

TRANSLATION ACES NEWS



FEBRUARY 2010

◆ 2009 Happenings at Translation Aces ◆

◆ **World News** ◆ Translation Aces volunteered via the American Translators Association to provide translation and interpreting services free of charge in any way we can help alleviate communications difficulties following the Haitian earthquake disaster. Our French and Haitian Creole staff numbers people are in NYC, Boston, California and Miami.

◆ **In the Nabe** ◆ While the World Trade Center museum and memorial sites (just 6 blocks from our downtown office) remain, alas, unfinished after 9 years, business activity, parks, tourism, condominium development and another Yankee ticker-tape parade right in front of our door cheered all of New York.

◆ **Industry News** ◆ In October, we hosted a gathering at the 50th American Translators Association Conference, held this year on our 'home court' in NYC. Quite fun seeing so many colleagues from around the world at this always interesting, educational annual event where we attend seminars, enjoy "Tower-of-Babel" kaffeeklatsches and pore over new dictionaries.

◆ **Travelogues** ◆ While not always browsing dictionaries, we are always keeping our linguistic skills current! After attending a summer conference in Weimar (Germany), Uwe visited friends and family in Berlin, then marveled at the llamas' Argentinian Spanish accent while in the Andes over Christmas. Serge visited Bulgaria, one of his ancestral lands. Strolling along Sofia's boulevards, he discovered that one of them is actually paved in yellow brick. Karyn visited the Kremlin in Moscow, the Hermitage in St. Petersburg and learned the right way to enjoy vodka on the Volga. Helen cruised Panama, Costa Rica and Belize while Maurice enjoyed SW France – *que c'est beau!*

◆ **Sad Notes** ◆ We mourn the loss of our longtime colleagues and mentors, Leon Mindlin and Henry Fischbach, genius multilingual expert translators in various technical and legal fields and 'founding fathers' of the translation industry. These rare friends' talents and good humor are already deeply missed but well-remembered by all of us.

◆ **FEATURE** ◆ Lingua Quiz!

1 Mix and match location and number of languages spoken there:

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------|
| (1) Africa | (a) 350 |
| (2) India | (b) 2,000 |
| (3) New Guinea | (c) 4 |
| (4) Switzerland | (d) 820 |

2 In 1939, this language was named the official language of the Philippines:

- (A) Spanish (B) Tagalog (C) English

ANSWERS:

1 (1) = (b); (2) = (a); (3) = (d); (4) = (c)
 2 (B) In 1959, Tagalog was renamed by then Secretary of Education as *Filipino* to give it a national rather than ethnic label and connotation; then in 1971, it was called *Filipino* which was named the national language in 1987; it has as many as 8 dialects.

