

**The Society for the Study of the
Indigenous Languages of the Americas**

SSILA BULLETIN

An Information Service for SSILA Members

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Number 47: April 3, 1997

47.1 THE BOOK EXCHANGE

Piotr Klafkowski (Adam Mickiewicz U, Poznan, Poland) has donated some separates of his article, "Current West Greenlandic Teaching Aids: A Review Article with Some Reflections" (*Lingua Posnaniensis* 37:119-140, 1995). This is a survey of pedagogical materials currently available for Greenlandic, ranging from pedagogical grammars and textbooks through readers and supplementary materials; also more general references, and tips on bookshops where Greenlandic materials can be obtained. Readers of the Bulletin who would like one of these separates should e-mail the editor (gollav@axe.humboldt.edu).

47.2 INTENSIVE MAYAN COURSES THIS SUMMER

Two intensive summer field courses in Mayan languages are being offered this year:

- An Intensive Yucatec Course (Duke University/Univ. of North Carolina) combines a four-week intensive language course and a two-day glyph workshop (both in North Carolina) followed by a 2-weeks field orientation in Yucatán. Dates: June 9-July 18. Faculty: Barbara MacLeod (U. of Texas), Miguel A. Güemes Pineda (U. of Yucatan), and Dorie Reents-Budet (Duke Univ.). Contact:

Sharon Mujica
Duke/UNC Program in Latin American Studies
223 East Franklin St., CB 3205,
Chapel Hill, NC 27599
(tel: 919/962-2414; e-mail: smujica@gibbs.oit.unc.edu).

- An Intensive Course in Kaqchikel Language and Culture (Tulane Univ. and the Univ. of Texas-Austin, in collaboration with the Kaqchikel community in Guatemala) includes language training with native speaker instructors, visits to Mayan communities, and field trips to museums and archaeological sites. Lectures and presentations are given in Spanish, so passive fluency in Spanish prerequisite. Dates: June 16-July 25. Contact:

Judith Maxwell
Anthropology, 1021 Audubon St
Tulane Univ.,
New Orleans, LA 70118
(e-mail: maxwell@mailhost.tcu.tulane.edu);

or

Brian Stross
Anthropology, ETS 1.130,
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(e-mail: bstross@mail.utexas.edu).

47.3 QUERY: "RACKENSACK"?

From: Celie Gunn (cagunn@intellinet.com) 11 Mar 1997:

Is there any reference in Native American languages to an old American English word "rackensack", used in Arkansas and Mississippi, at least, from around 1865 to the early 1900s? Or is there a word similar to it? I would appreciate any information you could provide.

Celie Gunn
cagunn@intellinet.com

47.4 PUBLISHER OF OLD ALGONQUIAN TEXTS NEEDS SPECIALISTS

From: Claudio R. Salvucci (salvucci@netaxs.com) 25 Mar 1997:

Evolution Publishing, a small publishing house in Pennsylvania, is issuing a series of "American Language Reprints" -- small editions of older (largely 17th-18th century) documents on American Indian languages. Two titles have so far appeared: William Vans Murray and Daniel G. Brinton, A Vocabulary of the Nanticoke Dialect; and Rev. Thomas Campanius Holm, A Vocabulary of Susquehannock. The next three volumes of the ALR series are now going into the editing stages. These are:

#3 A Vocabulary of the Unami Jargon (T.C. Holm's manuscript, with a word-list from William Penn).

#4 A Vocabulary of Powhatan (John Smith 1606, including Pamunkey and Nansemond vocabularies)

#5 An Ancient New Jersey Indian Jargon (Anonymous 1684 manuscript from Salem, NJ, edited by J. Dyneley Prince; also includes Gabriel Thomas' Discourses in the jargon).

We are looking for SSILA members specializing in Delaware Pidgin and/or Virginia Algonquian who would like to contribute a preface to these volumes. If anyone is interested, please contact:

Claudio Salvucci,
Evolution Publishing,
390 Pike Rd. #3
Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006
(tel: 215/953-5899; e-mail: salvucci@netaxs.com).

Meanwhile, if there is interest from members of SSILA in reprinting other materials of this sort, we would be grateful if they would contact us.

47.5 LORD'S PRAYERS IN TWO OTHER MYSTERY LANGUAGES

From: Jim Rementer (Jimrem@aol.com) 10 Mar 1997:

I came on a document sent to me some years back by Jay Miller, which is supposed to be the Lord's Prayer in Lenape. It isn't Lenape (unless written in some very strange spelling system). The Lenape "priest" Watomika is supposed to have translated it. Any thoughts?

186/160 Our Father in Lenni Lennape (Primitive People) or Delawares by Watomika

Gwonih goayohgeh chihd'yok asho sana dogeh dih gaonk.
Father our who art above your name be honored.

Nekuk niis sayoh dowehdosha daweh. Neyuk iis lenidisohnigouda
Thy own land immortal come. Thy own will

lenayaweh neyoafuh geh, nai leni diyoda nega ayohgeh. Dag'yoh nago
be done earth in , as it is on high. Give us

wani shadeh nadehwanishage ognashno. Dada gnoiwoh sagnoskuk nogai
this day daily bread. Forgive what bad we

waneaksha, nai ni hedejok hewohsagnohset nogwai hiwaneagih. Sa nokuh
have done, as that which has been done us we forget. Keep

nehuh hasgnas hegaieh negoh nigodagnas negra shu nedodag nay oh dohnoonk
from our minds all evil hinder us from doing

newaetgeh.
wrong.

Nehuh-nigwehay
Amen

From: Ives Goddard (mnhan009@sivm.si.edu) 10 Mar 97:

Lately a number of items have appeared in the SSILA Bulletin referring to Lord's Prayers published in a collection in 1869. This appears to be the same as what J.C. Pilling lists in his Proof-Sheets under no. 2473a as being published by Pietro Marietti in 1870, and also, as appropriate, in his separate family bibliographies.

The prayer that Marietti identified as "Shavannice" has been identified as "a dialect of Huron" by Blair Rudes (as reported by Marie-Lucie Tarpent). This identification deserves a second look.

The prayer (no. CCXXXII) appears on p. 295 of Marietti's book:

ORATIO DOMINICA

SHAVANNICE

Keelah Nosse' kitshah awe' Heyring. Yah zong seway ononteeo.
Agow aygon awoanneo. Yes yaon onang che' owah itsche' Heyring.
Kaat shiack Mowatgi hee kannaterow tyenteron. Esh keinong cha haowi
eto neeot shkeynong kai''tshé' kitsha haowi. Ga ri waah et kai''n.
Isse he owain matchi`. Neeo.

Marietti cites the prayer from John Chamberlayne's similar compilation published in Amsterdam in 1715, where it appears under the name "Savanahicé". I know it from J. Hammond Trumbull's much neglected study "Notes on Forty Algonkin Versions of the Lord's Prayer," Transactions of the American Philological Association for 1872, Hartford (1873), pp. 113-218 (also issued separately the same year with pages [mis]numbered 1-100, 111-116), where it appears under the heading "[Pseudo] Shawano" following a genuine Shawnee version numbered 35 (on pp. 97-98 of the separate). Trumbull states that "it does not belong to any one language ever spoken by an American tribe" but contains mostly Iroquoian words and a few Algonquian ones. He quotes Chamberlayne as saying: "Savanahicam, linguae circa Canadam usitatae,--misit Reverendus Doctor le Jau, V.D., Minister S. Jacobi in Carolinam [sic] Meridionali." Le Jau is strangely misidentified by Pilling as "the Rev. Dr. Le Jean, missionary for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, in North Carolina" (Bibliography of the Algonquian Languages p. 79). He was in fact Francis Le Jau (1665-1717), a French Huguenot Anglican priest who was pastor of St. James Church, Goose Creek, South Carolina, and "active in educating slaves and Indians" (Who Was Who in America, History Volume, 1967, p.381).

What were the languages of these Indians and just what is it that Le Jau has put in his Lord's prayer? The first two words <Keelah Noss é> are obviously Algonquian, 'you (sg.)' and 'my father (voc.)'; they could be (early) Shawnee. Later, Algonquian <matchi> appears ('evil') and <Mowatgi> (?). The rest should be examined by Iroquoianists. It would be unexpected if a man like Le Jau were to have concocted or misrepresented a Lord's Prayer, though he could have been confused about what he was told. Any solution is likely to be of some interest.

Ives Goddard
Smithsonian Institution

From: Marie-Lucie Tarpent (Marie-Lucie.Tarpent@msvu.ca) 17 Mar 1997:

Re: Ives Goddard's comments. -- The book (Oratio Dominica ...) was published in 1870 as indicated in my first notice in Bulletin #41. Marietti seems to be the printer, from a family firm that I gather has been doing the printing for the Vatican for centuries (or at least was already doing it in 1870).

Blair Rudes asked me to send him versions in several Algonquian (or potentially Algonquian) languages, and I also sent him "Shavannice" because it was included among the Algonquian languages, although it did not look like one. He replied that the others were indeed Algonquian

but he thought this one was a poor translation into Huron, but this needed confirmation by Iroquoianists. He actually mentioned the name of the probable translator, also a Frenchman, but not the same name that Ives mentioned. Judging from the spelling, I can well believe the translation is by a Frenchman. However since the man Ives mentions was a Protestant, it is unlikely that his translation would have been the one published by the Vatican. However he may have used a translation already done by a Catholic priest.

Meanwhile, somebody is writing an article in Spanish on the Mixtec version, which has some interesting dialectal peculiarities ...

47.6 RICE SYMPOSIUM FOCUSES ON AMERICAN LANGUAGES

The Seventh Biennial Rice University Symposium on Linguistics (Rice U, Houston, Texas, March 26-29, 1997) had the theme “The Interface Between Comparative Linguistics and Grammaticalization Theory: Languages of the Americas.” The symposium brought together comparativists and grammaticalization theoreticians to discuss (a) the role that comparative data might play in strengthening or altering some hypotheses about stages of grammaticalization, and (b) the role grammaticalization theory might play in helping to organize comparative morphosyntactic data. Both discussions focused on indigenous languages of the Americas in the hope of inspiring future descriptive work informed by a comparative vision of morpho-syntactic change.

Symposium papers included:

- Bernd Heine (Institut für Afrikanistik, U Köln), “Grammaticalization Chains Across Languages: An Example from Khoisan”* [*honorary language family of the (far-eastern) Americas]
- Marianne Mithun (UC-Santa Barbara), “The Stories Behind the Ordering of Morphemes”
- T. Givón (U of Oregon), “Internal Reconstruction: Methodological and Theoretical Notes”
- Terrence Kaufman (U of Pittsburgh), “Gradient Grammaticalization of Incorporated Roots in the Verb Word in Mixe-Zoquean Languages”
- Aryon Rodrigues (U de Brasília), “Morphosyntactic Changes due to Phonological Reduction in Tupi-Guarani”
- Wallace Chafe (UC-Santa Barbara), “The Rise of Polysynthesis within the Iroquoian Language Family”
- Sergio Meira (Rice U), “The Genesis of an Epiphenomenal Split-S System in Cariban Languages”
- Alexandra Aikhenvald (Australian National U), “Grammaticalization in Areal and Genetic Perspective: Serial Verbs and Verb Compounding in North Arawak Languages”
- Spike Gildea (Rice U), “On the Evolution of Constituency in the Cariban Family: Rethinking Word Order Typology”

47.7 OREGON SIL LEXICOGRAPHY WORKSHOP THIS SUMMER

The Summer Institute of Linguistics at the University of Oregon, as part of its regular offerings, will be sponsoring a lexicography workshop from June 23 to August 15, 1997. The workshop will be led by Valentin Vydrine, of the European University of St. Petersburg, Russia. Dr. Vydrine is a specialist in the lexicography of West Africa, and is currently compiling a massive comparative dictionary of the Manding languages. This workshop will be designed for all linguistic and anthropological fieldworkers who are in the process of preparing a dictionary of an underdescribed language.

Oregon SIL also offers a variety of graduate and undergraduate level courses in field-oriented linguistics, including a "Workshop in Grammatical Description." For more information on the workshops and other offerings of the Summer Institute of Linguistics at Oregon, please contact:

Tom Payne
Dept. of Linguistics
University of Oregon,
Eugene, OR 97403
(tel: 541/342-6706; e-mail: tpayne@oregon.uoregon.edu).

47.8 ATHABASKAN CONFERENCE PROGRAM (May 17-18)

The 1997 Athabaskan Languages Conference will be held on the campus of the University of Oregon in Eugene, May 17-18, 1997. Linguists, anthropologists, native speakers, educators, and other interested parties are welcome to attend.

Following is the preliminary list of papers scheduled to be given at the conference. The program has not been finalized: as many as ten more abstracts have been promised. For the most recent schedule, along with information about accommodations, etc., visit the Athabaskan Conference website: <http://cvax.ipfw.indiana.edu/~thompsoc/athabaskan.html>

- Willem de Reuse (U Arizona), “Ideophones in Western Apache”
- E. D. Cook (U Calgary), “The Phonological Status of Conjunct Prefix Vowels”
- Brian Potter (UCLA), “The Syntax of Wh in Western Apache”
- Alice Taff (U Washington), “Learning Ancestral Languages by the Phone”
- Victor Golla (Humboldt State U & UC Davis), “The ‘Indefinite’ Deictic Subject Pronoun in California Athabaskan”
- MaryAnn Willie (U Arizona), “Indefinite Nouns in Navajo”
- Bob Young (U New Mexico), “The Indefinite in Navajo”
- Bill Poser (UNBC), “The Saik’uz Dialect of Carrier”
- Jordan Lachler (U New Mexico), “Navajo Verb Stem Schemas”
- Dagmar Jung (U Cologne & U New Mexico), “Pronominal Affixes and the Structure of the Athabaskan Verb”
- L. Bommelyn & T. Givon (U Oregon), “Internal Reconstruction in the Tolowa Verbal System”
- Bruce Starlight & Gary Donovan (U Calgary), “Analyzing and Recording Prefix Tones for Tsuut’ina Nouns And Verbs”
- Bruce Starlight and Gary Donovan (U Calgary), “From Oral to Recorded Discourse on Tsuut’ina and in Medieval French”
- Pat Moore (Yukon Nat. Lg. Centre), Marie Skidmore (Kaska Tribal Council), & an elder (TBA), “The Kaska, Sekani, and Mountain Slavey Noun Dictionary Project: Tailoring the Project to Suit the Native Community”
- Victor Golla & Sean O’Neill (UC-Davis), “Report on recent work on Hupa (dictionary, texts, analytic lexicon)”
- Katharine Davis & Sharon Hargus (U Washington), “The Glottal Contrast in Witsuwit’en”
- Siri Tuttle (U Washington), “Acoustic Realizations of Laryngeal Contrasts in Minto Athabaskan Obstruents”
- Leslie Saxon (U Victoria), TBA
- Leslie Saxon & Rosa Mantla (Mowhi Comm. Learning Center NWT), TBA

47.9 FIRST ISSUE OF JOURNAL OF AMAZONIAN LANGUAGES IN PRESS

From Daniel L. Everett (dever@verb.linguist.pitt.edu) 2 Apr 1997:

The first issue of the Journal of Amazonian Languages (1:1) is now in press. The contents are:

- Margaret R. MacEachern, Barbara Kern, & Peter Ladefoged, "Wari' Phonetic Structures" (5-30).
- Glenn Shephard, Jr, "Noun Classification and Ethnozoological Classification in Machiguenga" (31-59)
- Alejandra Vidal, "Noun Classification in Pilaga" (60-114)

The journal--edited by Dan Everett--focuses on the languages of the Amazon or Orinocan basins, or languages related to such languages. JAL seeks to publish high quality articles on theory, description, typology, language preservation, socio-linguistics, historical-comparative studies, or other issues relevant to improving our understanding of Amazonian languages. Volume 1:2 is planned for Fall 1997. Papers may be submitted in Spanish, English, Portuguese, or French, although accepted mss. must be translated into English for publication.

For subscription information, please contact:

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