiles, original line drawings (cartoons), glossaries, reviews (book, dictionary, movie, etc.), insights, opinions, and/or ramblings of our readers. Especially welcome are contributions pertaining to Slavic languages other than Russian. Send contributions or inquiries to Lydia or Nora at the addresses on the masthead.

PROBLEM WORDS IN RUSSIAN-ENGLISH

PUBLIC HEALTH TRANSLATION

Presentation at the 2004 ATA Conference by Nora Favorov

Editors note: We continue publishing the materials presented at a 2004 ATA Conference session that we neglected to review last year even though two of the presenters were SlavFile editors. As the shoemaker's children go barefoot...

Word 1. КОНСУЛЬТАЦИЯ

Counseling, consultation or something else?

In America, the word **counseling** is something psychologists, social workers and attorneys do. It implies an aspect both of psychological support and expert advice.

In medicine, a **consultation** is something very specific—a term used by doctors and insurance companies for the meetings between a doctor and a patient who has been referred by another doctor. It involves a review of the patient's medical history and almost always an exam to look at a specific situation. It is different from a “new patient” appointment or a visit by an existing patient to a doctor.

When Russians use the term, what are they talking about?

Провести **консультацию** по планированию семьи
To provide family planning **counseling**

Какого рода **консультирование** по ЗППП (какая информация) предоставляется медработниками во время **консультирования** по ПС?
What kind of STI **counseling** (what information) do doctors provide during family planning **counseling**?

В основном клиенты приходят уже с конкретными проблемами, редко когда приходят на проф. осмотр или просто за **консультацией**.
Clients mostly come with specific problems; it is rare for someone to come just for a [preventive] checkup or just for **counseling**.
*This is a gynecologist speaking. If she has in mind family planning counseling, this would be the right term.

У нас так, 90% мы лечим, редко женщины приходят за **консультацией**, все больше больные.
Ninety percent come here for treatment; women rarely come here (a) just to see a doctor?? (b) just for a checkup?? (c) just for counseling??, ...most are sick.

Никогда женщина не придет к нам, и скажет я пришла на **консультацию** или просто на проф. осмотр, потому так принято, что люди к стоматологу и гинекологу приходят в крайнем случае.

A woman will never come and say, I came for **counseling** or for a checkup, because that's not what's done: people go to the dentist and the gynecologist only in extreme cases.

Первая **консультация** очень важна для создания доверительных отношений между женщиной и врачом.

A woman's first **visit** is very important in building a trusting relationship with a doctor.

Женская консультация

For an audience that knows something about public health in Russia, and where it is important that it is understood exactly what kind of health facility is being discussed (old-style, state facility that offers antenatal and contraceptive services), stay literal:

woman's consultation clinic
woman's consultation center

For a non-specialist American audience that knows nothing about Russian public health, the above translations will conjure up images of psychological or social services. In that case, or if the audience is not concerned with the distinction between state and private clinics, the following will be much easier to understand:

woman's health center
antenatal clinic
prenatal clinic

Word 2: ОБСЛЕДОВАНИЕ

What do the dictionaries say? Beniumovich & Lingvo: examination, inspection, observation, survey; Callaham: examination (обследование на выбор: screening)

On a patient questionnaire:

Причина **обращения**: **обследование** с целью исключения ЗППП, контакт с больным ЗППП, другие причины.

Reason for **visit**: STI **screening**, contact with someone infected with an STI, other reasons.

Continued on page 15

Предложить прийти на **контрольное обследование** через 3-4 недели после лечения.
Suggest a **follow-up visit** 3-4 weeks after treatment.

Должностные обязанности директора клиники [one of many in a list]: **Руководить организацией оптимального для пациентов режима их обследования.**

Responsibilities of the clinic director: To oversee the organization of systems promoting optimal patient care.

From Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine

A **diagnostic investigation** is indicated if amenorrhea continues for six months or more or is associated with galactorrhea.

Показано **обследование** особенно, если аменорея продолжается более шести месяцев...

Word 3: ИССЛЕДОВАНИЕ

Dictionaries: Beniumovich & Lingvo: study, investigation, research, survey

Callaham: investigation, etc., see v.; inquiry, research, study, survey, analysis

Commonly used both for lab tests (исследование крови), specific examination methods (пальцевое ректальное исследование) and scientific research.

В амбулаторной карте пациента подробно отражать анамнез, данные объективного **обследования** и результаты лабораторных **исследований**.
Record in detail in the outpatient chart patient medical history, **examination data** and results of laboratory **testing**.

Двойное слепое исследование = double blind study
Клиническое исследование = clinical study/research
Can refer to a specific study...

В ходе **исследования** выделялось несколько взаимосвязанных факторов, обусловивших высокий уровень заболеваемости...
Over the course of the **study**, several interrelated factors responsible for the high level of infection were identified...

Or research in general (usually in the plural)...

Изучив последние научные **исследования** в данной области...
Having examined the latest scientific **research** in this area...

Word 4: РАССЛЕДОВАНИЕ

Dictionaries: Beniumovich: Doesn't include it.

Lingvo: Doesn't include it in med. dictionary. In scientific dictionary: investigation.

Callaham: investigation, inquiry, examination

Within public health, this term is mostly used in the context of investigating/tracking disease on an epidemiological level.

Расследование вспышек инфекционных заболеваний...

Tracking outbreaks of infectious diseases...

Нередко проведение эпидемиологического **расследования** сопровождается разглашением врачебной тайны диагноза.

Often epidemiological **investigation** is accompanied by the disclosure of confidential diagnoses.

[Based on a Google investigation, track/tracking comes up as often as investigate/investigation when linked with "outbreak." If it is primarily a matter of keeping track of the numbers of the ill, I would call this tracking. If researchers are going into nursing homes, hospitals, and communities and interviewing, swabbing, etc., that sounds more to me like investigation.]

WORD 5: СЛЕЖЕНИЕ

Dictionaries: Beniumovich: Only has it in context of environmental monitoring.

Lingvo: Doesn't have it in medical dictionary. In science dictionary: following, tracing, tracking.

Callaham: following, tracing, tracking.

Добровольное анонимное исследование лиц пользующихся пунктами обмена шприцев (активное слежение).

Voluntary anonymous testing of individuals using needle exchange points (active tracking).

Данные по anti-HIV статусу полученные при обследовании при поступлении в медицинские учреждения (наркологические клиники, инфекционные больницы и др.). (пассивное слежение).

Data on anti-HIV status from patients tested during visits to medical facilities (drug clinics, infectious disease hospitals, etc.) (passive tracking).

Continued on page 16

Polish Miscellany

Genowefa Legowski
SlavFile Editor for Polish

Данные по anti-HIV статусу полученные при **обследовании** в пенитенциарных учреждениях (сверх-пассивное **слежение**).

Data on anti-HIV status received through **patient care** in penitentiaries (super-passive **tracking**).

Word 6: НАБЛЮДЕНИЕ

Dictionaries: Beniumovich and Lingvo: 1) observation
2) survey, surveillance; follow-up; monitoring.
Callaham: observation, study... monitoring

Phrases from Beniumovich

Дородовое наблюдение	Antenatal care
Диспансерное наблюдение	Regular medical check-up
Клиническое наблюдение	Clinical observation
Отдалённое наблюдение	Long-term follow-up

Развитие детей проходит **под наблюдением** психолога, логопеда.

The children's development is **monitored** by a psychologist and speech therapist.

Матери получают информацию о необходимости **обследования и наблюдения** новорожденного у педиатра.

Mothers receive information about the need for the newborn to receive **ongoing care** from a pediatrician.
or maybe

...to **have a checkup** and **receive ongoing regular care** from a pediatrician.

Difference between обследование and наблюдение?

Обследование: can be used in reference to one-time exam.

Наблюдение: can be used vaguely to describe any kind of long-term medical care/observation.

But they can often be appropriately translated as "care."

I recently returned from a trip to Poland. It was, as always, a very enjoyable experience. I spent some time in Gdańsk, my favorite city, and also had a chance to visit Kraków, which is more beautiful than ever, with many of its historical buildings and plazas restored. People are raving about the restored old Jewish quarters in the part of the city called Kazimierz. We went to the famous salt mine in Wieliczka; which was an educational and also aesthetic experience. Everywhere in Poland one can see a lot of work being done to make this country more beautiful and more people-friendly. In contrast, the political atmosphere there is heavy and highly polarized. The situation there is unique, with power monopolized by the Kaczyński twins. Lech Kaczyński is the president, and his brother Jarosław is the prime minister. They are affiliated with the Law and Justice (*Prawo i Sprawiedliwość*) party, which is considered right of center on the political scene. The Kaczyński brothers have chosen to form some controversial political alliances with populists and right wing parties that do not have wide support, especially among the more educated people in Poland. On the other hand, some Poles believe that this government will finally root out the remnants of the old communist regime, thus providing needed closure for that episode in Poland's modern history.

It seems that everybody in Poland is studying English now. The young people are not as shy as my generation used to be, and they try to communicate in English whenever they can. Some of them go (or plan to go) into the field of translation and interpretation, not fully understanding that it takes more than the ability to communicate to become a professional translator or interpreter.

A few miscellaneous linguistic tidbits I noted:

- Annoying announcement at Polish airports as the last call for missing passengers: "We are looking for so and so..." in Polish: "*Poszukujemy Pana/Panią...*" It sounds to me as if they are looking for a lost piece of luggage or maybe a criminal on a wanted list.
- Advertisement in English on one of the hotels in Sopot: "Free rooms." If the rooms are free, what is going on there? I wonder how they stay in business. Are the owners in the money laundering business?
- "*Praca społeczna*" (volunteer work) was translated as "social work." Social workers do get paid, maybe not a lot. Volunteers, on the other hand, do not get money for their sometimes invaluable services.

For the next issue of the *SlavFile* I would like to explore different terms used to designate a literary translation. In Polish, translation of a book is often referred to as "*przekład*," instead of "*tłumaczenie*." I'm curious as to whether something similar occurs in other Slavic languages. Perhaps some speakers of these would like to contribute.

Genowefa can be reached at bartlego@yahoo.com

THOMAS WEST'S 1996 HANDOUT ON CHARACTERISTICS OF LEGAL ENGLISH

From the editor: Recently I received a desperate email from Tanya Gesse: she had inadvertently destroyed her electronic copy of the handout from Tom West's 1996 ATA presentation, on which she had been relying all these years to help in translating contracts. I knew immediately which handout she meant, since I too have relied on it, but found that my copy (not my original but one I had cadged from another member when I lost mine some years after the presentation) had missing pages. Tom no

longer had it. Luckily, still another member faxed copies to both Tanya and me, so the story has a happy ending. Since happy endings are meant to be shared, we have decided to reprint the handout here for those of you who were not present at the 1996 conference, as well as those who have mislaid their cherished copies, some of us several times. In this reproduction some filler material and lengthy examples have been left out to save space.

CHARACTERISTICS OF LEGAL ENGLISH

1. Doublets. English says it twice. Russian says it once.

By and between	между
Null and void	
of a law	не имеющий законной силы утрачивает силу
of a contract	не имеет силы
of a contract provision	является недействительным
Last will and testament	завещание
Cease and desist	отказаться от (выполнение чего-нибудь; действия)
Alter and change	вносить изменения (во что-либо)
In full force and effect	вступить в силу
To have and to hold	
for securities/ownership	владеть ценными бумагами
for land	иметь землю в собственности
hold, dispose of [?]	иметь в распоряжение
Each and every	каждый
Sole and exclusive	исключительный
Aid and Abet	
criminal acts	пособничать
induce unlawful acts	подстрекать
facilitate or assist	содействовать кому-либо

2. Use of Shall/May

In English contract terminology must is expressed as **shall** while Russian uses the present tense to convey the same meaning.

Correct for contracts: *The seller **shall** deliver the goods within 30 days of the execution hereof.*

Incorrect for contracts: "...is going to deliver the goods." "...must deliver the goods or anything else."

Continued on page 18

CHARACTERISTICS OF LEGAL ENGLISH *Continued from page 17*

Russian example: *Действие договора **начинается** со дня перечисления суммы кредита со счета банка.*

In English contract terminology is allowed/permitted to is expressed as **may**, Russian uses мочь.

Correct for contracts: *The Seller **may** ship the goods via Federal Express.*

Incorrect for contracts: “It is possible that the seller.....,” “The Seller is allowed to use Federal Express,” or anything else.

Russian example: *Настоящий договор может быть продлен по взаимному согласию сторон.*

3. Use of **Herein**, etc.

Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary.	невзирая ни на что, предусматривающее в настоящем договоре обратное
Seller hereby sells to Buyer.	настоящим
The Coca Cola company (hereinafter “Coke”)	в дальнейшем именуемым
as set forth hereinbefore	вышеуказанный; вышеупомянутый
as set forth hereto as Exhibit A	прилагаемый к настоящему договору
in exchange for the price thereof	установленной на нее цены
any disputes arising hereunder	в соответствии с настоящим договором

4. Use of defined terms

The agreement (the “Agreement”) is entered into by and between XYZ Marketing Corporation (hereinafter the “Purchaser”) and ABC Sales, Inc. (hereinafter the “Seller”). Seller agrees to sell to Purchaser all its output of spare parts (collectively, the “Spare Parts”).

Capitalized terms used herein shall have the meaning set forth in Section 2.

Therefore be consistent and use the terms stipulated (and not synonyms) throughout your translation.

покупатель: either the Purchaser or the Buyer

арендодатель: either the Landlord or the Lessor

арендатор: either the Tenant or the Lessee

акционер: either the Shareholder or the Stockholder.

5. Use of suffixes **-or (-er)** and **-ee**

Lessor (арендодатель) Grantor (лицо, передающее право)

Lessee (арендатор) Grantee (лицо, к которому переходит право собственности)

Mortgagor (залогодатель) Donor (даритель)

Mortgagee (залогодержатель) Donee (дарополучатель)

Continued on page 19

Lender (заимодатель) Offeror (оферент)
Lendee (заемщик) Offeree (оферты)

6. Use of terms of art

this agreement (not the present agreement)	настоящее соглашение
to enter into a contract (not to conclude a contract)	заключать контракт
by and between the parties (not between the sides)	между сторонами
recitals (not declarative part)	декларативная часть
whereas	поскольку
Now, therefore, the Parties agree as follows	Стороны согласились о нижеследующем
consideration	встречное удовлетворение
term	срок действие соглашения
effective date	дата вступления в силу
condition precedent	предварительное условие
condition subsequent	отменительное условие
use its best efforts to facilitate the sale (best efforts clause)	предпринимать все усилия по продаже
force majeure	форс-мажор
arbitration	арбитраж
notices	уведомления
severability	делимость соглашения
entire agreement ("merger clause")	полное соглашение
prior written and oral agreements	предварительные письменные и устные соглашения
in witness whereof	в свидетельством о том
to execute a contract	подписывать
counterpart	копия, экземпляр контракта

Reprinted with the kind permission of Thomas L. West, the copyright holder. All typos are the responsibility of SlavFile.

To Our Loyal SlavFile Readers: A Little Task for You

- Find a binder
- Label the spine "SlavFile"
- Print out this issue of SlavFile (preferably printing on both sides of your paper)
- Get out your 3-hole puncher and prepare your SlavFile for the binder
- Make a mental note to remember how full of useful glossaries, interesting stories, and useful tips this and (we hope!) every issue of SlavFile is.
- Take your binder off the shelf and refer to it from time to time. There may be something in there that you didn't need at the time you first read it, but will come in handy down the road!

commissions and so on will of course be personal to you, but it's pretty irritating to spend your valuable time filling in page after page of a data form only to end up on a page that wants your credit card number when you don't want to give it.

Speaking of time, you can often save lots of it by simply pasting the relevant portions of your resume into the data form (references can be a particular pain) and then reformatting appropriately. And do, do, please do *proofread* your entries (one hopeful once advertised herself as "a very though editor"), no matter how tiny the box and no matter how much scrolling and squinting you have to do.

Some of these sites list your information, allowing potential clients to find and contact you (the ATA's online Directory would be a prime example). Others act as a marriage broker, matching you up with appropriate client requests (those are usually fee- or commission-based, and you can see why). And others—the ones that require little or no information about you— simply list offers and openings, often culled from other sites, leaving it to you to make the contact. Wherever you can, I would advise setting up your preferences so that job notices are e-mailed to you as they're posted or in a daily digest. At the beginning, it may feel good to get out there and check all the lists every day or even every few hours, but before long, if you're playing your cards right, you will have neither the time nor the interest to do that, and a potentially fruitful site may then languish, ignored and forgotten by you.

Finally, from some sites, like translatortips.com and translationdirectory.com, you can purchase a regularly updated list of potential language clients and outsourcers, with hints on how best to use it. This can apparently work (just look at the testimonials at www.translatortips.com/tranmail.html), but as an approach, it's not for me.

4) Language Company Sites Ah, what a time it was: I would go down to the library, collect the yellow pages for as many large cities as I could, compile a careful list of every translation agency found there, and then go home to lick a ton of envelopes. That was in the very early eighties, and I don't miss those days one bit. There was always something faintly embarrassing about "cold" resumes, necessary evil as they were (I never was too great on the phone). But in the cyberworld, if you go to a language company site and see a link labeled "Want to Work for Us?" or "Freelancers Welcome!" or other encouraging exhortations, you actually feel *invited* to knock on the door. And knock you should! I don't believe I have ever generated a successful lead from any such listing, but that's just me, and what harm can it possibly do?

And as your name gradually percolates through the community, companies (and, for that matter, job portals, boards, and sites) will start approaching you, inviting you to sign up. Again, look at their conditions and weigh the circumstances carefully; if they're out looking for sign-ups

they are probably very new, very incompetent, or just plain dubious. Make every effort to know whom you're dealing with, and that will lessen your chance of frittering your precious time away or even getting hurt. And never hesitate to *unlist* yourself if a site or company is not filling your needs or is generally making a nuisance of itself.

On the subject of nuisances, try to ascertain that the company in question covers the language pairs, subject areas and document types that you want to specialize in, because there's not much point in listing with a company that concentrates on nuclear regulation if you really only care about pharmaceuticals.

As always, the search engine is your friend. Input "translation" with "company" and/or "agency," "bureau," etc., pick the ones that interest you from the literally millions of hits you will get, and study them. If it is a one-person company or one whose site says "We are not seeking additional vendors at this time"—take a hint, and don't bother them. And if the company site shows an interest in recruiting and has a sign-up form, use it. It is there to winnow out the freelancers in whom the company has no interest and focus on the rest with the minimum of human effort; it is a "don't call us, we'll call you" situation.

But if there is no form, all the other signs are positive, and you can find contact information for a promising-looking individual in the company, you might want to try making direct contact, just like in the old days, and asking if they are looking for folks like you. That person is unlikely to become your best friend, and may well forget all about you as soon as s/he puts the phone down, but it could be worth a try. Don't overstay your welcome, though, and **don't** make a note to call back every two weeks (just my personal opinion: if you've done that and it worked marvelously, let me know).

5) Pro Bono Work and Blatant Opportunism Opinions on working for free vary hugely, and some translators may at this very moment be sticking pins in a doll to make me twinge for even mentioning it. But you are bright enough to know when you're simply being exploited and when you are making a difference for a worthy cause while also plumping up your experience and your resume. In fact, I found two of my favorite clients by offering to work for them at no charge because what they were doing was important to me. One paid from the very outset (at lower than my usual rate, but I didn't mind), and the other began paying handsomely as soon as I had proven myself. I picked up another client opportunistically, by emailing them, and telling them—politely—that their website did not do them justice and I could help make it better. Next thing I knew, I was regularly working on their marketing materials and being paid quite decently for it.

The moral of this story is: Be flexible, Be alert, Be ingenious, Be bold.

Continued on page 21

6) Local Openings If the area you live in is reasonably civilized and well-populated, you may find work waiting for you in your own back yard. Try the local yellow pages, input “your town or area” plus “translation” or “interpretation” into a search engine, read the local papers (and I mean the news stories, not just the classified ads), check out the local Chamber of Commerce, hand out your business card shamelessly (provided, of course, that you are complying with local regulations regarding work done from home). This method is not very time consuming, and it can yield surprising dividends.

7) Word-of-Mouth, Referrals, Presence This one is hardest of all to pin down, but it's absolutely legitimate. There is no advertising better (or, in dollar terms, cheaper) than good word-of-mouth. The wider the circle of colleagues who know how you work, the better your chances of them speaking highly of you to a potential client or even recommending you for a specific job. Established language vendors sometimes have more work than they can handle, and they would much rather put forward a trusted colleague than leave a client hanging, with nowhere to place a project. That was how I landed my two largest and most lucrative clients.

But no one in the business can recommend you if no one knows who you are. Contribute an article or write a letter to the *Chronicle* or the *SlavFile* (you do *too* have something to say!). Send inquiries to the *Chronicle's* “Business Smarts” column. Introduce yourself with a thumbnail profile here in the *SlavFile*. Go to conferences and workshops, and when you do, don't just sit in the corner; nobody will bite you, I promise (unless you bite them first). Join targeted online chat groups and message boards (the ever friendly and informative Russian Translators Club is one of my favorites—ask Nora Favorov about joining), and don't forget to contribute your useful knowledge and expertise there as well as asking for help. Participate in ProZ's (www.proz.com) Kudoz and TRADUguide's (www.traduguide.com) Conges translation inquiry systems, both asking and answering.

Some translators, even those just starting out, have also been able to funnel work their way with a well-designed and well-maintained website. It involves an outlay of cash and effort, but only you can decide if this is something you need and can use wisely. I would imagine that the more specific your services, the more likely your site is to have a meaningful presence on search engines. But even without that, you can list it on your business card and other collateral materials, in your resume and your e-mail signature block, and any prospective client who is thus encouraged to stop by will gain a more complete and colorful image of you and what you do than from your resume or data form alone. But then again, I have no personal experience of any of this, so must defer to those who do (Frank Dietz in the April 2006 *Chronicle*, for instance).

One last little tip: as a crutch for my terrible memory, I keep an alphabetical list of companies or sites I have contacted or that have contacted me, with the name of the contact person, the email and/or website address, what exactly they have from me (resume, data form, e-mail response), the rates I quoted, any passwords, expiration dates for listings, etc., the date of contact, and any follow-up. That way, I rarely embarrass myself when a client approaches me, referencing a past contact.

So now, after you've smacked yourself on the forehead and exclaimed, “How could she possibly have forgotten *that?*” contact me at the coordinates below and tell me all about the *that* that I've forgotten.

A pet axiom of head-hunters and employment agencies is that finding a job is a job. Establishing yourself as a freelance translator or interpreter is no less of a job, and it is a constant endeavor, even after you have a sizable roster of clients. You can never rest on your laurels. If you do, you risk landing flat on your you-know-what.

One of my friends has developed a staggeringly successful (and I'm talking six figures, *part time*) freelance business over the past seven years or so, partly from her excellent website, partly from glowing word-of-mouth, but mostly from being just darn good in so many ways. I have another friend who, after years in translation sales and elsewhere, hopped straight into a rather lucrative translation sideline mostly, it appears, from sending out resumes, living in an urban area where he can get face-time with decision makers in local translation companies, and.... being just darn good. Me? Given my remote location, freelance translation would always have been my Plan B if my telecommuting management job with Berlitz ever folded, which it did in August 2001. Certainly it helped that translation is the love of my life and that I had been in the business, freelance and in-house, for an alarmingly long time. Still, the first couple of months were slow, so don't expect to be beating clients off with a stick without first putting in a whole lot of effort.

But no story is yours except yours. You have to get out there and make your own story.

And then share it with the rest of us.

Among the many moving tributes to Susana Greiss that I have read since we lost her, one stand-out point for me was Lydia Stone's observation in the Spring 2006 *SlavFile*, that Susana “seemed drawn to.... those starting out in the profession.” That reminded me of another great soul, Dick Crum, an accomplished scholar and practitioner of Eastern European folk dance, the finest linguist I have ever known, and my beloved friend and mentor, who died last December. Dick knew something that Susana seems also to have known, and it is this:

Continued on page 22

- Beginning dancer: Knows nothing.
- Intermediate dancer: Knows everything, but is too good to dance with beginners.
- Hotshot dancer: Too good to dance with anyone.
- Advanced dancer: Dances everything, especially with beginners.

On every step of the thousand-mile journey, and the thousand miles after that, and on and on, let's not forget to turn around once in a while and see who may be coming along behind. They could probably use a hand, a smile, a Susana.

Liv can be contacted at bliss@wmonline.com.

**We reprint the following from the Yahoo Russian Translators Club
with the kind permission of the author, Jim Shipp.**

Hello, all -- Here are some random thoughts, knocked together in half an hour. I hope it brightens someone's day a little. Please feel free to add your own.

You Might Be a Freelance Translator If

- Your spouse and your pets have stopped even trying to get your attention from dawn till dusk.
- You often fall asleep while eating dinner.
- You don't have to put on your pajamas at night because you're already wearing them.
- Holidays are just a nuisance... the mail doesn't run and the banks are closed.
- You think Annual Vacation is just another one of those Lampoon movies.
- You don't have time to get sick.
- You buy coffee by the case.
- If something can't be ordered on the Internet and delivered by UPS, you don't need it.
- Your work area is also a fully functional office supply store.
- You have a backup Internet server and a backup backup computer.
- You only use dictionaries as thesauri.
- All your reference aids contain almost as much handwritten text as printed text.
- When you do use a dictionary, you open it to precisely the right page on the very first try.
- You know exactly where a word is located on a given dictionary page because you just looked it up for the 3,000th time, you dummy!
- All household expenditures are regarded as potential tax write-offs.
- You're tired of explaining what a 1099 is.
- You're on a first-name basis with the IRS... yes, the whole IRS.

Good translating, Jim Shipp