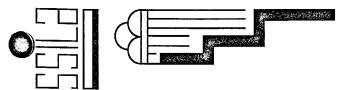
## THE SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF THE INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES OF THE AMERICAS



# **NEWSLETTER XIX:2**

July 2000

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## **SSILA BUSINESS**

#### Publication series established for the Mary R. Haas Award

The University of Nebraska Press has established a new series, *Studies in the Native Languages of the Americas*, designed specifically for the winners of the Society's Mary R. Haas Award. The new series will be published in association with the American Indian Studies Research Institute at Indiana University, and edited by Douglas Parks. In his letter to President Sarah Thomason announcing the new series, the Director of the University of Nebraska Press, Daniel J. J. Ross, wrote:

The winners of the [Haas] award, if they choose, will be eligible to be published in our series. Candidates for the series will be reviewed and subject to approval through our normal procedures. Projects approved by our Advisory Board will be produced camera-ready at the American Indian Studies Research Institute, Indiana University. The full name of the award will be posted on the page facing the title page of each book in the series. Furthermore, all of the studies published in the series will be listed in the back of each book.

For the past three years Haas Award-winning manuscripts that deal with North American languages have been similarly eligible for publication in

another Nebraska series, *Studies in the Anthropology of North American Indians*, also edited by Parks together with Raymond Demallie. Establishing a series specifically for the winners of the Haas Award will allow Award-winning manuscripts dealing with Central and South American languages to be included.

#### SSILA Travel Awards for 2000

The SSILA Travel Committee (Marianne Mithun, David Beck, and Lourdes de León) has made the following awards this year:

- The 2000 Wick R. Miller Award, covering airfare and other transportation costs to the annual meeting in San Francisco, has been made to **Mary S.** Linn, a graduate student in Linguistics at the University of Kansas.
- Subsidies to cover AAA registration fees for participants in the 2000 annual meeting who live outside the US and Canada have been awarded to: Mercedes Montes de Oca (UNAM, Mexico); María del Carmen Herrera (INAH, Mexico); Verónica Vázquez (UNAM, Mexico); Valentín Peralta (ENAH, Mexico); and Lucía Golluscio (U of Buenos Aires, Argentina).

## **CAIL Update**

A paper by M. Eleanor Culley ("A solution or another problem? Language maintenance and ideology in an Apache community") has been added to the session on *The Role of Language Ideologies in Changing Native American Contexts*, chaired by Pam Bunte and Chris Loether. The tentative schedule for this and the other CAIL sessions will be published in the *SSILA Bulletin* (on-line) when it is announced by the AAA later this summer. Hotel and travel arrangements will be announced at the same time. Participants can check the ΛΛA website (http://www.aaanet.org) for this information as well.

## SSILA Summer Meeting 2001

Arrangements have been completed for an SSILA summer meeting next year, to be held in conjunction with the Linguistic Institute at UC Santa Barbara. Sessions will be scheduled from Friday, July 6 through Sunday, July 8. The meeting will be co-sponsored by WAIL (the Workshop on American Indigenous Languages), which will not otherwise hold a meeting in 2001. A call for papers will be sent out later this year.

## **EDITORIAL NOTES**

I do my best to make the SSILA Newsletter an objective, relatively unopinionated survey of recent happenings in our discipline, although over the years I have occasionally fallen prey to the temptation to employ the first person pronoun, especially in book notices and the "Media Watch". But a little opinion is the spice of journalism. And so henceforth I will use this section of the

Newsletter to offer a few personal comments on the events and publications that pass in front of me every three months. The voice will definitely be mine, not SSILA's, and feedback is welcome.

The urge to comment is particularly hard to resist in this issue. In two separate places — the report of Chief Ron Ignace's keynote address to the Stabilizing Indigenous Languages conference in Toronto (in "Media Watch"), and the notice of Daniel Nettle and Suzanne Romaine's Vanishing Voices: The Extinction of the World's Languages — the worldwide shift away from local and minority languages to English and a handful of other languages of global communication is equated with the degradation of the planetary ecosystem. Chief Ignace says that the loss of indigenous languages in Canada "will rival the great ecological disasters of the world," and he calls for a \$100 million investment in immersion schools. For Nettle and Romaine, "the extinction of languages is part of the larger picture of near-total collapse of the worldwide ecosystem," and their book warns of a "grave crisis."

The analysis on which *Vanishing Voices* rests is set out in Nettle's more theoretical book on *Linguistic Diversity* (also noted in this issue). There Nettle identifies a connection between our sociobiological nature and the kinds of social groups and boundaries we habitually create, and asserts that the key to understanding this connection is ecological. It is the human condition, he says, to live in a bounded social network that exists in a stable relationship to a specific ecosystem. Since our languages have diversified in the context of such relationships, if you wreck the biosphere you will also destroy local languages. The political corollary, as expounded in *Vanishing Voices*, is that the saving of local languages belongs on the same agenda as saving the rainforests — if ecological diversity can be made sustainable, so too should cultural and linguistic diversity.

At first blush this seems quixotic. The mosaic of "natural" face-to-face social groups in small, individually knowable territories has long since been significantly overlaid, if not totally replaced, by vastly larger social networks with much looser relationships to the land. Even in Amazonia and New Guinea the ethnographic profile is rapidly restructuring. Saving the rainforest seems an easier task than reversing this tidal shift. But Nettle and Romaine see a ray of hope in the emerging linguistic monoculture.

While it looks like English is well on its way to becoming the de facto world language, it is not accompanied by the hegemonic *mission civilisatrice* of the 19th century imperial nation-state. Politically, what we seem headed for is a planet divided into a multitude of semi-autonomous regions knit together by English-speaking global business. This, in Nettle and Romaine's view, opens the door for local control of ecosystems, in which age-old "indigenous know-ledge systems" encoded in (both extant and revived) local languages could play a central role. They envision a world where everyone is bi- or multilingual, with "local languages for expressing local identities and global languages for communicating beyond local levels and expressing our identities as citizens of the world" (*Vanishing Voices*, p. 197).

This is a fascinating idea, but it makes me uneasy. It is all very well to advocate that people should be given control over their environments at the local level, but to deliberately link a piece of ground to a specific language and "culture" sails dangerously close to

apartheid and a blood-and-soil ideology. It is nationalism, the vicious curse of the 20th century, writ small.

Anyway, this is not the direction things are moving in. At least in the near term, it is likely that we will live in a world of ever-greater social and geographical mobility, where languages and cultures will increasingly overlap and interpenetrate, not sort themselves out like a Late Pleistocene tribal theme park. Daniel Nettle himself, as befits a 21st century citizen of the world, lives in London and Los Angeles, and (as Labov has been telling us for decades) it is in just such polyglot conurbations that the future of human language is being created, not in Highland New Guinea or the Vaupés.

There is little doubt in my mind that this future will include local languages. While the evidence seems conclusive that we are witnessing the die-off of most of the small territorially based speech communities on the planet, it is wrong to think that this automatically means that tens of thousands of years of linguistic diversification, with all its encoded traditional knowledge, will vanish into air. The richness of our species' linguistic heritage is being preserved and creatively transformed, although mostly not in the ways that Nettle and Romaine advocate.

One way is through scholarship. Several centuries ago—from at least the time of Molina—Westerners began an enormous project of scientific documentation and humanistic study of non-Western linguistic traditions, both inside and outside academic institutions. This historically unprecedented intellectual exploration, now fully international, has far from run its course. Wilhelm von Humboldt dreamed of a world in which all educated persons would crown their studies with the mastery of a distant and profoundly alien language. That day may still come.

And then, as Chief Ignace says, there is schooling—immersion camps for the kids, lessons for the adults, CD-ROMs for everybody. In recent decades much creative energy has been focused on the second-language acquisition of local linguistic systems, often as part of constructing a heritage identity for the descendents of a local group. But we must recognize that this seldom if ever results in the revival of pre-modern speech communities, but rather in the construction of uniquely post-modern sociolinguistic entities. (Tim Montler devotes several fascinating pages of a recent article on Straits Salish dialects [Anthropological Linguistics 41: 462-502, 1999] to the "new dialects" that have come into existence thanks to a hugely successful heritage language program.)

Much more of this is going to happen, and it will soon leap the boundaries of local communities — it already has. We can all learn Lakota now, and if the explosion of electronic communications continues, in a decade or two a significant chunk of the world's population will have easy access to pedagogical and reference materials on several thousand languages. Virtual communities will grow up around these, with a multitude of social purposes. Looking after a local ecosystem may or may not be on the list.

Let's not confuse the sane management of a high-tech planet with the low-tech cultural patchwork of millennia past. Indigenous languages will survive, but woven into a rich and diverse tapestry in new and unexpected ways.

## CORRESPONDENCE



April 12, 2000

The very successful Coming to Light: Contemporary Translations of the Native Literatures of North America (Random House/Vintage) is now six years old, and I am considering editing a sequel, with Coming to Light as the model, in format and approach. This volume would stress new work (including re-translations of older and classic texts) by people not in Coming to Light (though it would not exclude those who are). As well as work by non-Native scholars, I am very interested in contributions from Native people, and in various forms of collaborations. The stress, as before, will be on quality translations, with a variety of approaches (always linguistically reliable).

This is a preliminary inquiry to find out if there is any interest in such a project. I should add that, at this early stage, I do not have a publisher lined up. If you are interested, have any questions or suggestions, or just wish to know more, please contact me. If you have some specific project in mind, send me your proposal and, if available, a translation sample.

— Brian Swann
Humanities & Social Sciences, The Cooper Union
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(swann@cooper.edu)

#### The Shawnee Sun

May 16, 2000

In my note on "The Siebert Sale, Part 2" (SSILA Newsletter, January 2000, p. 7) I reported that, with the sale of Frank Siebert's copy of the November, 1841, issue of <Siwinowe Kesibwi> ('Shawnee Sun') to an anonymous telephone bidder, neither of the only two exemplars of the first Indianlanguage newspaper that were known to survive into the twentieth century could be located. Now, thanks to an article on the "first Kansas newspaper" by Andy Nelson in the Kansas City Star (April 4, 2000), I can report that the copy that was known to Douglas C. McMurtrie in the 1930's is now in the Special Collections of the Miller Nichols Library, University of Missouri at Kansas City. The Siebert copy was bought by the United Tribe of Shawnee Indians of De Soto Kansas. Not yet explained is the reason why these two copies, although of the same issue, are set in different type.

(I thank Jim Rementer for forwarding Nelson's article, and Robert C. Ray, Teresa L. Gipson, and Jimmie D. Oyler, Jr., for information on the two copies.)

— Ives Goddard NHB 80, MRC 100, Smithsonian Institution Washington, DC 20560 (goddard.ives@nmnh.si.edu)

#### A Nantucket Wampanoag project for someone

June 17, 2000

For the last nine months I've been writing about the Wampanoag and African communities on Nantucket through the 1800s, and in the process I have come up with a potential project for an aspiring ethnohistorian.

When I started, had someone asked me to estimate how many Nantucket Indian individuals are documented by name and something about them, I would have guessed maybe 75 to 85. As it turns out, I now have an informal data base of well over a thousand individuals. I have to move on with my own project, but it would be a great service to the future, especially

to Wampanoags of today, if someone would undertake to make a wellorganized on-line data base of these people.

It would take data-base construction skills and some sophistication in kinship/genealogy. Knowledge of an Eastern Algonquian language would also be a good thing, so the Massachusett names and their morphology would be meaningful and an informed decision could be made for the citation form of Massachusett names. A project like this is underway for Nantucket's African community from the late 1600s through the 1800s. If someone would undertake responsibility for a similar Nantucket Wampanoag project, I would make my notes available, introduce the researcher to the Nantucket sources and the people who manage them, and offer some advice and supervision along the way.

The Nantucket Historical Association has a program for graduate student fellows that provides visits to Nantucket and access to research materials.

If anyone is interested in pursuing such a project, please contact me.

— Frances Karttunen 67 N. Centre St., Nantucket, MA 02554 (karttu@nantucket.net)

#### Special Issue of Cultural Survival Quarterly

June 28, 2000

Cultural Survival Quarterly is planning a special issue on Endangered Languages, with a focus on indigenous concerns and problems, in the autumn of 2001. As guest editor, I am seeking short (3,000 word and under), user-friendly (general audience) articles by those of you who have knowledge of the topic. You may reply to the address below or to <equinn@mit.edu>. I welcome your abstracts and/or full-length articles.

— Eileen Moore Quinn Anthropology, MIT 16-233, Cambridge, MA 02139 (quinn@binah.cc.brandeis.edu)

## Information on the Tsetsaut People

July 3, 2000

The Tsetsauts were an Athapaskan people who formerly occupied an area on the border between SE Alaska and British Columbia—including at least one access to the sea (Portland Canal)—until they were squeezed out by their neighbors during the 19th century. A few stragglers were living among the Nisga'a and the Tahltan, and perhaps the Tlingit, as late as 1900. As far as I know, the only description of the Tsetsauts and their language comes from Boas' fieldwork with the Nisga'a in 1894. Boas' Tsetsaut language materials were edited and published by Pliny Earle Goddard in 1924, and George Tharp reassessed the data in 1972 (*IJAL* 38:14-25). This attestation of Tsetsaut turned out to be of crucial importance in the reconstruction of Proto-Athapaskan phonology (Krauss 1964).

I am wondering whether SSILA members or their colleagues might know of any other sources of information on the Tsetsaut people themselves. If these exist, they would probably be scattered in works dealing with neighboring groups, including non-technical works such as missionary accounts (e.g., Collison's *In the Wake of the War Canoe*) or even ship logs. The group might not be referred to in these sources as the "Tsetsauts" (an approximation of their Tsimshianic designation); any reference to Indians encountered around Portland Canal could be to them. Any leads would be greatly appreciated.

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## **OBITUARIES**

## Robert Henry Robins (1921-2000)

R. H. Robins, a distinguished British linguist widely known for his work in the history of linguistics, and also the world's authority on the Yurok language of northwest California, died on April 21, 2000, at the age of 78.

Originally trained as a classicist, Robins was assigned to learn and teach Japanese during the Second World War, and he developed a broad interest in descriptive and comparative linguistics before graduating from Oxford in 1948 with first class honors in Literae Humaniores. That same year he was appointed Lecturer in Linguistics in the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, and remained affiliated with SAOS until his retirement in 1986. His work on Sundanese (Austronesian), particularly his treatment of the phonology of vowel nasalization, established Robins' reputation as a descriptive linguist of rare analytic skill.

A protegé of J. R. Firth's, whom he succeeded as Professor of General Linguistics at London in 1966, Robins played an influential role in the shaping of the field in postwar Britain. His textbook, *General Linguistics: An Introductory Survey* (1964), went through four editions, and his *A Short History of Linguistics* (also four editions, 1967 to 1997) is the definitive study. He was elected President of the Linguistic Association of Great Britain, served for 18 years as secretary of the Philological Society, and was the founder and guiding spirit of the Henry Sweet Society for the History of Linguistic Ideas. As President of UNESCO's Comité International Permanent des Linguistes (1977-96) he was instrumental in the formation of a working committee on language endangerment, and together with E. M. Uhlenbeck edited an important collection of papers on *Endangered Languages* (1991).

Not long after joining SOAS, Robins was invited by Murray Emeneau to come to California for a few months, funded by a Fulbright grant, to do field research under the auspices of the newly-founded Survey of California Indian Languages. It was decided that he would focus on Yurok, and he spent March through June 1951 in Requa, at the mouth of the Klamath River, working with a number of fluent speakers, the most important of whom was Mrs. Florence Shaughnessy (for details of this work as he recalled them in an interview 45 years later see Swiggers [1997:196-199]). The results were presented in The Yurok Language (1958), which remains the standard descriptive treatment of the language. Although he never returned to northwestern California, he maintained a lively interest in Yurok and in other American Indian languages. Over the years he published six further papers on Yurok linguistics, and coauthored two studies of Yurok songs with Norma McLeod, a musicologist.

-VG

### PUBLICATIONS OF R. H. ROBINS ON YUROK

1958. The Yurok Language: Grammar, Texts, Lexicon. University of California Publications in Linguistics 15. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press.

1962. The Third Person Pronominal Prefix in Yurok. IJAL 28: 14-18.

1966. Word Classes in Yurok. Lingua 17: 210-229.

1980. Grammatical Hierarchy and the Yurok Bipersonal Verb. Pp. 360-364 in: G. Brettschneider & C. Lehmann (eds.), Wege zu Universalienforschung: Sprachwissenschaftliche Beiträge zum 60. Geburtstag von Hansjakob Seiler. Tübingen: Narr.

1985a. A Rule Restatement of Yurok Allomorphy. *IJAL* 51: 559-561.
1985b. Numerals as Underlying Verbs: The Case of Yurok. Pp. 723-733 in: U. Pieper & G. Stickel (eds.), *Studia linguistica, diachronica et synchronica Werner Winter sexagenario anno MCMLXXXIII*. Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter.

1985c. The Young Man from Serper: A Yurok Folktale. Pp. 633-644 in: G. Heintz & P. Schmitter (eds.), *Collectanea Philologica: Festschrift für Helmut Gipper*. Baden-Baden: Koerner.

With Norma McLeod:

1956. Five Yurok Songs: A Musical and Textual Analysis. Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies 18: 592-609.

1957. A Yurok Song Without Words. Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies 20: 501-506.

#### OTHER REFERENCES

Robins, R. H. and E. M. Uhlenbeck (eds.). 1991. *Endangered Languages*. Oxford & New York: Berg/St. Martin's Press.

Swiggers, Pierre. 1997. "Ask not for whom the bell tolls, it tolls for thee": An Interview with Professor Robert H. Robins. *Orbis* 39:181-207.

## Sven Liljeblad (1899-2000)

Sven Liljeblad, former Hilliard Distinguished Professor of the Humanities at the University of Nevada, Reno, and Professor Emeritus, Idaho State University, died March 17, 2000 in Stockholm, Sweden, at age 100. Liljeblad was born in Jönköping in southern Sweden in 1899. He was educated principally at Lund University, in ethnology, archaeology, languages, philosophy and history, receiving his Ph.D. in 1927. He occupied himself intensively with European studies for the next 12 years, including conducting field research in Norway, Germany, Czechoslovakia and Ireland. Much of this work was in folklore, although Sami ethnology also occupied his interests. He developed the current system of index catalogues and questionnaires of the Dialect and Folklore Archives of Uppsala University, and published extensively in the debates surrounding the analysis of folktales and their variants.

Already a distinguished European scholar, in 1939 he won the Anders Zorn Fellowship of the Swedish-American Foundation, which allowed him to come to the United States and initiate field studies among American Indian people. While visiting the University of California, Berkeley, he spoke extensively with Robert Lowie about possible field sites to study folklore. Lowie suggested that he try working with the Northern Shoshone of Idaho, with whom Lowie had worked some 35 years before. Thus began Liljeblad's nearly 50 year association with the Shoshone people of Idaho and Wyoming, as well as with their Northern Paiute-speaking kinsmen in Nevada, Oregon and California. Liljeblad's first field ventures to Salmon City and Fort Hall, Idaho, in 1940 to collect folktales netted him some 800 pages of field notes in a little over a year, but also taught him that he would have to learn the languages (Shoshone and Bannock) if he were to properly translate and interpret their folklore. He became affiliated briefly with Idaho

State University in Pocatello, before World War II sent him into service at Indiana University in the Army Area and Languages Program, teaching Finnish and Russian, as he said, "to future spies." He then went to Harvard University in 1944 where he was a Research Fellow in Germanic Languages and lecturer in Scandinavian languages and literatures until 1948. While there, he met and later married Astrid von Heijne, fellow Swedish citizen and his life-long partner.

In 1948, with the initial support of the Wenner-Gren Foundation, he returned to Idaho to continue his work on Bannock grammar, and secondarily, on the Shoshone language and their folk literatures. He was well known throughout Shoshone and Northern Paiute country, gathering data at every opportunity and recording texts and lexicon in many places. He regained his appointment at Idaho State University, serving to organize and catalog the natural history-anthropology museum, and to teach anthropology and linguistics while continuing field studies. In 1965 he came to the University of Nevada, Reno, as Distinguished Visiting Professor of Anthropology. In post-retirement status, he also held the Hilliard Professorship from 1976 to 1983, a research position that allowed him to continue to analyze his materials and gather yet more.

He and Astrid returned to Stockholm in 1992. He was most reluctant to leave his life's work, which he considered only partially completed. He donated his vast archive of aluminum disks, audio tapes, field notebooks, lexical file boxes, computer printouts, manuscripts, correspondence and miscellaneous files to the Special Collections Department, Getchell Library, University of Nevada, Reno. In 1992 he and Astrid also established the Liljeblad Fund, an endowment whose interest is regranted by application to individuals working on Great Basin languages, traditional cultures and folklore. In 1999, they added significantly to the endowment.

In addition to his distinguished career and publication record in European folklore, Liljeblad soon became a leader in the field of Uto-Aztecan linguistics, and particularly the Numic languages. In 1950, he published "Bannock I: Phonemes," an initial treatment of the sound-system of Bannock, in *IJAL*. In 1965, when he came to UNR and began teaching a course in the Northern Paiute language (of which Bannock is a part), he began developing his grammatical materials, and in 1966, the mimeographed "Northern Paiute Manual, I: Sketch of the Northern Dialects," was produced. It has since been copied and recopied by all interested Uto-Aztecanists, and with the exception of the SIL publications for the Fort McDermitt and Yerington dialects, serves as the primary source on Northern Paiute grammar. All who have ever worked with the language have recognized Liljeblad's vast knowledge and contribution, although his actual published materials on the language are not extensive. He graciously shared his time and expertise with countless Uto-Aztecanists one-on-one, his favorite mode of communication. The Liljeblad archive remains as a vast storehouse of data on the Northern Paiute language, only now beginning to be mined.\*

Liljeblad also published several articles on the cultures of the Northern Paiute and Shoshone people, including "Indian Peoples of Idaho," in 1957 and 1959, "The Religious Attitude of the Shoshonean Indians," and "Oral Traditions of the Shoshoni and Bannock Indians," in 1969 and 1971, "The Idaho Indians in Transition: 1805-1960" in 1972, and three articles for the *Handbook of North American Indians* (Vol. 11, Great Basin), on Northern Paiute, Owens Valley Paiute, and Oral tradition, in 1986 (see Volume 11, edited by W. L. d'Azevedo for full citations of these and other works).

But perhaps Liljeblad's greatest legacy was the esteem and respect with which he was held by the Indian people of the Great Basin and by his colleagues. He knew many Indian people, and down to the third and fourth generations they continue to praise him for his many kindnesses and considerations, his abilities in their languages, and his Old World charm. One popular etymology of his name in Northern Paiute ("fish's bone") is that it is descriptive of his slight build but tenacity (he weighed but 100 lbs in a wet overcoat!). He was made an honorary member of the Fort Hall Bannock-Shoshone Tribe and the Duckwater Shoshone-Paiute Tribe in 1992, the year he left for Sweden. Whenever anyone who knew him encounters Indian people in the region, they always ask about him with genuine concern and feeling. They all know of his legacy in his unpublished materials, and they continue to seek out these treasures for language and cultural renewal programs.

Among Liljeblad's many academic honors were an Honorary Doctor of Letters from the University of Nevada, 1984; the "Mickel of Langhult" prize for Swedish folklore studies, 1991; a symposium in his honor in Ljungby, in 1999; and an homage in Acta Americana, the Journal of the Swedish Americanist Society (of which he was one of two living honorary members) in 1998. He was also elected a fellow of the Royal Gustavus Adolphus Academy in Sweden in 1993, and a fellow of the American Anthropological Association in 1949.

On Liljeblad's retirement from Idaho State his colleagues honored him with a volume of essays, Languages and Cultures of Western North America, edited by Earl H. Swanson, Jr. (Idaho State University Press, 1970). The table of contents of this impressive collection is a catalogue of the most prominent names in mid-20th-century linguistics, anthropology, and folklore: Mary Haas, Robert Heizer, Åke Hultkrantz, Wick Miller, Omer Stewart, Julian Steward, Stith Thompson, Carl and Flo Voegelin, and more than a dozen others. The biography with which the volume begins, "A Swedish Gem in the Shining Mountains: Portrait of a Scholar," is a personal tribute from the President of the University, William E. Davis.

In 1999, when he celebrated his 100th birthday, Astrid her 90th, and the couple their 50th wedding anniversary, their many friends in the US, Indian and non-Indian, sent various forms of greetings and tributes. With Astrid by his side the whole way, or at least half of his long life, Sven Liljeblad made a true impact on the study of the languages and cultures of the Great Basin, as well as much earlier on those of Europe.

-Catherine S. Fowler

\* \* \*

<sup>\*</sup> Projects are well underway for a computerized Northern Paiute lexicon, supported in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities through an award to the Comparative Numic Lexicon Project (John McLaughlin, Pl; Catherine Fowler, Pamela Bunte and Robert Franklin, Associate PI s), a translation and analysis of Northern Paiute texts, and other miscellaneous projects.

## Harold Lynn Abel (1952-2000)

Harold Lynn Abel, fluent speaker of the Fort McDermitt dialect of the Northern Paiute language, died of a massive heart attack in Las Vegas, NV, on June 11, 2000 at the age of 47. He was born in Winnemucca, NV, September 6, 1952, and was raised on the Fort McDermitt Reservation, graduating from the local high school. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Education from the University of Nevada, Reno in 1985, and a Master of Education from the University of Nevada Las Vegas in 1991. He taught in the public schools in Las Vegas for 15 years, specializing in reading. At the time of his death, he was chairman of his school's accelerated reading project, and a member of several other city-wide task forces and boards.

Harold was a devoted student of his native language. As a fluent speaker, he brought to its study his own intuition as to how its grammar functioned as well as his keen analytical skills. He learned to transcribe phonetically, and in collaboration with Catherine Fowler as well as on his own, worked on several translation and analysis projects. Among the most recent was the translation into literary English of a series of 17 stories by the gifted narrator Pcte Snapp of Fort McDermitt, recorded by Sven Liljeblad in the 1950s. Although rough translations of these had been completed by Liljeblad, Abel took on the job of making these stories lively and living translations with the true flavor that Mr. Snapp could capture in the telling. This work was financed by the National Endowment for the Humanities. The tales are being illustrated with the plan of future publication.

Abel was also working on the massive computerized Northern Paiute dictionary with Catherine Fowler of the University of Nevada, Reno. This project was funded in part by NEH through grants to do a comparative Numic lexicon (John McLaughlin, PI, Catherine Fowler, Pamela Bunte and Robert Franklin, Associate PIs). Abel was in charge of the materials from Fort McDermitt as well as co-authoring the project generally. In addition, he translated a series of traditional stories by Mrs. Wuzzie George of Fallon, NV, for the book In the Shadow of Fox Peak, authored by Fowler. Together they gave a paper at the American Anthropological Association meeting in 1992 on the stylistic features of Northern Paiute prayer, and another on the status of Northern Paiute as a threatened language in an invited symposium of the International Congress of Americanists in Stockholm, in 1994. The paper on prayer will appear in a volume dedicated to the late Wick Miller being prepared by Tom Willett and Eugene Casad.

Abel was very involved in language revitalization for his home community as well as elsewhere in Nevada. He served on the Task Force for Great Basin Languages of the Nevada Board of Education, and was a founding member of the annual Great Basin Native Languages Conference. Together with anthropologist Molly Dufort he directed a series of video tapes in Northern Paiute suitable for classroom use, featuring elders tanning hides, story telling, gathering plants and making cradles. He continued to press young people to retain (or learn) their native languages while going forward with their non-native educations. His enthusiasm was easily communicated to the many young people with whom he worked, and this summer he was about to begin an intensive immersion school language camp for children at McDermitt. He loved his language

and his culture, and was extremely proud to be an American Indian. His legacy is an immense one not soon to be forgotten.

—Catherine S. Fowler



#### Alberto Zepeda Serrano

It is with great sadness that I report the death of Alberto Zepeda Serrano, fellow teacher and collaborator in Nahuatl studies. Albertohtzin was a native speaker of Nahuatl from the town of San Miguel Canoa in the state of Puebla. He began working with Jane and Ken Hill collecting the data for their study, *Speaking Mexicano*, while still in his teens. Beginning in 1989 he co-taught Nahuatl at three summer institutes in the USA (two at the University of Texas at Austin and one at the University of Chicago) with R. Joe Campbell. Their endlessly entertaining classroom "Joeand-Alberto Show" was deeply appreciated by all participants in the programs. Alberto recorded many hours of lessons and folktales in Nahuatl, and they will live on as one of his greatest contributions to the future of his language. His life was ended by leukemia at age 41. He leaves his wife and two daughters.

- Frances Karttunen

# **NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# GT-Línguas Indígenas Meets in Brazil

Em anexo esta a programação das atividades do GT-Línguas Indígenas no XV Encontro Nacional da ANPOLL, Universidade Federal Fluminense, Brasil, 4-7 de junho, 2000:

Classes Nominais (Coordenadora: Luciana R. Storto): Bárbara Kempf & Geralda Angenot-de Lima (U Federal de Rondônia), "As classes dos nomes coenunciadores e referidos em Moré"; Geralda Angenot-de Lima (U Federal de Rondônia), "A classe dos nomes e as estratégias de desepicenação em Moré"; Ismael Tressmann (Faculdade de Letras-UFRJ), "Os nomes e as posposições em Cinta Larga"; Maria C.V. de França (U Federal de Rondônia), "A estrutura do lexema Oro Win Liberdade Sintática?"

Transitividade-intransitividade (Coordenadora: Marília Facó Soares): Marcus Maia (Museu Nacional/UFRJ), "Transitividade, Intransitividade e estatividade em Karajá"; Bruna Franchetto (Museu Nacional/UFRJ), "Transitividade e intransitividade em Kuikuro: estruturas lexicais e sintáticas"; Luciana R. Storto (Museu Nacional/UFRJ), "Processos de mudança de valência em Karitiana: evidência para duas classes de verbos intransitivos."

Classes verbais (Coordenadora: Lucy Seki): Frantomé Pacheco (PG-UNICAMP), "Verbos inativos e transitividade em Ikpeng: um estudo morfossintatico"; Márcia M. Damaso Vicira (Muscu Nacional/UFRJ), "Causativização e o estatuto de posse em Mbyá"; Aryon D. Rodrigues (UnB), "Alguns problemas em torno da categoria lexical verbo em linguas Tupí-Guaraní"; Walkíria Neiva Praça (UnB), "Sobre o indicativo II no Tapirapé."

Representações em Fonologia (Coordenador: Angel Corbera Mori): Cláudia Maeda & Iara Teles (U Federal de Rondônia), "Um caso e sílaba flutuante embutida no onset silábico em Oro Eo"; Andrés Salanova (PG-



UNICAMP), "Aspectos da nasalidade em Apinayé e Mebengokre"; Marília Facó Soares (Museu Naciona/UFRJ), "Subespecificação tonal e tom default: o caso Ticuna"; Jaqueline dos Santos Peixoto (Museu Nacional/UFRJ), "Teoria da otimalididade: uma abordagem não-derivacional da prosódia Marubo"; Jean-Pierre Angenot & Geralda Angenot-de Lima (U Federal de Rondônia/U de Provence), "A teoria da otimalidade sob o ângulo da fonologia funcional: exemplificações Chapakúra".

Classes morfossintáticas (Coordenador: Aryon Rodrigues): Ana Sueli Cabral (UFPA), "O desenvolvimento da marca de objeto de segunda pessoa plural em Tupí-Guaraní"; Carmem Lúcia Reis Rodrigues (UFPA, "Morfemas locativos e direcionais em Xipaya"; Marília Ferreira (PG-UNICAMP/UFPA), "Aspectos das classes de palavras em Parakatêjê"; Angel Corbera Mori (UNICAMP), "Orações completivas em Aguaruna".

Fonologia diacrônica (Coordenador: Frantomé Pacheco): Elder José Lanes (Museu Nacional/UFRJ), "Mudança fonológica em línguas da família Pano-AC."

Comunicamos-lhes também que a página da ANPOLL encontra-se agora no endereço: www.geocities.com/anpoll\_br

#### Amazonian sessions at ICA in Warsaw

A symposium on Languages in the Amazon and Neighboring Areas: Descriptive and Comparative Aspects (Lenguas amazónicas y de las áreas adyacentes: aspectos descriptivos y comparativos) was held in Warsaw on July 10-14, 2000, as part of the 50th International Congress of Americanists. The symposium was organized by Marília Facó Soares (Museu Nacional/Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil), José Alvarez (Universidad del Zulia, Maracaibo, Venezuela), and Hein van der Voort (University of Leiden, The Netherlands). There were 9 sessions, extending over 5 days.

- 1. Phonetics and phonology descriptive and diachronic studies and morphophonological processes (Chair: Andrés Romero Figueroa): Esther Herrera (El Colegio de México), "The Phonetic Structures of Embera"; Marisol García (U de los Andes), Manuel Rodríguez (U de Los Andes) & José Alvarez (U del Zulia), "Diferencias acústicas entre oraciones aseverativas e interrogativas en pemon"; Esteban Emilio Mosonyi (U Central de Venezuela), "La fonología suprasegmental y otras particularidades del baniva de Maroa"; Pedro Viegas Barros (U de Buenos Aires), "Fonología del Proto-Mataguayo"; and Astrid Alexander (Netherlands), "Nominal morphophonological processes observed in Pedro de la Mata's Arte de la Lengua Cholona (1748)."
- 2: Modals: modal values and cognition tense and aspect (Chair: José Alvarez): Elsa Gómez-Imbert (U Toulouse-Le Mirail), "The cognitive modals of the Eastern Tukanoan languages"; Lucy Seki (UNICAMP), "Reflexues sobre valores modais em Kamayurá"; and Odile Renault-Lescure (IR)), "O perfeito na lingua kalín a(ou galibi, familia karib)."
- 3: Morphology and grammatical aspects (Chair: Wolf Dietrich): Eliane Camargo (CELIA/CNRS), "A pessoa actancial em Caxinaua"; Lucía A. Golluscio (U de Buenos Aires-CONICET), "Possession, semantic roles, and grammatical relations in Mapudungun: the case of suffix -qma"; Marília Borges (Fed U of Pará), "Case Marking System in Parkatjej"; and Verónica Grondona (U of Pittsburgh), "Mocoví as an Active/Inactive language."
- 4: Descriptive and comparative studies I (Chair: Lucy Seki): Wolf Dietrich (Münster), "Guaraní criollo y guaraní tribal en el Paraguay, la Argentina y el Brasil"; Willem F. H. Adelaar (U of Leiden & Netherlands

Institute of Advanced Studies), "Exploring possible further genetic connections of Katukina-Harakibut"; Luis Oquendo (U del Zulia), "Comparación entre las lenguas yukpa y japreria"; Mary Ruth Wise (SIL), "Applicative suffixes in Peruvian Amazonian languages: An areal feature?"; and Alain Fabre (Tampere U of Technology), "Algunos rasgos tipológicos de la morfossintaxis de las lenguas del sudoeste colombiano."

- 5: Morphology and Syntax I (Chair: Elsa Gómez-Imbert): Luciana R. Storto (Museu Nacional/UFRJ), "Object Focus Constructions and Grammaticalization in Karitiana (Arikim family, Tupi Stock)"; Marcia María Damaso Vieira (Museu Nacional/UFRJ), "On the nature of double verb constructions in Asurini do Trocara and Mbya Guaraní"; Ana Vilacy Galucio (U of Chicago, USA/Museu Goeldi), "Morphological and syntactic causativization in Mekens"; Iraima Palencia y Patricia Alvarez (U del Zulia), "Las construcciones causativas en pemon (caribe)"; Annamaria Palmegiani (U Central de Venezuela), "Las correlaciones de orden en panare, lengua OVS."
- 6: Morphology and Syntax II (Chair: Marília Facó Soares): Pilar Valenzuela (MPI for Evolutionary Anthropology/U of Orcgon), "Morphosyntax of Relativization in Shipibo-Konibo (Panoan of Peru)"; Angel Corbera Mori (UNICAMP), "Estrategias de relativización en Aguaruna (Jivaro)"; Diego Quesada (U of Toronto), "Aspects of Teribe verb serialization"; Hein van der Voort (U of Leiden), "Morphological ellipsis in Kwaza"; and Odileiz Sousa Cruz (Vrije U Amsterdam/U Fed de Roraima), "A posposição em Ingaricó."
- 7: Cariban languages: morphology, syntax and discourse (Chair: Hein van der Voort): Bruna Franchetto (Museu Nacional/UFRJ), "Deixis e predicação em Kuikúro (karib, Alto Xingú)"; Andrés Romero-Figueroa (U de Oriente, Venezuela), "Deixis and anaphora in Northern Carib"; Sergio Meira (Museu Goeldi/MPI für Psycholinguistik), "The Demonstrative System of Tiriyo', and other Cariban Languages"; Tania C. Clemente de Souza (UF Fluminensc/UFRJ), "Discourse and Mediation in Bakairí (Cariban)"; José Alvarez (U del Zulia), "Split intransitivity in Karíqa and other Cariban languages"; and Raimundo Medina (U del Zulia), "El constituyente -tpo en yukpa, una lengua caribe."
- 8: Descriptive and comparative studies II (Chair: Diego Quesada): Stella Telles (Vrije U Amsterdam; UF de Pernambuco) & W. Leo Wetzels (HIL, Netherlands), "Nominal classifiers in Latunde (Nambikwara, Brazil)"; Francisco Queixalós (CNRS, ORSTOM), "La distensividad como categoría grammatical: ilustración a partir del sikuani"; Marília Facó Soares (Museu Nacional/UFRJ), "Amazonian languages and neighboring areas: some results from comparative studies"; Jeanette Sakel (MPI for Evolutionary Anthropology), "Valence affecting structures in Moseten"; and Marie Claude Mattei Mueller (Venezuela), "Mapoyo, Yawarana: two variants of the same Carib language of Venezuela? New Outlook on Ergativity and the Classification of Carib languages."
- 9: Research and its documentation Language and linguistic identity (Chair: José Ribamar Bessa): Rotger Snethlage (Germany), "Life, expeditions, collections and unpublished field notes of Dr. Emil Heinrich Snethlage"; María Isabel Ramírez Duque (U.P.E.L. Maracay), "Situación de bilingüísmo en las comunidades yaruras del estado Apuré"; and José Ribamar Bessa Freire (U Estadual do Rio de Janeiro) & Consuelo Alfaro (UFRJ), "Identidade e línguas na Amazônia."

#### **Upcoming meetings**

Endangered Languages & Literacy (Charlotte, NC, Sept. 21-24, 2000)

The 4th Conference of the Foundation for Endangered Languages (FEL) "Endangered Languages and Literacy" will be held at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, September 21-24, 2000, near the homeland of Sequoyah, father of Cherokee literacy. Organizers are **Blair Rudes**, chair,

Nicholas Ostler, Christopher Moseley, Karen Johnson-Weiner, and Hassan Ouzzate. Papers will include:

Literacy from Within: Francene Patterson, "Pathways to the acceptable orthography"; Elena Benedicto, "A community's solution to literacy problems: the Mayangna of Nicaragua"; Gary Sobbing, "Technology, literacy and orality: the case of the Coeur d'Alene"; and R. McKenna **Brown**, "Developing a native literature." — Choosing an Orthography: Neil H. Olsen, "The future of Koho, a Mon-Khmer language of Viet Nam"; Claudia Y. Heinemann-Priest, "The applied linguist in Indian country: preservation and revival of the Catawba language"; Thomas M. Tehan & David Morse, "How do you write Lisu?"; and Mark Sebba, "Orthography as literacy: how Manx was 'reduced to writing'." Literacy and Dialect Diversity: Blair A. Rudes, "When you choose, must you lose? Standard orthography vs dialect diversity"; Anne-Marie Baraby, "A standard orthography for an oral language: Innu-Montagnais"; Thomas Field, "Literacy ideologies and the future of Gascon"; and Peter F. Cullip, "Language use and attitudes of the Remun of Sarawak: initial explorations."—Promoting Literacy: Kristin Denham, Kevin George. Erik Rensink, & Jonathon Sarr, "Incorporating Native American literary style at the elementary Tribal school"; Kathleen Tacelosky, "Literacy ability and practice in Peru: an indigenous account"; Carla Paciotto, "The bilingual-bicultural literacy program for the Tarahumara of Chihuahua"; and Jiwas Bawan, "Prospect of Taiwanese indigenous language teaching: looking at a successful program in the USA." — Cautionary Notes on Literacy: Nicholas Ostler, "Literacy as a source of cultural friction: a comparative study"; Ivy Doak, "Orthography, lexicography, and language change"; Lakhan Gusain, "Limitations of literacy in Bagri"; Silvia Lucia Bigonjal Braggio, "Endangered languages in Brazil: the case of the Xerente"; and Julia E. Lonergan, "Literacy education in Sierra Tarahumara."

Excursions are planned to the Catawba Indian Reservation, to the Summer Institute of Linguistics jungle aviation research station (JAARS), and to the Gullah-speaking community in Edisto, South Carolina.

There is a discount of \$25 for registrations made before July 31, 2000. Limited free housing will be available for students and others in financial need. A volume of proceedings will be distributed at the Conference. For further information contact: Blair A. Rudes, FEL Local Organizer, Dept. of English, UNC-Charlotte, 9201 University City Blvd, Charlotte, NC 28223-0001 (e-mail: barudes@email.uncc.edu; fax: 1-704-547-3961).

#### Stabilizing Indigenous Languages (Flagstaff, June 14-16, 2001)

The 8th annual Stabilizing Indigenous Languages symposium ("Merging Tradition and Technology to Revitalize Indigenous Languages") will be held in the University Union, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, Arizona, June 14-16, 2001.

The 1st, 2nd & 4th Stabilizing Indigenous Languages symposiums were also held at Northern Arizona University (in 1994, 1995, and 1997 respectively). Other symposiums have been held in Anchorage, Alaska (3rd), Louisville, Kentucky (5th), Tucson, Arizona (6th), and Toronto, Canada (7th). Together, these conferences have featured some of the leading figures in the field of indigenous language preservation. Information on past symposiums can be found at the Teaching Indigenous Languages Home Page: http://jan.ucc.nau.edu/~jar/TIL.html

Details of the call for proposals for the 2001 symposium can also be found at the TIL site. Proposals should be submitted by February 10, 2001 to: Jon Reyhner, Co-Chair, Stabilizing Indigenous Languages Symposium, Center for Excellence in Education, P.O. Box 5774, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ 86011-5774 (tel: (520) 523-0580; fax: (520) 523-1929; e-mail: Jon.Reyhner@nau.edu).

Workshop on California Languages (ALT IV, UC Santa Barbara, July 19, 2001)

The fourth International Conference of the Association for Linguistic Typology (ALT IV) will be held at the University of California at Santa Barbara, from Thursday July 19 to Sunday July 22, 2001. The conference will be held in conjunction with the Linguistic Institute, sponsored by the Linguistic Society of America, and directly precede the meeting of the International Cognitive Linguistics Association. The local organizer for ALT IV will be Marianne Mithun. For further details see the ALT website: http://www.ling.lancs.ac.uk/alt

On Thursday, July 19, the first day of ALT IV, there will be a *Workshop on California Languages*. The languages indigenous to California present considerable typological diversity among themselves and contrast in many ways with languages found in other parts of the world. Papers are welcome on any topic of interest to typologists. Each paper will be 20 minutes in length plus 10 minutes for discussion. Those wishing to present a paper at this workshop are invited to send an abstract (maximum 400 words) before January 15, 2001 to: Marianne Mithun, ALT Workshop on California Languages, Dept. of Linguistics UCSB, Santa Barbara, CA 93106 (e-mail: mithun@humanitas.ucsb.edu; fax: 1-805-563-1948). Anyone sending an abstract by e-mail should include it as part of the message (i.e., not append it as an attachment).

### **NOTES & COMMENT**

#### Tonto

## William Cowan\*

I envision the following two conversations taking place in the spring of 1933 in the studio of radio station WXYZ in Detroit. The participants are Fran Striker, the writer of the series "The Lone Ranger", Earle Graser, the Canadian-born actor who plays the Lone Ranger, and Mike, who works in the sound-effects section.

Striker: Now that we got the Lone Ranger, we need some sort of side-kick to accompany him on his adventures. Any ideas?

Graser: Why don't we make the side-kick an Indian?

Striker: Great idea. What do you know about Indians?

Graser: Not much. Let's ask Mike over there; he's an Indian.

Striker: O.K. Hey, Mike! Come here a minute, will you?

Mike: Sure. Wadda ya want?

Striker: You're an Indian, right?

Mike: Right.

Striker: What tribe?

Mike: My ma was an Ojibwa, and I was raised with the Ojibwas, but my dad was a Potawatomi, so I consider myself a Potawatomi.

Graser: Great! Let's make our Indian side-kick a Potawatomi.

<sup>\* 1297</sup> Nolan's Road, RR 5, Smiths Falls, Ontario K7A 4S6 Canada (wcowan@falls.igs.net).

Stiker: O.K by me. Now, we need to have a little Indian spoken in this series. The Indian should have an Indian name for the Lone Ranger. No one knows his real name, so he has to have an Indian one. Mike, how do you say "Lone Ranger" in Indian?

Mike: You don't. There ain't no word for "Lone Ranger" in Indian.

Striker: Hmmm. . .

Graser: Look, the Lone Ranger may not have a name, but he does have a mask. Mike, how do you say "masked man" in Indian?

*Mike:* Let's see. The closest I can come to that is [giimosaabi]. It means something like "he looks out from behind something, like a mask". It could mean "masked man".

Striker: Splendid! How do you spell [giimosaabi]?

Mike: I know how to talk Indian: I don't know how to spell it.

Striker: It sounds sort of like it begins with a "g".

Graser: Indian names don't begin with "g", they begin with "k". Look at "Kickapoo" or "Kalamazoo". I think you should spell it with a "k".

Striker: O.K. So the Lone Ranger's Indian name is "Kemosabe". Now we need a name for the Indian. Let's make him a scout, whose job is to know what's out ahead. Mike, how do you say "trusty scout" in Indian?

Mike: You don't. There also ain't no word for "trusty scout".

Graser: Let's have a name that tells what good hearing he has. Everybody knows that Indians can hear a twig break in the forest a mile away. How do you say "he hears good"?

*Mike:* Hmmm. Let me think. There's a word [danitaw] which means "he hears someone from somewhere over there". Will that do?

Striker: It's too long. Let's drop the middle part. That leaves [dantaw]. Does that word begin with a "d" or a "t"? And what's the last vowel?

Mike: I already told you I can't spell Indian.

Graser: Indian names always begin with "t". Look at "Tecumsah" or "Toronto". And they always end in "o". Look at "Geronimo".

Striker: O.K. But what about the rest of the word? Without the middle syllable it sounds like it rhymes with "pronto". That would make it spelled "tonto". O.K.?

Graser: That first syllable could also be spelled "tau". So we could spell it "Taunto". You know, like the words "cot" and "caught" are pronounced alike.

Striker: Pronounced alike! You're crazy. You're from Ontario; you Canucks never could talk English right. We'll spell the Indian's name Tonto.

Graser: O.K

Striker: Mike, how do you like the idea of becoming an actor?

Mike. I like the idea.

And that's how the Indian side-kick got the name "Tonto". The second conversation takes place about three weeks later. The participants are the same.

Striker: Boy, Tonto is a real hit with the kids! We got kids all over Michigan sending in cereal box tops for a copy of his photo.

Mike: You know, I was talking with a Mexican guy the other day, and he told me that the word spelled "tonto" means stupid in Spanish. Only they pronounce it like "tone-toe". It rhymes with "won't go". It doesn't sound like that in Indian.

Graser: Stupid? Tonto stupid? How can that be? He's smarter than the Lone Ranger!

*Mike*: Maybe we should keep the Indian pronunciation and change how we spell the name.

Striker: Oh my God! We can't change the spelling now. With all the newspaper and magazine stories about the Lone Ranger and Tonto, everybody knows his name is spelled like it is. Besides, if we changed the spelling we would have to junk all those photos. We have thousands of them, all with "Tonto" printed in nice, big letters on the front. How were we supposed to know that it means stupid in Spanish?

Graser: I told you we should have spelled it "Taunto".

Striker: Look, we can't change anything now. We'll just have to go through with it. Anyway, no one in Detroit knows Spanish, so what difference will it make?

Mike: O.K with me.

And that's how his name remained "Tonto".

\* \* \*

The text of Ives Goddard's article on Red Thunder Cloud ("Notes & Comment", April 2000) has been posted, with a picture of the two principals, at: <www.nmnh.si.edu/anthro/goddard1.html>.

## THE PLACENAME DEPARTMENT

Tucson, Arizona, etc.

## William Bright

When I was a teenager, I used to look at road maps of Arizona with fascination, gleaning such exotica as Gu Vo, Kupk, Schuchk, and Wahak Hotrontk – all places on what was then called the Papago Indian Reservation, near the city of Tucson. These places still appear on maps; but the name of the tribe, language, and reservation is now officially Tohono 'O'odham, literally 'desert people'. The closely related Pima people and language are also sometimes

called 'Akimel 'O'odham, lit. 'river people' (referring to the Gila and Salt Rivers of central Arizona). The two branches of the 'O'odham have contributed many place names to the modern map of Arizona. (For help with what follows, many thanks to Jane Hill.)

The name of the city of **Tucson**, usually pronounced [tú:sɑn], is an example. It was borrowed through Spanish, in which it dates back to 1763; the name is written in Spanish records both as *Tucson* and as *Chuk Son*, from 'O'odham *Cuk Son* [čuk son] 'black base' (cf. B.H. Granger, *Arizona's Names*, 1983). The reference is to Sentinel Mountain, to the west of the settlement, because it has a base darker than its summit. But the English form of the name presents two questions. First, why don't we pronounce the [k] that is indicated in the spelling and in the 'O'odham form? The explanation is relatively simple: The loss of [k] in the medial cluster is a feature of non-standard Spanish, in which [ks] is frequently simplified to [s]; thus *examen* 'examination' may be pronounced [esámen].

A second question is more difficult: Why do English and Spanish have initial [t], while O'odham has [č]? Here we must seek the answer in 'O'odham itself. By a phonological rule of the language, historical (or descriptively underlying) /t d n/ are palatalized, becoming [č j ñ], in a specific environment — not before front vowels, as we might expect, but before the HIGH vowels /i i u/ (cf. Dean & Lucille Saxton, Papago & Pima to English Dictionary, Tucson, 1969, p. 108). The sound change is reflected not only in native 'O'odham words, but in some loanwords, e.g. Spanish tijera [tixéra] 'scissors' > 'O'odham cihil, Sp. durazno 'peach' > 'O'odham julasan. So we may hypothesize that, in the 18th century, some 'O'odham varieties had /tuk/ 'black' with [t], while others had [č]. (Jane Hill notes that the palatalization is first attested from 1740, and was still infrequent in a document dating from 1835.) Spanish initially recorded both pronunciations, but eventually retained only the one with [t]. In modern 'O'odham, by contrast, all dialects have [č].

Incidentally, other 'O'odham placenames containing *cuk* 'black' are to be found on modern road maps, e.g. **Ali Chuk Shon** means 'little black base' (with '*ali* 'small'). The name **Schuchk**, referred to above, means 'black things', from \**s-cu-cu-k*, with plurality expressed by reduplication.

The word **Arizona** also entered English from Spanish; the term was first recorded as *Arizonac*, referring to a mining district in what is now southern Pima County. This can be derived from 'O'odham 'ali sonag' little sonag', where the latter word means 'having many springs' ('O'odham l is a retroflex flap, and easily confused with Spanish r). However, a surprising alternative has been suggested. There is evidence that, during colonial times, many miners in the *Arizonac* district came from the Basque country of Spain; and that a Basque expression aritz ona-k 'good oaks' is possible (lit. 'oak good-plural'; W.A. Douglass, Names 27:217–34, 1979). What would help us choose between these etymologies? Is 'O'odham 'ali sonak actually attested as a Native placename in the old Arizonac district? Or can any colonial Spanish records from the area be found to confirm the proposed Basque origin?

[Comments? Questions? Contact: william.bright@colorado.edu].

## **MEDIA WATCH**

[Notices of newspaper and magazine articles, popular books, films, television programs, and other "media exposure" for American Indian languages and linguistics. Readers of the Newsletter are urged to alert the Editor to items that they think worthy of attention here, sending clippings where possible. Special thanks this time to Margaret Anderson, Lyle Campbell, Ives Goddard, and Shirley Silver.]

#### Louise Erdrich essay

• A delightful essay by Louisc Erdrich on the joys and pains of learning Ojibwe ("Two Languages in Mind, but Just One in the Heart") appeared in the Arts section of the *New York Times* on Sunday, May 22). She begins:

For years now I have been in love with a language other than the English in which I write, and it is a rough affair. Every day I try to learn a little more Ojibwe. I have taken to carrying verb conjugation charts in my purse, along with the tiny notebook I've always kept for jotting down book ideas, overheard conversations, language detritus, phrases that pop into my head. Now that little notebook includes an increasing volume of Ojibwe words. My English is jealous, my Ojibwe elusive. Like a besieged unfaithful lover, I'm trying to appease them both.

The full text can be retrieved (for a small fee) from the *Times*' online archives: <a href="http://www.nytimes.com">http://www.nytimes.com</a>>.

#### Keeping track of the s-word

- According to a story that appeared in the Salt Lake Tribune, on May 2, 2000, the Salt Lake County (Utah) distributor of a shot glass that some American Indian leaders found offensive has withdrawn the item from its stock. "We have discontinued the sale of this item and we will destroy any remaining inventory," Charles Thomas, president of Great Mountain West Supply, is quoted as saying. The word "squaw" appears on the back of the shot glass at the1ounceline, with the term "brave" at the 2-ounce line and "chief" at the 3-ounce line. The glass, with an image of an Indian wearing a feather headdress, was sold at souvenir gift shops in the Salt Lake City area. It infuriated some American Indian leaders. Forrest Cuch, director of the Utah Division of Indian Affairs, called it "disgusting." Not only does the glass reinforce stereotypes of drunkenness among Indian peoples, Cuch said, but like many American Indians he considers "squaw" to be a derogatory word demeaning to women.
- Our placename guru, **Bill Bright**, has written a paper on "The Sociolinguistics of the 'S- Word': 'Squaw' in American Placenames" that will appear in a forthcoming issue of *Names*. The text of this interesting and erudite paper is available on-line at Bill's newly inaugurated website (http://www.ncidc.org/bright).
- For a dissenting view on the banning of "squaw," readers might want to read the comments posted by Abenaki historian **Marge Bruchac** on the H-Amindian List last autumn. They can be retrieved from the list's archive for 1 Scpt. and 28 Sept. 1999. The H-Amindian homepage is at:

http://www.asu.edu/clas/history/h-amindian/







#### Genetic evidence elucidates the prehistory of the Americas...

• A long and informative article on the use of genetic evidence — mitochondrial DNA and Y-chromosome lineages — in reconstructing prehistoric movements of peoples appeared in the *New York Times* on May 2, 2000 ("Science and Prehistory Interwine" by Nicholas Wade). The story was based on an extended interview with **Douglas Wallace**, at the Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta, the world's leading expert on mtDNA lineages.

On the "vexed issue" of the timing and number of migrations into the Americas, Wallace told Wade that mtDNA data broadly support Greenberg's general thesis, "although the arrival of the Amerind-speakers seems more complex than a single migration." (In general, Wallace says, he "tends to be more cautious" than Luca Cavalli-Sforza in seeing correspondences between mtDNA or Y-chromosome lineages and major language groups.)

Of the four principal mtDNA lineages found in American Indians (A-D), three (A, C and D) also occur in Siberian peoples, suggesting a source of the "Amerind" migration roughly in the Lake Baikal region of central Siberia. But the B lineage, though it is found elsewhere in Asia, has not turned up in Siberia, raising the possibility that the B people may have taken a sea route to the Americas and then merged there with the A, C and D populations.

More recently, Wallace told Wade, he and other geneticists have discovered that the X pattern, a rare European lineage, occurs in some northern Native American groups such as the Ojibwa and Sioux. Although at first put down to recent intermarriage with Europeans, the American X lineage has turned out to be pre-Columbian. Since the European X lineage seems to have originated in Western Asia around 40,000 years ago. Wallace suggests a part of this group may have made their way to America via Siberia, even though no traces of the X lineage have so far turned up in east Asia. A trans-Atlantic route is a possible alternative.

#### ... and your own ancestry (for a fee)

• Nicholas Wade's *New York Times* story also reported the launching, this April, of a company called *Oxford Ancestors*. Owned by the molecular geneticist **Bryan Sykes**, the company offers to tell customers which of the seven major European lineages their mitochondrial DNA belongs to. (Or, as they phrase the question, what is your matrilineal "clan"? Which "daughter of Eve" are you descended from?) They will also match mtDNA from people with non-European matrilineal ancestry to the 20,000 samples in their databank, which cover in a less comprehensive way all of the mtDNA lineages of humanity. The test requires sending in a sample of cells brushed from the inside of the cheek. The fee is a mere £120 (\$180 US, dollar checks accepted).

Oxford Ancestors also makes available maps of the current geographical distribution of any surname in the UK, and "MaleMatch" comparisons of Y-chromosome genetic fingerprints, which can be used to establish, or disprove, a paternal link between individuals. For details see their website (http://www.oxfordancestors.com) or contact them by e-mail at: <enquiries@oxfordancestors.com>.

## Ignace warns of eco-linguistic disaster

Canada's major national newspaper, *The Globe and Mail*, ran a long story on Saturday, May 13, 2000, based on **Ron Ignace**'s

keynote speech the previous day at the *Stabilizing Indigenous Languages* conference in Toronto [see the conference website at <a href="http://www.oise.utoronto.ca/MLC/silc">http://www.oise.utoronto.ca/MLC/silc</a> for details]. Ignace is Chief of the Skeetchestn Band of British Columbia and chair of the Assembly of First Nations' Committee on Aboriginal Languages. His message was gloomy: all but a few of the aboriginal languages spoken in Canada are teetering on the brink of extinction.

Of the 60 aboriginal languages heard across Canada less than a century ago, Ignace said in his address, eight have vanished altogether and only four—Cree, Inuktituk, Ojibway and Dakota—have a chance of surviving the force of English-language culture over the next few generations. In 1951, 87 per cent of native people reported an aboriginal language as their mother tongue. By 1996, 51 per cent of native adults and 71 per cent of children had never even spoken an aboriginal language. On Ignace's own small reserve of 400 people near Kamloops, he and his wife are the only parents who still speak Shuswap at home to their children.

"Canada is on the verge of losing precious jewels of its cultural heritage," he said. "These languages represent vast reservoirs of intellectual knowledge stretching back thousands of years. The English language is an infant relative to our languages. In my view, the loss of these languages in our country will rival the great ecological disasters of the world, such as the destruction of the rain forest. It has that potential."

Ignace called for the Canadian government to introduce legislation to establish a foundation with \$100 million to fund native language immersion programs across the country. "Canada has to declare a state of emergency over these languages," Ignace said.

#### Squabble over Siebert papers delays their publication

The Boston *Globe* reported in a story on May 28, 2000, that the massive Penobscot dictionary and two volumes of texts that **Frank T. Siebert, Jr.** left in manuscript at his death in 1998 may not be published soon.

A row has crupted between Siebert's daughters — his legal heirs — and Richard Garrett and his wife Martha Young, who had been working closely with Siebert on his Penobscot materials. Garrett and Young understandably feel that they are best qualified to finish Siebert's work, and in Siebert's original will they were in fact given the job. Shortly before his death, however, Siebert — senile and confused, or so Garrett and Young claim — changed his will to give his estranged daughters full discretion in the matter.

Siebert's elder daughter, **Stephanie Finger**, has let it be known that she does not think Garrett and his wife are qualified for the job. Since she claims she has not been able to find anyone else to do it, the papers are languishing in the American Philosophical Society Library. Garrett has twice challenged Siebert's rewritten will in court, and twice lost. Meanwhile, the Penobscot Nation is growing impatient, and its attorney is clouding the legal waters even further by asserting Tribal ownership of at least the portion of Siebert's work that was federally funded.

The APS, understandably, is taking a hands-off position. Although the manuscript of the texts is nearly ready for publication, an APS spokesperson told the *Globe* that "as far as we are concerned, until they work it out, it is going to sit on the shelf." Asked for his view of the sorry situation, **Ives Goddard** said that it was "unbelievable" that such a thing could happen after Siebert "spent his whole life trying to give this [language] back to the Penobscots." And on top of everything else, Goddard said, the papers are now "totally disorganized."

## **Recreational Reading**

- Tony Hillerman's Hunting Badger (HarperCollins 1999) is his 13th novel featuring Navajo tribal police officers Joe Leaphorn (now retired) and Jim Chee. Here they work separately to catch the right-wing militiamen who held up a casino on the Ute reservation. Hillerman once again evokes the bleak Southwestern landscape and offers insights into Navajo life and culture (although, this time, very little about language). Not his best, but solid entertainment.
- Our New Zealand correspondent, Lyle Campbell, writes us about *J. A. Jance's Hour of the Hunter* (Avon Books, 1991):

This one may have slipped past the notice of many SSILA members. Jance, better known for her J. P. Beaumont mysteries set in Seattle, calls upon her five years experience as a teacher on then Papago Reservation (today Tohono O'othham nation) in *Hour of the Hunter*. Set in Tucson and on the Reservation in the 1970s, this murder mystery's cast of characters, about half white and half Indian, has us encountering a white school teacher, the O'odham-speaking white son of school-teacher, a strong older O'odham woman, a blind shaman, and various other O'odham people. There is also a Catholic priest (as well as characters representing Christian Scientists, Lutherans, Presbyterians, and Mormons), an evil English professor, some caring cops, and a massive dog, not to mention various characters from traditional O'odham lore. These characters are developed well and in the course of the story, we learn a great deal about their lives and life histories.

Of particular interest to SSILA members, Jance has utilized Dean and Lucille Saxton's Papago and Pima to English Dictionary and their Legends and Lore of the Papago and Pima Indians to weave extensively into her story aspects of O'odham tales and language. Sad to say, however, while her use of O'odham traditional literature enhances the story, her liberal sprinkling of O'odham words throughout the book doesn't work so well. Though the abundance of words from a Native American languages is perhaps fun for us SSILA linguists, the way these words are deployed often seems to reflect a jolting naiveté about how bilinguals use language. On the whole though, once you get past the beginning, it is a thoroughly enjoyable book.

## **NEWS FROM REGIONAL GROUPS**

#### Athabaskan

• The 2000 Athabaskan Language Conference took place on Saturday, June 10, in Moricetown, British Columbia, preceded by a Workshop on Athabaskan Prosody on June 9.

Papers presented at the Workshop on Athabaskan Prosody: Jeff Leer (U of Alaska Fairbanks), "How stress shapes the stem in Athabaskan"; Sharon Hargus (U of Washington), "Quality and quantity issues in Witsuwit'en word stress"; Bill Poser (Carrier Sekani Tribal Council and UBC), "An acoustic study of Dakelh (Carrier) pitch accent"; Gary Holton (U of Alaska Fairbanks), "Tone and intonation in Tanacross"; Suzanne Gessner (UBC), "Properties of tone in Chipewyan"; Siri Tuttle (UCLA), "Locations and realizations of prominence in Athabaskan languages"; and John Alderete (UBC), "Word level prosody in Tahltan, a historical and phonetic exploration". Michael Krauss (U of Alaska Fairbanks) was the invited discussant.

Papers presented at the Athabaskan Language Conference: Sally Rice (U of Alberta), "Posture and existence predicates in Dene Sounline

(Chipewyan): Lexical and semantic density as a function of the STAND/SIT/LIE continuum"; **Ted Fernald** (Swarthmore), "Athabaskan Satellites and ASL Ion-Morphs"; **Gunnar Olafur Hansson** (UC Berkeley), "Chilcotin Vowel Flattening and Sibilant Harmony: Diachronic Cues to a Synchronic Puzzle"; **Lynda Holland** (Holland Educational Consulting), "Lost and Found: The Dene Elder's Project, Voices from the Past"; **Edward Vajda** (Western Washington U), "Ket verb morphology and its parallels with Athabaskan-Eyak-Tlingit: Possible evidence of a distant genetic link"; **Sally Rice et al**, "Cold Lake Chipewyan revitalization project"; and **Alfred Joseph** (Tse-Kya (Hagwilget) Band), "The role of the Witsuwit'en and Gitksan languages in Delgamuukw v. The Queen."

The meeting also featured a *Multi-media fair* with the following presentations: **John Alderete & Tanya Bob** (UBC), "Transcriber 1.4.2 as a tool for annotating large sound files in Tahltan"; **Eric Lockard** (Salina Bookshelf), "The Navajo Language: A Grammar and Colloquial Dictionary on CD ROM"; and **J. Randolph Radney** (Trinity Western U/Canada Institute of Linguistics), "Overview of LinguaLinks."

The proceedings concluded with a Farewell Feast at the Moricetown campground. Abstracts for both the Workshop and Conference have been posted on the conference web site: http://faculty.washington.edu/sharon/ALC2000/

#### Algonquian

• The 32nd *Algonquian Conference* will be held on the weekend of October 27 - 29, 2000, in Montreal, Quebec, co-sponsored by the Department of Anthropology of McGill University and the McCord Museum of Canadian History. Meetings will be held in the McCord Museum (located in downtown Montreal).

Papers (a 20-minute presentation followed by a 10-minute discussion) will be accepted in either French or English and on any scholarly topic that deals with Algonquian peoples of North America. Papers are welcome in a wide range of fields: linguistics, anthropology, ethnohistory, archaeology, etc.

Anyone interested in presenting a paper is asked to send, by September 1st, 2000, the title and an abstract of not more than 100 words, along with their preregistration fee to: Prof. Toby Morantz, Dept. of Anthropology, McGill University, 855 Sherbrooke St. West, Montreal, Quebec H3A 2T7 Canada (telephone: (514) 398-8920; fax: (514) 398-7476; e-mail: tmoran@po-box.mcgill.ca).

There will be a registration fee of \$50 (Canadian) (or \$35 U.S.) at the meetings, but \$40 (\$28 U.S.) for preregistration before September 1. For students the respective fees will be \$25 (\$17 U.S.) and \$20 (\$14 U.S.). If claiming student status, kindly give the particulars. Please pay by check or money order made out to: "32nd Algonquian Conference." Registration will open Thursday evening, October 26th. The sessions will begin at 9 a.m. on Friday, October 27th and continue through to Sunday noon on October 29th. Accommodations are the responsibility of the individual participants. A list of hotels within easy walking distance of the McCord Museum will be sent out with the second announcement, later in July. A program of the speakers and details of local arrangements will be mailed to registrants by the end of September.

#### Atlantic Canada

• The next meeting of the Atlantic Provinces Linguistics Association (Association de linguistique des provinces atlantiques) will be held November 3 and 4, 2000, at the University of Moncton in Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada. The APLA is a general linguistics conference that welcomes papers (in English or French) on the local languages and dialects

of the Atlantic Provinces of Canada (e.g. Mi'kmaq, Maliseet, Gaelic, Acadian French). Deadline for receipt of abstracts is September 8. For further details, contact Louise Beaulieu (louise@admin.cus.ca).

#### Hokan-Penutian

• The 2000 *Hokan-Penutian Conference* was held at UC Berkeley on the weekend of June 17-18, at the conclusion of the Breath of Life language restoration workshop for California Indian languages.

The meeting began with 5-minute presentations by native participants of the Breath of Life. Languages reported on incuded: HOKAN: Achumawi/ Atsugewi; Pomo (Northern, Eastern, Kashaya); Chumash (Obispeno and Barbarcno). PENUTIAN: Costanoan (Mutsun, Rumsen) Miwok (Coast, Sierra); Maidu (Konkow, Nisenan, Northeastern); Wintuan (Wintun, Nomlaki). UTO-AZTECAN: Acjachemem, Tongva, Mono. ATHABASKAN: Mattole, Hupa, Wailaki. ALGIC: Wiyot. ISOLATES: Wappo, Yuki

The Saturday afternoon session (primarily Hokan) included: Margaret Langdon & Leanne Hinton, "The history of the Hokan-Penutian Workshop"; Robert Oswalt, "Interjections in Kashaya"; Andrew Simpson, "Incorporation in Northern and Central Yana"; Susan Smith, "Subordinate clauses in Karuk"; Tess Wood & Leanne Hinton, "A report on George Grekoff's Chimariko (and other) materials"; Margaret Langdon, "The story of Johnny Bear: a European tale in 'Iipay Kumeyaay"; Alan Yu, "Chumash sibilant harmony"; and William H. Jacobsen, Jr., "Washo borrowings from English."

The Sunday morning session (primarily Penutian) included: Victor Golla, "The history of the term 'Penutian'" [read by proxy]; Maric-Lucie Tarpent, "Penutian morphological elements"; Anthony P. Grant, "Fabric, pattern, shift and diffusion: what change in Penutian languages can tell historical linguists"; Catherine Callaghan, "Problems of writing a historical grammar"; Juliette Blevins, "More sources for Yurok glottalized consonants"; Lynn Nichols, "Two Zuni passives"; William Weigel, "Some recent Yokuts innovations"; and Andrew Garrett, "On Rumsen dialectology."

At the Business Meeting it was decided that the next meeting will be held two years from now, again at UC Berkeley and linked to the Breath of Life workshop.

#### Siouan-Caddoan

- The 2000 Siouan-Caddoan Conference met in Anadarko, Oklahoma, on June 2-3, at the Tribal Complex of the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes. The program included the following papers:
- T. C. Grimm (Kansas), "Another look at Proto-Siouan \*r and \*y"; Regina Pustet (Munich), "Lakota Postpositions"; Bruce Ingham (SOAS, London), "An investigation of the occurrence of the emphatic suffixes -hca, -hce and -hci in Lakhota"; Linda Cumberland (Indiana), "The stop phonemes of Assiniboine: Empirical evidence from spectrographic analysis"; Catherine Rudin (Wayne State College), "Insights from an Omaha Linguistics Class"; John Koontz (Colorado), "Evidentials and Consequentials in Omaha-Ponca"; Ardis R. Eschenberg (Buffalo), "Referential Distance and Animate Articles in Omaha"; John P. Boyle (Chicago), "Causative constructions and valency changing morphology in Hidatsa"; Nicole Lea Evans (Indiana), "Phrasal Markers and Pitch Accent in Pawnee"; and David Rood (Colorado), "Speaking polysynthetically."

There was also an open discussion with Anadarko area tribes on language issues, and dinner and handgame hosted by Wichita Language Class.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

The Language Encounter in the Americas, 1492-1800: A Collection of Essays. Edited by Edward G. Gray & Norman Fiering. European Expansion & Global Interaction 1. Berghahn Books, 2000. 342 pp. \$49.95. [Papers from the conference on "Communicating with the Indians" that was held in October 1996 at the John Carter Brown Library in Providence, Rhode Island.

The editors explain that their design in organizing this unique conference was to "lure into the same room scholars who, hitherto in isolation, were studying French, Spanish, or English encounters with Indian languages" to share their detailed knowledge of how "all of these groups confronted America's complex linguistic environment [and] devised ways of transcending that environment." Among the multitude of topics addressed are: early attempts at gestural communication (James Axtell's paper contains some remarkable first hand reports); the contexts in which trading jargons and pidgins developed; how interpreters were procured and trained (more truly amazing stories); the heroic linguistic feats of missionaries; and the different types of native literacy that arose in colonial situations (including the remarkable development in Acadia, where French missionaries transmuted aboriginal pictographs into a hieroglyphic writing system). The three papers on the communicational functions of maps, paintings and other non-verbal images are delightful, but so is nearly all of this consistently interesting book.

The contents include: James Axtell, "Babel of Tongues: Communicating with the Indians in Eastern North America"; Ives Goddard, "The Use of Pidgins and Jargons on the East Coast of North America"; Pauline Moffit Watts, "Pictures, Gestures, Hieroglyphs: 'Mute Eloquence' in Sixteenth-Century Mexico"; Margaret J. Leahey, "Iconic Discourse: The Language of Images in Seventeenth-Century New France": Dana Leibsohn, "Mapping after the Letter: Graphology and Indigenous Cartography in New Spain"; José Antonio Mazzotti, "Continuity vs. Acculturation: Aztec and Inca Cases of Alphabetic Literacy"; Kathleen J. Bragdon, "Native Languages as Spoken and Written: Views from Southern New England"; Bruce Greenfield, "The Mi'kmaq Hieroglyphic Prayer Book: Writing and Christianity in Maritime Canada, 1675-1921"; Frances Karttunen, "Interpreters Snatched from the Shore: The Successful and the Others"; William B. Hart, "Mohawk Schoolmasters and Catechists in Mid-Eighteenth-Century Iroquoia: An Experiment in Fostering Literacy and Religious Change"; Edward G. Gray, "The Making of Logan, the Mingo Orator"; Isaías Lerner, "Spanish Colonization and the Indigenous Languages of the Americas"; Lieve Jooken, "Descriptions of American Indian Word Forms in Colonial Missionary Grammars"; and Rüdiger Schreyer, "'Savage' Languages in Eighteenth-Century Theoretical History of Language." The book is well edited, with a usefully comprehensive index.

— Order from: Berghahn Books, P.O. Box 605, Herndon, VA 20172-0605 (tel: 800/540-8663; fax: 703/661-1501; www.berghahnbooks.com).]

The Athabaskan Languages: Perspectives on a Native American Language Family. Edited by Theodore B. Fernald & Paul R. Platero. Oxford Studies in Anthropological Linguistics 24. Oxford University Press, 2000. 332 pp. \$55. [Papers originally presented at the Athabaskan Conference on Syntax and Semantics, held at Swarthmore College, Pennsylvania, in April 1996. With the exception of a concluding paper by the editors on "Sacred and Secular Issues in Navajo Education," the papers all deal with theoretical issues of syntax and semantics. These include:

Melissa Axelrod, "The Semantics of Classification in Koyukon Athabaskan"; Leonard M. Faltz, "A Semantic Basis for Navajo Syntactic Typology"; Theodore B. Fernald, "Generalizations in Navajo"; Ken Hale & Paul Platero, "Negative Polarity Expressions in Navajo"; Dagmar Jung, "Word Order in Apache Narratives"; Jeff Lccr, "The Negative/Irrealis Category in Athabaskan-Eyak-Tlingit"; Joyce McDonough, "On a Bipartite Model of the Athabaskan Verb"; Keren Rice, "Monadic Verbs and Argument Structure in Ahtna, Slave and Navajo"; Carlota S. Smith, "The Semantics of the Navajo Verb Base"; Chad L. Thompson, "Iconicity and Word Order in Koyukon Athabaskan"; Mary Ann Willie & Eloise Jelinek, "Navajo as a Discourse Configurational Language"; and Robert W. Young & William Morgan, "The Function and Signification of Certain Navaho Particles."

Nearly all of these papers are highly technical and aimed primarily at Athabaskan specialists (Young & Morgan's contribution is a partial exception; it was originally prepared as a brochure for teachers in 1948). Several use Athabaskan data to cast light (and some healthy doubt) on theoretical generalizations: e.g., Rice's article, which brings in a negative verdict on the Unaccusative Hypothesis and the inclusion of argument structure in the lexicon; or Jung's study, which shows polysynthetic Apache to have a robust SO word order instead of the expected pragmatic order. The paper that is most likely to catch the attention of non-Athabaskanists is McDonough's challenge to the traditional position-class template model of the Athabaskan verb. She makes a persuasive case for a radically different analysis of Athabaskan morphology, one that explicitly attempts to represent the native speaker's working knowledge,

— Order from Oxford University Press, 2001 Evans Rd., Cary, NC 27513 (tel: 1-800-451-7556; fax: 1-919-677-1303) or visit the OUP website at <a href="http://www.oup-usa.org">http://www.oup-usa.org</a>.]

#### New from LINCOM EUROPA

The following publications have been recently announced by LINCOM EUROPA in brochures and on the LINGUIST list. Only Hardman's Jagaru has been seen, however, and (as usual with this publisher) it is not clear whether all of these titles are yet available.

A Reconstruction of Proto-Taranoan: Phonology and Inflectional Morphology. Sergio Meira. LINCOM Studies in Native American Linguistics 30. 300 pp. \$80. [Comparative and classificatory studies of Cariban languages, despite their long history (starting with Gilij in 1782), have been few and unsatisfactory, mainly due to lack of documentation. Based on a large amount of new descriptivedata, as well as on published sources, the present work attempts to demonstrate the closer genetic relationship between a subgroup of three Cariban languages, Akuriyó, Tiriyó and Karihona, the last two of which were considered to belong to very distant branches of the family in Durbin's widely cited classification (1977). This demonstration takes the form of a reconstruction of the main aspects of the segmental phonology and inflectional morphology (person, number, evidentiality, tense/aspect/mood) of the proto-language, which the author proposes to call Proto-Taranoan. A preliminary etymological dictionary, as well as some remarks on the history of the speakers, is also included.]

Grammaire du Purépecha. Claudine Chamereau. LINCOM Studies in Native American Linguistics 34. 340 pp. \$92. [L'objet de ce travail est de faire une description synchronique du purépecha parlé sur des îles du lac de Patzcuaro (Mexique). Cette langue est génétiquement isolée.]

Jaqaru. M. J. Hardman. Languages of the World/Materials 183. 160 pp. \$52. [Jaqaru, a member of the Jaqi family (Jaqaru, Kawki, Aymara), is spoken by a small community in the Peruvian Andes. This grammatical

sketch covers both phonology and morphology, both of which are notably complex. The phonemic system distinguishes 36 consonants but only 3 vowels, with pervasive vowel deletion (marking case and phrase structure as well as style). There is an extensive verbal morphology, with all verbs carrying several suffixes. Syntax is morphologically marked: verbal person suffixes mark simultaneously object/subject; data source is marked at all levels of grammar. Within the nominal system inclusive/exclusive and humanness are marked.]

Kiliwa. Mauricio J. Mixco. Languages of the World/Materials 193. 64 pp. \$ 32.50. [Kiliwa, the sole member of one of the four branches of Yuman, is spoken in the municipalidad de Ensenada, Baja California, by fewer than 8 fluent speakers. Kiliwa has vocalic epenthesis, a rich consonant system with many clusters, 3 vowels (plus length). It is a verbfinal, head-marking language, with positional auxiliaries and classificatory verbs marking tense-aspect-modality, along with benefactives, causatives, etc. The verb has subject-object nominative-accusative prefixation with root ablaut and affixation for subject-object number agreement. Switch-reference is marked in coordinate clauses, combining with a system for tracking predicate-continuity with fronted classificatory auxiliaries. Relative clauses distinguish subject from non-subject heads.]

Oneida. Clifford Abbott. Languages of the World/Materials 301, 60 pp. \$31. [The current work is based on two and a half decades of field work in the Wisconsin Oneida community, where fewer than a couple dozen native speakers remain. Despite the endangered status there is an oral literature, primarily in the rich ceremonial tradition. The community actively invests in language revitalization efforts and there is limited literacy in an orthography not more than a few decades old. Among Oneida's more notable structural features are: a relatively small phonemic inventory lacking in labials; the use of whispered syllables; a highly complex verbal morphology; the dominance of verbal structures over nominal ones; and the productive use of noun incorporation.]

The Old Sirinek Language: Texts, Lexicon, Grammatical Notes [in Russian]. Nikolai Vakhtin. LINCOM Studies in Asian Linguistics 33, 600 pp. \$89. [Although Old Sirinek of Chukotka is an Eskimo language its place in the family is unclear, and it is possibly the last survivor of a third subgroup alongside Yupik and Inuit. Although the language was mixed with Siberian Yupik it had deep structural, phonological, and lexical differences from Yupik. The last speaker, Valentina Wye, died in 1997. This book contains practically everything collected on the language by several Russian scholars over 50 years from the 1940s to the 1990s, and is in four parts: (1) history and genetic affiliation; (2) narrative texts with Russian interlinear translation; (3) grammatical data; and (4) a dictionary of ca. 2500 entries.]

— Order from: — LINCOM EUROPA, Freibadstr. 3, 81543 München, Germany (fax: +49 89 62269404; e-mail: <LINCOM, EUROPA @t-online.de>; web: <a href="http://www.lincom-europa.com">http://www.lincom-europa.com</a>>.

## Archivo de Lenguas Indígenas de México

The Archivo de Lenguas Indígenas de México is a series of standardized documentations of the Indian languages of Mexico, published by El Colegio de México under the general direction of Yolanda Lastra.

The late Jorge Suárez, in an "Introducción" that is printed in each volume of the series, defined the the goals of the project: "que el Archivo (1) contenga una muestra representativa de la diferenciación lingüística de México, y (2) sea utilizable para comparaciones tipológicas e históricas." Each volume contains a section on phonology ("fonemas", "esquema





fonológico"), a short narrative text and one or more samples of conversation (with translation and morphemic analysis), a long section on morphosyntax ("sintaxis"), and a compact lexicon of 500 or so items. The morphosyntactic section is not a grammatical sketch, but rather 594 Spanish sentences or utterance sequences (no. 546 consists of the numerals from 1 to 10) with their native language equivalents, glossed and morphemically analyzed. This "cuestionario", originally developed by Ray Freeze (and briefly outlined in the "Introducción"), is intended to provide examples of all major grammatical phenomena, but without analysis or discussion. The latest numbers to be published are:

- 22. Huichol de San Andrés Cohamiata, Jalisco. Paula Gómez. 1999. 204 pp. \$10.
- 23. *Matlatzinca de San Francisco Oxtotilpan, Estado de México*. Roberto Escalante H. & Marciano Hernández. 1999. 189 pp. \$14. [A Southern Otomian language of the Valle de Toluca.]

Ten earlier numbers in the series are still available:

- 12. Tlapaneco de Malinaltepec, Guerrero. Jorge A. Suárez. S6.
- Otomí de San Andrés Cuexcontitlan, Edo. de México. Yolandra Lastra. \$6.
- 14. Mayo de los Capomos, Sinaloa. Ray A. Freeze. \$6.
- 15. Totonaco de Papantla, Veracruz. Paulette Levy. \$9.
- 16. Guarijío de Arechuyvo, Chihuahua. Wick R. Miller. \$9.
- 17. Acateco de la frontera sur. Roberto Zavala Maldonado. \$14.
- 18. Kiliwa del Arroyo León, Baja California. Mauricio Mixco. \$8.
- 19. Seri de Sonora. Mary Beck Moser. \$11.
- 20. Chatino de la Zona Alta, Oaxaca. Leslie Pride & Kitty Pride. \$18.
- 21. Pima Bajo de Yepachi, Chihuahua. Zarina Estrada Fernández. \$14.

Order from: Departamento de Publicaciones, El Colegio de México, Camino al Ajusco 20, México, D.F. 10740. The cost of mailing is an additional \$5.

America Past, America Present: Genes and Languages in the Americas and Beyond. Edited by Colin Renfrew. The McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research, Cambridge. 175 pp. \$50 (£30). [Papers from a 1998 symposium at Cambridge the aim of which was to consider "potential relationships between molecular genetics and historical linguistics with particular reference to the Americas." Contributions include:

Colin Renfrew, "Genetics and languages in the Americas and beyond: variations at the micro and the macro level"; Francesc Calafell et al., "Evolutionary processes and micro-differentiation: emergence and detection of population-specific variation"; Neil Bradman, Mark Thomas & David Goldstein, "The genetic origins of Old Testament priests"; Terrence Kaufman & Victor Golla, "Language groupings in the New World: their reliability and usability in cross-disciplinary studies"; Victor Golla, "Language families of North America"; Antonio Torroni, "Mitochondrian DNA and the origin of Native Americans"; D. Andrew Merriwether et al., "Gene flow and genetic variation in the Yanomama as revealed by mitochondrial DNA"; Lucia Simoni et al., "Genetic differentiation of South American native populations inferred from classical markers: from explorative analyses to a working hypothesis"; Don Ringe, "Some relevant facts about historical linguistics"; and Merritt Ruhlen, "Some unanswered linguistic questions."

—Order from (UK): Oxbow Books, Park End Place, Oxford, OX1 1HN (tel: (1865) 241249; fax: (1865) 794449). USA: David Brown Book Company, Box 511, Oakville, CT 06779 (tel: 860-945-9329; fax: 860-945-9468; web: <www.oxbowbooks.com>.]

**Linguistic Diversity**. Daniel Nettle. Oxford University Press, 1999. 168 pp. \$19.95 (paper)/\$65 (cloth). [In this ambitious book N. presents us with a general theory of linguistic diversity in human social history.

N.'s position is thoroughly anthropological: he is concerned less with history in the normal sense — the events of the last few millennia — than with the grand sweep of human social and cognitive development over the past 50 to 70 thousand years. He thus pays relatively little attention to the post-Neolithic spread of technologically sophisticated and politically centralized cultures and the effect these may have had on the number and distinctiveness of languages in such areas as Southeast Asia or Mesoamerica. His focus is on the languages of the small-scale horticultural societies that (following Dixon, *The Rise and Fall of Languages*, 1997) he sees as the most recent social and linguistic "equilibrium" state of our species.

In this large-scale view, N. identifies "ecological risk" as the most important determining factor behind geolinguistic diversity. He argues that the number and variety of languages in an area is correlated with the social networks typical of that area, and these in turn are determined by the riskiness of the local ecosystem for human beings equipped with huntergather/small farming tools. If New Guinea has smaller and more varied linguistic units than West Africa it is because of "the amount of climatic variation that has to be faced" (p. 79).

From a hypothetical "Paleolithic equilibrium" of hunting-gathering societies through the "Neolithic punctuation" to the "Neolithic equilibrium", N. argues, increasing population and increasing linguistic diversity went hand in hand. If this is true, the phylogenetic diversity (at the stock level) of the world's languages needs explaining. Australia, New Guinea and the Americas have a far greater share of the maximal classificatory units than Africa, Europe, and Asia. Johanna Nichols has used these numbers to argue that the New World has been occupied nearly as long as New Guinea and Australia. N.'s quite different explanation assumes that the diversification of linguistic types that gives rise to phylogenetic diversity is the product of an "initial punctuation" — the original human settlement of a continental area. Once "all the niches of the continent had been filled up, there would be little scope for further radiation of peoples or consequent ramification of languages" (p. 122). Subsequent linguistic diversification would be of another sort, leading ultimately to a decrease in the number of stocks (although not of languages). The formal model that N. constructs for this predicts that the peak number of stocks should be reached soon after colonization. The higher phylogenetic diversity of Australasia and the Americas thus, in Nettle's view, argues for their colonization relatively late in the expansion of our species.

There is much to quibble with in N.'s often over-simplified models, but his theoretical astuteness is a welcome respite from the sterile debates over "Proto-World".

— Order from Oxford University Press, 2001 Evans Rd., Cary, NC 27513 (tel: 1-800-451-7556; fax: 1-919-677-1303) or visit the OUP website at <a href="http://www.oup-usa.org">http://www.oup-usa.org</a>.]

Vanishing Voices: The Extinction of the World's Languages. Daniel Nettle & Suzanne Romaine. Oxford University Press, 2000. 256 pp. \$27.50. [A popular account of the accelerating worldwide reduction of linguistic diversity, and a plea to humanity to "preserve this resource, before it is too late."

In Linguistic Diversity (see above) N. argues for a causal interconnection among social networks, languages, and ecological niches. It is no surprise, then, that he and R. find the abandonment of local languages to be related to the radical degradation of the worldwide ecosystem. They contend that

the struggle to preserve such resources as the tropical rainforest cannot be separated from the struggle to maintain diverse cultures, and that the causes of language death, like that of ecological destruction, lie at the intersection of ecology and politics. (For comment see "Editorial Notes".)

— Order from Oxford University Press, 2001 Evans Rd., Carv. NC 27513 (tel: 1-800-451-7556; fax: 1-919-677-1303) or visit the OUP website at <a href="http://www.oup-usa.org">http://www.oup-usa.org</a>.1

The Human Inheritance: Genes, Language, and Evolution. Edited by Bryan Sykes. Oxford University Press, 1999, 195 pp. \$36.50. [Based on the Wolfson College lectures in the Spring of 1997, these papers provide an accessible overview of current thinking on the biological and linguistic diversity of our species.

Sykes is a leading molecular geneticist, and the emphasis is on the new genetic evidence that is rapidly accumulating. Contributions include: Colin Renfrew, "Reflections on the archaeology of linguistic diversity"; Chris Stringer, "The fossil record of the evolution of *Homo sapiens* in Europe and Australasia"; Don Ringe, "Language classification: scientific and unscientific methods"; Gabriel Dover, "Human evolution: our turbulent genes and why we are not chimps"; Bryan Sykes, "Using genes to map population structure and origins"; Svante Pääbo, "Ancient DNA"; Ryk Ward, "Language and genes in the Americas"; and Walter Bodmer, "Human genetic diversity and disease susceptibility."

 Order from Oxford University Press, 2001 Evans Rd., Carv. NC 27513 (tel: 1-800-451-7556; fax: 1-919-677-1303) or visit the OUP website at <a href="http://www.oup-usa.org">http://www.oup-usa.org</a>.]

#### **BRIEF MENTION**

Regimes of Language: Ideologies, Polities, and Identities. Edited by Paul V. Kroskrity. School of American Research Advanced Seminar Series, 2000. 432 pp. \$60 (hardcover)/\$24.95 (paper). [Contents include: Paul V. Kroskrity, "Regimenting Languages: Language Ideological Perspectives"; Judith T. Irvine & Susan Gal, "Language Ideology and Linguistic Differentiation"; Michael Silverstein, "Whorfianism and the Linguistic Imagination of Nationality"; Richard Bauman & Charles L. Briggs, "Language Philosophy as Language Ideology: John Locke and Johann Gottfred Herder"; Joseph Errington, "Indonesian('s) Anthority"; Susan U. Philips, "Constructing a Tongan Nation-State through Language Ideology in the Courtroom"; Jane H. Hill, "'Read My Article': Ideological Complexity and the Overdetermination of Promising in American Presidential Politics"; Bambi B. Schieffelin, "Introducing Kaluli Literacy: A Chronology of Influences"; and Paul V. Kroskrity, "Language Ideologies in the Expression and Representation of Arizona Tewa Ethnic Identity." - Order from: SAR Press, P.O. Box 2188, Santa Fe, NM 87504 (tel: 888-390-6070; fax: 505-954-7241; e-mail: bkorders@sarsf.org; web: http:/ /www.sarweb.org).]

## Recent volumes from John Benjamins

Reciprocals: Forms and Functions. Edited by Zygmunt Frajzyngier & Traci S. Curl. Typological Studies in Language 41, 2000. \$79 (hardcover). [Papers on the semantic and cognitive properties of reciprocal events, the syntactic properties of reciprocals, and the relationship of reciprocals to other grammatical categories. The languages discussed include: English, Dutch, German, Greek, Polish, Nyulnyulan (Australia), Amharic, Bilin (Cushitic), Chadic languages, Bantu, Halkomelem (Salishan), Mandarin, Yukaghir and a number of Oceanic languages. The volume also includes

a study of grammaticalization of reciprocals and reflexives in African languages. The paper on Halkomelem is by Donna Gerdts.

Functional Approaches to Language, Culture and Cognition: Papers in Honor of Sydney M. Lamb. Edited by David G. Lockwood, Peter H. Fries & James E. Copeland. Current Issues in Linguistic Theory 163, 2000. \$135. [Papers taking functional approaches to the description of language and culture, and language and cultural change, honoring the founder of Stratificational Linguistics. Since Lamb's own descriptive and historical work has dealt with American Indian languages, several of the contributions are on Americanist topics. These include: Joseph Greenberg, "From First to Second Person: The History of Amerind \*k(i)"; James E. Copeland, "The Grammaticalization of Lexicalized Manual Gesture in Tarahumara"; William Bright, "Notes on Hispanisms: California"; and Merritt Ruhlen, "Why Kaka and Ava?"]

Sociopolitical Perspectives on Language Policy and Planning in the USA. Edited by Thom Huebner, and Kathryn A. Davis, with assistance from Joseph Lo Bianco, Studies in Bilingualism 16, 2000, \$90, [Symposium papers focused on a historical analysis of language planning in the US, the constraints imposed by current policies, and how these constraints can be effectively dealt with. Contributions deal inter alia with maintenance and loss of indigenous languages. Case studies discusses aspects of planning policies pertaining to pidgin languages, gestural languages used by the deaf (ASL), and foreign language education.]

— Order from John Benjamins Publishing (service@benjamins.com, http://www.benjamins.com).

The Zuni Enigma: A Native American People's Possible Japanese Connection. Nancy Yaw Davis. W. W. Norton & Co., 2000. 352 pp. \$26.95. [D. believes she has found convincing evidence — biological, social, cultural, and most importantly, linguistic — that the Zunis are descended from a group of Japanese Buddhists who left Japan in the 13th century AD and sailed into the rising sun in search of a new spiritual homeland. They landed on the Southern California coast, joined up with Indians there, and trekked east to Zuni. — In bookstores everywhere.]

## IN CURRENT PERIODICALS

Bulletin of the Edward Sapir Society of Japan [c/o Yoshio Nagashima, Gakushuin U, 1-5-1 Mejiro, Toshima-ku, Tokyo 171-8588, Japan 1

14 (March 2000):

[All articles are in Japanese, with English abstracts.]

Katsumi Matsumoto, "Genetic Relationship of Japanese and the So-Called Ural-Altaic Theory" (1-26) [The theory that Japanese (and Korean) is related to Ural-Altaic should be rejected once and for all. The problem must be reexamined from a global perspective with special regard to the languages of the Pacific Rim, including some in America.]

Yoshio Nagashima, "Saussure (1916) and Sapir: The Viewpoint and Object of Linguistic Inquiry" (79-94) [The influence of Saussure on Sapir has to remain a matter of conjecture, although Sapir had indirect contact with Saussurean notions.]

Kaoru Horie, "Re-evaluation of Sapir's Ideas within Linguistic Typology" (95-100) [The work of two recent typologists, Joan Bybee and John Hawkins, continues some of Sapir's ideas.]

Chikako Ota, "Sapir and Whorf: Considerations Based on the Trager Papers" (101-108) [Materials concerned with Sapir and Whorf can be found in the George L. Trager Papers at UC Irvine.]



Canadian Journal of Linguistics [U of Toronto Press, 5201 Dufferin St, North York, Ontario M3H 5T8, Canada]



43.2 (June 1998) [appeared June 1999]:

Mark Baker & Lisa Demena Travis, "Events, Times, and Mohawk Verbal Inflection" (149-203) [Many characteristics of Mohawk verb inflection that have been treated as idiosyncratic morphological glitches can be shown to be derived from the syntax and semantics of the constructions in which the forms occur. There is no need for special rules of morpheme placement, deletion, or insertion, and the only task left for post-syntactic morphology is the selection of allomorphs.]

**Historiographia Linguistica** [John Benjamins NA, 821 Bethlehem Pike, Philadelphia, PA 19118]

#### XXVI.3 (1999):

Michael Mackert, "Franz Boas' Early Northwest Coast Alphabet" (273-294) [Early in his research career Boas designed a phonetic alphabet for British Columbia languages, in collaboration with Horatio Hale, who was supervising his work. Boas envisioned a scientific phonetic alphabet based on his pyscholinguistic theory of phonetics, but more practical considerations ultimately took priority.]

Charles F. Hockett, "Leonard Bloomfield: After Fifty Years" (295-311) [An outline of Bloomfield's career, originally prepared in 1989, including many references to his Algonquian work.]

Wallace Chafe, "Floyd Glenn Lounsbury, 1914-1999: A Brief Obituary" (333-341) [Lounsbury will be remembered especially for his contributions to three major areas of scholarship: Iroquoian linguistics, the analysis of kinship systems, and the decipherment of Mayan hieroglyphs.]



**International Journal of American Linguistics** [U of Chicago Press, P O Box 37005, Chicago, IL 60637]

#### 65.4 (October 1999):

Jerrold M. Sadock, "The Nominalist Theory of Eskimo: A Case Study in Scientific Self-Deception" (383-406) [The false notion that Eskimo languages fail to distinguish nouns and verbs—and that the single word class is essentially nominal—originated with Thalbitzer and was adopted by Hammerich. Fixation on this mistaken analysis has led scholars into numerous errors of fact and logic.]

Gregory D. S. Anderson, "Reduplicated Numerals in Salish" (407-448) [Reduplicated counting forms for 'animals' and 'people' are wide-spread in Salish and may be reconstructible to Proto-Salish. The basic numerals for '7' and '9' are also often reduplicated.]

John S. Robertson, "The History of First-Person Singular in the Mayan Languages" (449-465) [In all Mayan languages, the unmarked absolutive 1 sg. marker (\*in) has tended to take over the more marked ergative 1 sg. marker (\*nu-), illustrating the principle that change goes from functional simplicity to functional complexity.]

Mary L. Clayton, "Three Questions in Nahuatl Morphology: 'Wedge', 'Helmet', 'Plaster'" (466-484) [A 16th century Spanish-Latin-Nahuatl manuscript dictionary in the Newberry Library suggests questions about the analysis of some Nahuatl words. C. finds that computer searches of texts are the best way of addressing these and similar questions.]



Lourdes de León, "The Emergent Participant: Interactive Patterns in the Socialization of Tzotzil (Mayan) Infants" (131-161) [That Zinacantee Mayan infants are socialized as participants in a flux of dyadic and polyadic interactions is evidenced by both native theories of socialization and microanalysis of the participation structures in which infants are immersed.]

John B. Haviland, "Early Pointing Gestures in Zinacantán" (162-196) [In the Zinacanán communicative tradition, there is no radical discontinuity between gesture and the rest of language, and the emergence of gesture in infants is consistent with the interactive and conceptual bases for later language development.]

Penelope Brown, "Conversational Structure and Language Acquisition: The Role of Repetition in Tzeltal" (197-221) [When Tzeltal children begin speaking, their vocabulary consists predominantly of verb roots. A conversational feature ("dialogic repetition") provides a context that facilitates the early analysis and use of verbs.]

## 9.1-2 (June/December 1999):

Special issue: Language Matters in Anthropology: A Lexicon for the Millennium, edited by Alessandro Duranti. [75 short papers, each offering a definition of a key concept in modern linguistic anthropology, from "Acquisition" (S. Ervin-Tripp) to "Writing" (A. Perri). All are of interest, but SSILA members should particularly note: "Color" (P. Kay); "Dreams" (L. Graham); "Endangered" (R. Moore); "Functions" (M. Silverstein); "Genre" (R. Bauman); "Gesture" (J. Haviland); "Identity" (P. Kroskrity); "Ideophone" (D. Tedlock); "Indexicality" (W. Hanks); "Narrative" (H. Klein); "Poetry" (D. Hymes); "Reconstruction" (V. Golla); "Reflexivity" (J. Lucy); "Repetition" (P. Brown); "Syncretism" (J. Hill); and "Translation" (R. Darnell).]

**Language** [LSA, 1325 18th St NW, Suite 211, Washington, DC 20036-6501]

#### 75.4 (December 1999):

Rachel Walker & Geoffrey K. Pullum, "Possible and Impossible Segments" (764-780) [Cohn has argued that the phonetically nasalized [?] and [h] of Sundanese cannot be phonologically nasalized, on theoretical grounds. However, W. & P. cite cases where glottal continuants or stops have phonemic status, including three Amazonian languages, Arabela, Aguaruna, and Capanahua.]

Natural Language & Linguistic Theory [Kluwer Academic Publishers, PO Box 358, Accord Station, Hingham, MA 02018-0358]

#### 17.4 (November 1999):

Judith Aissen, "Markedness and Subject Choice in Optimality Theory" (673-711) [A. explores how Silverstein's Animacy Hierarchy might be expressed in a formal theory of grammar, focusing on the role of person in an Optimality Theory account. Data from Fox and Coast Salish (Lushootseed, Lummi, Squamish).]

**Studies in Language** [John Benjamins NA, 821 Bethlehem Pike, Philadelphia, PA 19118]

#### 23.3 (1999):

Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald, "Serial Constructions and Verb Compounding: Evidence from Tariana (North Arawak)" (469-498) [Tariana has a complex system of serial verbs, and also a certain amount of compounding, the two processes being functionally distinct. Their coexistence is consistent with the principle of iconic motivation: the closer elements are to one another in surface structure, the more they are grammaticalized or lexicalized.]

**8.2** (December 1998) [appeared May 2000]:

## RECENT DISSERTATIONS AND THESES

From Dissertation Abstracts International (DAI), volume 60 (7) through 60 (8), January-February 2000.

Um, Hye-Young. Ph.D., Univ. of Texas at Austin, 1998. Larvngeals and Laryngeal Features. 277 pp. [U. investigates the crosslinguistic distributional patterns of laryngeals /?/ and /h/, and of the laryngeal features [constricted glottis] and [spread glottis] that the laryngeal segments are assumed to have. The findings support the idea that information about the phonetic qualities of the individual feature, the segment to which it is attached, and the context in which the segment occurs is needed to properly account for laryngeal feature distribution. It is noted that in some languages laryngeally-marked sonorants are not subject to the same positional constraint as obstruents. In Gitksan, without the presence of creaky voice, the duration and quality of the onset are the cues for the glottalization of the sonorant in word-initial position. DAI 60(7): 2470-A. | [Accession # AAG9937152]

Gore, Kevin A. Ph.D., Univ. of New Mexico, 1999. Mutton in the Melting Pot: Food as Symbols of Communication Reflecting. Transmitting, and Creating Ethnic Cultural Identity among Urban Navajos. 142 pp. [G.'s purpose is to determine how food and food behaviors communicate symbolic meaning that reflects, transmits, and creates ethnic cultural identity among urban Diné. findings were derived from participant observation, semi-structured interviews, extensive academic and general literature on food, culture, and communication, and are illustrated by photographs of Diné food and food behaviors. They suggest that Diné ethnic identity, mediated through food and food behaviors, is largely rooted in performance. In terms of the Diné Philosophy of Knowledge they appear to indicate that food and food behaviors can be conceptually construed as being "between two worlds". DAI 60(7): 2552-A.] [Accession # AAG9938976]

[Most of the dissertations and theses abstracted in DAI and MAI can be purchased, in either microform or paper format, from University Microfilms International, 300 N. Zeeb Rd. Ann Arbor. MI, USA 48106-1346. The UMI order number is given at the end of the entry. Microform copies are \$32.50 each, xeroxed (paperbound) copies are \$36 each (to academic addresses in the US or Canada). Unbound copies are available for \$29.50 over the web. Prices are in US dollars and include shipping and handling. For orders and inquiries from the US or Canada telephone UMI's tollfree number: 800-521-3042. From elsewhere telephone 734-761-4700, ext. 3766; or fax 734-973-7007. Orders can also be placed at UMI's website: http://www.umi.com/hp/Support/DServices/.]

Note to our readers: The Newsletter keeps track of current dissertations through the electronic database maintained by UMI/ Bell & Howell ("Digital Dissertations"). For reasons that have not been satisfactorily explained to us (a "change in their production routines") this database has not been updated in several months, and consequently we are unable to provide our usual coverage this quarter. We hope this situation will be rectified soon. Meanwhile, we apologize for the delay in reporting dissertations that have been filed in the past 8 to 12 months.

## **NEW MEMBERS/NEW ADDRESSES**

[Although the Society's hardcopy Membership Directory is printed only once a year, at the beginning of February, the Newsletter lists new members and changes of address every quarter. Please note that these lists are not cumulative from issue to issue. An electronic version of the Membership Directory, available at the SSILA website, is kept current.]

### New Members (April 1 to June 30, 2000)

Blevins, Juliette — 43 Ross Street, Cambridge CB1 3BP, ENGLAND (jpb39@hermes.cam.ac.uk)

Francis, Hartwell — Dept. of Linguistics, Campus Box 295, Univ. of Colorado, Boulder, CO 80309-0295 (francish@ucsu.cdu)

Hiraiwa, Ken — Dept. of Linguistics& Philosophy, MIT, E39-245, Cambridge, MA 02139 (hiraiwa@mit.edu)

Owens, Gary W., Jr. — 978 E. McDowell Rd., Mesa, AZ 85203 (g\_owens @hotmail.com)

Smythe, Susan — Dept. of Linguistics, Univ. of Texas, 501 Calhoun Hall, Austin, TX 78712 (ssmythe@mail.utexas.edu)

## Changes of Address (since April 1, 2000)

Beck, David — Dept. of Linguistics, Univ. of Alberta, 4-45 Assiniboia Hall, Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2E7, Canada (dbeck@ualberta.ca)

Bender, Margaret — Dept. of Anthropology, Wake Forest Univ., P.O.Box 7807, Winston-Salem, NC 27109 (mcbender@ou.edu)

Blake, Susan J. — #102 - 6055 Balsam St., Vancouver, BC V6M 4C2, CANADA (blakesj@interchange.ubc.ca)

Drude, Sebastian — Freie Universität Berlin, FB Philosophie und Geistseswissenschaft, Inst. für Deutsche und Niederl. Philologie, Habelschwerdter Allee 45, D-14195 Berlin, GERMANY (sebadru@ zedat.fu-berlin.de)

Files, John B. - 4907 Lynndale Dr., Austin, TX 78756-2615 (ifiles@ix.netcom.com)

Frank, Paul S. — 7521 Davis Rd., Waxhaw, NC 28173 (Paul\_Frank@

Gildea, Spike - Dept. of Linguistics, Univ. of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403 (spike@darkwing.uoregon.edu)

Maffi, Luisa — 1766 Lanier Place NW, Washington, DC 20009

Magoulick, Mary — 1748 Cedarwood Rd., Milledgeville, GA 31061 (mmagouli@indiana.edu)

McIlwraith, Thomas -- 2111 Silver SE, Albuquerque, NM 87106 (tadm@unm.edu)

Mellow, Dean - Dept. of Linguistics, Simon Fraser Univ., 8888 University Dr., Burnaby, BC V5A 1S6 CANADA

Nuckolls, Janis B. - Dept of Anthropology, Univ. of Alabama, 19 ten Hoor, Box 870210, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0210

Redden, James E. - P.O. Box 504, Toledo, IL 62468

Shoaps, Robin — 3507 Loma Lada Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90065 (shoaps @umail.ucsb.edu)

Stegeman, Ray — 7500 W. Camp Wisdom Rd., Dallas, TX 75236 (ray\_stegeman@sil.org)

It was a new light when my guide gave me Indian names for things for which I had only scientific ones before. In proportion as I understood the language, I saw them from a new point of view. A dictionary of an Indian language reveals another and wholly new life to us.

- HENRY D. THOREAU, Journal







## **REGIONAL NETWORKS**

A directory of regional or language-family conferences, newsletters, journals, and special publication series. Corrections and additions are solicited.]

#### GENERAL NORTH AMERICA

Studies in American Indian Literatures (SAIL). Quarterly journal focusing on North American Indian literature, both traditional and contemporary. Studies of oral texts are encouraged. Subscription by membership in the Association for the Study of American Indian Literatures (ASAIL), an affiliate of the MLA. Contact: Robert M. Nelson, Box 112, U of Richmond, VA 23173 (rnelson@richmond.edu).

ASAIL Notes. Newsletter of the Association for the Study of American Indian Literatures. Appears 3 times a year. Editor: Scott Stevens, Dept. of English, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 85287. Subscription by membership in ASAIL, see above.

American Indian Language Development Institute (AILDI). Annual 4-week training institute (usually in June) at the U of Arizona, Tucson, for teachers of American Indian languages, with emphasis on the languages of the Southwest. Workshops, classes, lectures, with college credit given. Contact: AILDI, D of Reading & Culture, College of Education, Room 517, Box 210069, U of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721-0069 (c-mail: kfbcgay@u.arizona.edu; website: http://w3.arizona.edu/~aisp/aildi.html).

Stabilizing Indigenous Languages. Annual meeting of educators and others working to revitalize American Indian and other indigenous languages. The 8th meeting will take place at N Arizona U, Flagstaff, June 14-16, 2001. Contact: Jon Reyhner, Center for Excellence in Education, P.O. Box 5774, NAU, Flagstaff, AZ 86011-5774 (jon.reyhner@nau.edu), or visit the Teaching Indigenous Languages website (http://jan.ucc.nau.edu/~jar/TIL.html).

#### ATHABASKAN/ESKIMO-ALEUT

Athabaskan Languages Conference. Meets annually at various locations. Most recent meeting: June 2000, in Smithers and Moricetown, BC, Canada, preceded by a workshop on Athabaskan prosody. [See "News from Regional Groups".]

ANLC Publications. Teaching and research publications on Inupiaq and Yupik Eskimo, Alaskan Athabaskan languages, Eyak, Tlingit, and Haida. More than 100 titles in print. Contact: Alaska Native Language Center, Box 757680, Fairbanks, AK 99775-7680 (fyanlp@uaf.edu).

Inuit Studies Conference. The next conference (the 12th) will be held at the U of Aberdeen, Scotland, August 23-26, 2000. Contact: Dr. Mark Nuttall, Dept of Sociology, U of Aberdeen, Aberdeen AB9 2TY, Scotland (fax: +44-1224-273442; e-mail: soc086@abdn.ac.uk).

Études/Inuit/Studies. Interdisciplinary journal devoted to the study of Inuit (Eskimo) societies, traditional or contemporary, from Siberia to Greenland. Linguistic papers are frequently published. \$40 Can (in Canada) or \$40 US (elsewhere) for individuals; \$25 Can/US for students; \$65 Can/US for institutions. Address: U Laval, Pavillon De-Koninck, Rm 0450, Ste-Foy (Quebec) G1K 7P4, Canada (tel: 418/656-2353; fax: 418/656-3023; e-mail: etudes.inuit.studies@fss.ulaval.ca).

#### ALGONQUIAN/IROQUOIAN

Algonquian Conference. Interdisciplinary. Mccts annually during the last weekend in October. The 2000 conference will be held in Montreal, Oct. 27-29, organized by Toby Morantz, D of Anthropology, McGill U, 855 Sherbrooke St W, Montréal, Québec H3A 2T7 Canada. For details visit the conference website (http://www.umanitoba.ca/algonquian).

Papers of the Algonquian Conference. Current issue: vol 29 (Thunder Bay, 1997), \$44. Some back issues are also available (vol. 8, 21-23, 25-28); write for pricing to Arden Ogg, c/o Linguistics, U of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB R3T 2N2, Canada (acogg@cc.umanitoba.ca).

Algonquian and Iroquoian Linguistics. Newsletter. Four issues/year. \$12/year (US & Canada, US dollars to US addresses); write for rates to other countries. Editor: John Nichols, Linguistics, U of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB R3T 5V5, Canada (jnichol@cc.umanitoba.ca).

#### EASTERN CANADA

Atlantic Provinces Linguistics Association (APLA)/Association de linguistique des provinces atlantiques (ALPA). General linguistics conference, annually in early November. Papers (in English or French) on local languages and dialects (e.g. Mi'kmaq, Maliseet, Gaelic, Acadian French) especially welcome. Annual conference proceedings and journal Linguistica Atlantica. The next meeting will be held Nov. 3-4, 2000 at the U of Moncton in Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada. Deadline for abstracts is Sept. 8. For further details, contact Louise Beaulieu (louise@admin.cus.ca).

#### NORTHWEST

International Conference on Salish and Neighboring Languages. Linguistics and allied topics. Meets annually in August. The 2000 meeting (the 35th) will be held August 16-18, 2000, at Mount Curric, BC, close to Pemberton. Papers are due by Monday, June 12. Contact: Henry Davis, D of Linguistics, UBC, 1866 Main Mall, Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1, Canada (henryd@interchange.ubc.ca).

#### CALIFORNIA/OREGON

California Indian Conference. Interdisciplinary. Next meeting: Rancho Cucamonga, CA, Oct. 14-15, 2000. Contact: Prof LaMay, English D, Chaffey College, 5885 Haven Ave, Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91737-3002 (jlamay@chaffey.cc.ca.us).

**Hokan-Penutian Workshop**. Linguistics, sometimes with papers on prehistory and ethnography. The 2000 meeting was held June 17-18 at UC Berkeley. Next meeting: June 2002, at UC Berkeley. [See "News from Regional Groups".]

**Proceedings of the Hokan-Penutian Workshop**. Five volumes in print: 1988 (S8), 1989 (\$6.50), 1993 (\$16), 1994-95 (\$14), and 1996 (\$15). Order 1988 and 1989 volumes from: Dept of Linguistics, U of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403. Order other volumes from: Dept of Linguistics, UC-Berkeley, CA 94720. Prices postpaid.

News From Native California. News magazine for and about California Indians. Carries articles and other features on anthropological and linguistic topics, among others. Four issues/year. \$19. Order from: Heyday Books, PO Box 9145, Berkeley, CA 94709.

#### PLAINS/SOUTHEAST

Conference on Siouan and Caddoan Languages. The 2000 Conference (the 20th) was held on June 2-3, in Anadarko, Oklahoma, hosted by the Witchita and Affiliated Tribes. Contact: David Rood, D of Linguistics, U of Colorado, Campus Box 295, Boulder, CO 80309-0295 (rood@colorado.edu) [See "News from Regional Groups".]

#### SOUTHWEST/MEXICO

Encuentro de Lingüística en el Noroeste. Biennial linguistics conference at the U of Sonora, Hermosillo, with strong emphasis on the indigenous languages of Mexico and Latin America. Next meeting: Nov. 29-30 & Dec 1, 2000. Contact: Zarina Estrada, Salvatierra #33, Los Arcos, Hermosillo, Sonora, MEXICO (zarina@fisica.uson.mx).

Friends of Uto-Aztecan. Linguistics. Usually meets annually in the summer. The 2000 meeting will be held on July 28-29 in Chapala, Jalisco, México, organized by the D de Estudios en Lenguas Indígenas of the U of Guadalajara. Contact: José Luis Iturrioz Leza (lindigen@udgserv.cenear.udg.mx).

Estudios de Cultura Náhuatl. Journal. Nahuatl archaeology, anthropology, literature, history, and poems and essays in Nahuatl by contemporary writers. Editor: Miguel León-Portilla. Contact: Instituto de Investigaciones Históricas, Cuidad de la Investigación en Humanidades, 3er Circuito Cultural Universitario, Cuidad Universitaria, 04510 México, DF, MEXICO.

Kiowa-Tanoan and Keresan Conference. Linguistics. Meets annually in the summer, usually at the U of New Mexico. Contact: Laurel Watkins, Dept of Anthropology, Colorado College, Colorado Springs, CO 80903 (lwatkins@cc.colorado.edu).

Tlalocan. Journal, specializing in texts in Mexican languages. Contact: Karen Dakin, Instituto de Investigaciones Filológicas, UNAM, 04510 Mexico, DF (dakin@redvax1.dgsca.unam.mx).

#### MAYAN

Mayan Linguistics Newsletter. \$5/year to US (\$8 foreign air mail). Editor: Susan Knowles-Berry, 12618 NE 5th Ave., Vancouver, WA 98685 (gberry1155@ aol.com). Make checks payable to the editor.

Workshop on Maya Hieroglyphic Writing/Maya Meetings at Texas. Annual meetings and workshops in Austin, Texas, for Mayan glyph researchers at all levels (also on Mixtec writing), usually mid-March. Contact: Peter Keeler, Texas Maya Meetings, PO Box 3500, Austin, TX 78763-3500 (tel: 512/471-6292; c-mail: mayameet@ccwf.cc.utexas.edu).

#### SOUTH AMERICA

Grupo Permanente de Estudio de las Lenguas Indígenas de las Áreas Lingüísticas de América Latina (ALAL). Consortium promoting areal-typological studies of the indigenous languages of Latin America. Coordinators: J Diego Quesada (dquesada@chass.utoronto.ca), Marília Facó Soares (marilia@acd.ufrj.br), and Lucía Golluscio (lag@filo.uba.ar).

GT Línguas Indígenas. Working group on indigenous languages of Brazil. Meets with ANPOLL (the Brazilian MLA); circulates newsletter. Contact: Lucy Seki, R. Humberto Erbolato 22, 13089-130 Campinas SP, BRAZIL (lseki@turing.unicamp.br).

Correo de Lingüística Andina. Newsletter for Andeanist linguists. \$4/year. Editor: Clodoaldo Soto, Center for Latin American Studies, U of Illinois, 910 S 5th St #201, Champaign, IL 61820 (s-soto3@uiuc.edu).

#### GENERAL LATIN AMERICA

Latin American Indian Literatures Association/Asociación de Literaturas Indígenas Latinoamericanas (LAILA/ALILA). Newsletter; Annual Symposium, usually in the Spring. For information: Mary H. Preuss, President, LAILA/ALILA, Pennsylvania State U, McKeesport, PA 15132-7698.

Latin American Indian Literatures Journal. Texts and commentarics, other papers, on indigenous literatures. \$25/volume (2 issues) (\$35 to institutions). Editor: Mary H. Preuss, Pennsylvania State U, McKeesport, PA 15132-7698.

International Congress of Americanists. Meets every 3 years. Most meetings have several sessions on linguistic topics, usually focusing on C and S American languages. The next (50th) ICA will be held in Warsaw, Poland, in July, 2000. For information visit the ICA website (http://www.cesla.ci.uw.edu.pl/50ica/).

AEA Publications in Amerindian Ethnolinguistics. French monograph series, mainly on S American languages; also a journal, *Amérindia*. For further information contact: Association d'Ethnolinguistique Amérindienne, U.A. 1026 C.N.R.S., 44 rue de l'Amiral Mouchez, 75014 Paris. FRANCE.

**Ibero-Amerikanisches Institut.** German non-university institution with an important library on all matters referring to Latin America. Publishes various monograph series and a journal, *Indiana*, devoted to the indigenous languages and cultures of the Americas, and sponsors some non-fieldwork research activities. Contact: Ibero-Amerikanisches Institut PK, Potsdamer Strasse 37, D-10785 Berlin, GERMANY (http://www.iai.spk-berlin.de/).

SIL Publications in Linguistics. Grammars, dictionaries, and other materials on numerous American Indian languages, particularly those of Central and South America, prepared by members of the Summer Institute of Linguistics. For a catalogue, write: International Academic Bookstore, SIL, 7500 W Camp Wisdom Rd, Dallas, TX 75236 (http://www.sil.org/).

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