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**The JLD Times  
will be published  
electronically  
from  
the next issue.**

## Is Yokohama Worth a Visit?

By Anne Macfarlane

**A** hundred and fifty years ago Yokohama was a fishing village. Today, it is Japan's second-largest city, with a population of over 3 million people. Two disasters—the earthquake of 1923 and Allied bombing at the end of World War II—have destroyed many of its historic buildings. The shift from sea to air travel has destroyed its former significance as the gateway to Japan. So perhaps Fodor's Guide has reason in asking, "Is Yokohama worth a visit?" and saying in reply, "Yokohama has less to see than one would expect." For me, though, a Saturday in Yokohama was one of the highlights of my recent trip to Japan.

I was in Japan to represent the American Translators Association at IJET-2000, a

conference on Japanese/English translation to be held in Kyoto. Having flown for 10 hours across the Pacific, I wasn't about to limit myself to my official duties, but had allocated some time for personal travel (at personal expense, of course). Early on the day I set out to explore, maneuvering my way by train and bus to the southern end of Yamashita Koen, a seafront park from which the piers and harbor were clearly visible.

Seattle is my hometown now, but I grew up near San Francisco, and a family trip to the harbor was always a treat. We would stare out at the massive liners, the freighters, and the little private yachts, and dream about setting out for the Orient. The dream was a very realistic one for us,

**Continued on Page 4**

## Free Machine Translation of Japanese Patent Documents on the Web

By Gerry Gooding

**I**n his State of The Union address, President Clinton spoke of computers that can "translate as fast as you can speak." Many translators thought the President's statement grossly misleading. In fact, the feeling was strong enough in the ATA to prompt President Ann Macfarlane to write an open letter to Mr. Clinton about it. Her letter and President Clinton's response appears at the ATA web site.

Machine translation has been around for many years, but does not seem to have done much to reduce the need for human translators. In fact, as Ann pointed out in her letter to President Clinton, the mem-

bership of the ATA has more than doubled in the past decade.

Not long after President Clinton's speech, however, the Japanese Patent Office supported his statement by offering machine (computer) translation of Japanese pre-grant publications into English, on the Web. The process actually translates much faster than you can speak, and costs nothing. The service is not available for documents published prior to 1993. The fact is, although these machine translations do not approach the quality of a human translation, they do have uses: Examiners at both the USPTO and the

**Continued on Page 6**

# Resource Review

By Diane Howard

The resources reviewed in this column to date have all been print dictionaries. However, the Internet is also a good, albeit not entirely trustworthy, source of information. A good place to start is with government Web sites.

As of January 6, the 23 ministries and agencies of the Japanese government that we all knew were consolidated into the 13 cabinet level organizations listed below (i.e., no more MITI or Monbusho). The information is from the Prime Minister's Home Page, available at [http://www.kantei.go.jp/foreign/constitution\\_and\\_government/list\\_0106/list\\_as\\_0106.html](http://www.kantei.go.jp/foreign/constitution_and_government/list_0106/list_as_0106.html) (in both Japanese and English).

0106/list\_as\_0106.html (in both Japanese and English).

The list of Ministries, etc. (i.e., Cabinet Office, Commission, and Agency headed by a Minister of State, and Ministries) as of January 6, 2001:

- Cabinet Office [内閣府]
- National Public Safety Commission [国家公安委員会]
- Defense Agency [防衛庁]
- Ministry of Public Management, Home Affairs, Posts and Telecommunications [総務省]
- Ministry of Justice [法務省]
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs [外務省]
- Ministry of Finance [財務省]
- Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology [文部科学省]
- Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare [厚生労働省]

- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries [農林水産省]
- Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry [経済産業省]
- Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport [国土交通省]
- Ministry of Environment [環境省].

For commentary on the reorganization and Asian affairs in general (as well as the solution to problems such as how to spell the names of non-Japanese companies), the Web site of the Far Eastern Economic Review, available at <http://www.feer>, posts the entire print journal with a search function by term.

*Diane Howard is a freelance translator working from Chinese and Japanese into English. She lives in Wheaton, Illinois, in an apartment that is (we hear) overrun with reference books. Diane specializes in medical and technical documents.*

## American Translators Association Japanese Language Division (JLD) Fiscal Year 2001 Budget

	1999 Actual	2000 Actual+ (Through Aug. 31, 2000)	2000 Budget	2001 Approved Budget
Membership Dues	5,625	5,505	8,000	6,480
Newsletter Subscriptions		25		
Advertising				400
Publications	2,390	2,774		3,450
Directory Sales	45			30
Miscellaneous				
Prior Year's Surplus	1,250			5,160
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>9,310</b>	<b>8,304</b>	<b>8,000</b>	<b>15,520</b>
Editor's Honorarium		500	1,600	1,600
Food & Beverage				
Lodging				
Miscellaneous				2,000
Office Supplies	18			
Photo/Print	3,677	11,434	2,500	1,750
Directory Printing	2,124			4,272
Typesetting & Designing	1,549	1,033	1,000	1,500
Postage & Delivery	2,622	1,830	300	670
Telephone/E-mail			100	200
Travel			500	1,000
Overhead	1,504	1,424	1,500	1,728
World Wide Web Site			500	200
Conf. Reception	528			600
Facility Rental				
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>12,022</b>	<b>16,220</b>	<b>8,000</b>	<b>15,520</b>
<b>Income (loss)</b>	<b>(2,712)</b>	<b>(7,917)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

# JLD Times

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of the  
American Translators  
Association

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## From the Administrator

Izumi Suzuki



正真正銘の 21 世紀の最初の JLD Times に、今年の日  
本語部門の抱負を述べたいと思います。

1987 年に Jon Bukacek さんの下に日本語部門が発足  
して以来、今年は 14 年目に当たります。その間会員  
数は安定して増え、最新の統計では443となっており、  
これはATAの 13 部門のうちちょうど真ん中の 7 番目  
の大きさです。これまでの成長率から見て、今年も当  
部門の会員数は約 10%伸びることでしょう。

会員が増え続ける中で、今後とも充実させていかな  
なければならないのは会員間のコミュニケーションです。そのツールとして  
はまず年 4 回のニュースレターが挙げられます。以前はこれを定期的に刊  
行することが困難だったのですが、編集者（井準さん）と刊行者（石井さ  
ん）の二人三脚システムにして以来、スムーズに回るようになりました。  
これを郵送から E-mail に切り替えること、又ホームページに載せることを  
9 月以来検討していますが、これについては皆様のご意見をお聞かせくだ  
さい。E-mail にすると郵送代がかからなくなり、その分を会議のプログラ  
ム等に使えるようになります。

中野 Sue さんが担当してくださっている JLD ホームページも会員にとっ  
て重要な情報源です。JLD についてご質問がございましたらまずこのホ  
ムページをご覧ください。また、ホームページをより良くする為のご助言  
がございましたら中野さんに直接か私の方にお知らせください。

もう一つ新たなツールとして Ben Tompkins さんが JLDlist を実行してく  
れました。会員の中にはなぜ突然リストの E-mail が入り始めたのか驚かれ  
た方もいらっしゃるようですが、これは JLD に関する事柄を話し合っ  
たり情報をお送りする大切なツールです。JLD について何も聞きたくない、  
決定にも参加したくないと言う方はご自分でリストから除外なさることも  
出来ますが、できる限りコミュニケーションの輪に入っておいていただ  
きたいと思います。特に現在投票権をお持ちの方（Accredited 及び Active）は、  
Bylaws の改訂に対する投票その他をこのリストを中心にやっていきたいと  
考えていますので、宜しく願います。勿論投票の際 E-mail をお持ちで  
ない方にはファックスを、そしてファックスもお持ちでない方には郵送で  
連絡しますが。

さてもう一つ、ATA 会議の JLD プログラムは年 1 回会員が直接顔を合わ  
せる唯一の機会です。これには皆様の声を出来るだけ反映させていき  
たいと思っています。プログラム委員会は前部門長の Jon Johanning さん、Tim  
Hallett さん、土屋さんです。今年の会議はロサンゼルスですので、非常  
に多くの JLD 参加者が見込まれています。ぜひ昨年にもまして皆様にご満  
足いただける会議を実現させたいと思いますので、どんどんご提言をお送  
りください。

そして最後に会員の方々同士、又見込み客へのマーケティングツール  
としても重要な JLD ディレクトリですが、もう皆様のお手元に届いてい  
ると思います。今回は副部門長の Ken Wagner さんがまとめてくれました。以  
前にも申し上げましたが、このディレクトリの掲載内容は皆様がオンライ  
ンの TSD に入れたものそのままです。ですからディレクトリの情報が違っ  
ている場合には、TSD の方をご自分で変える必要が有ります。そして訂正事  
項を Wagner さんに E-mail でお送りください。Wagner さんの方で皆様から  
の情報をまとめて後程 Errata Sheet として皆様にお送りします。

この一年日本語部門のいっそうの充実を目指して努力していきたいと存  
じますので、皆様のご協力を今後とも宜しく願います。

**Yokohama** (from Page 1)

because in 1938, our mother had done precisely that. My grandfather, Leonard Lucas, was the public relations manager for Nippon Yusen Kaisha, a Japanese shipping line. In the summer of that year he had taken his wife and two children on a six-month trip to Japan as part of his official duties.

My uncle, a gangling 15-year-old of extraordinary technical abilities, had recorded some of their trip on a home movie camera. It still delights me to see the footage of my 13-year-old mother, looking just like me at that age, waving from the deck of the "Tatsuta Maru" or feeding the deer in Nara. And Yokohama was, of course, the port where they had landed after their two-week journey across the ocean.

Yokohama was also the port where many other people had landed. Yokohama, as we learned in sophomore "Asian Civilization" class, was the first port to be opened by the Japanese shogunate in response to the demands of Commodore Perry. The very agreement providing for humane treatment of castaways, right of supply at two ports for U.S. vessels, and most-favored-nation treatment was signed in Yokohama in 1854. And so the city launched me into a meditation on transportation, trade, and translation—without which trade is not possible.

I remembered Commodore Perry very well from that Asian civilization class, but what I hadn't realized was that that agreement was only one step in a long dance of welcoming, modifying and sometimes rejecting foreign culture. For several thousand years the Japanese have been developing their own civilization by a kind of selective borrowing. The word for the characters in which Japanese is

written, the kanji, means "Chinese characters." China, Korea, Portugal, the Netherlands, the U.K. and the U.S. have all provided elements in the unique mix that is Japan today.



**Doll Museum**

My grandfather's shipping line, Nippon Yusen Kaisha, played a key part in that borrowing. A few steps from the harbor's edge I encountered the NYK Maritime Museum, where I spent a happy hour studying the development of the first shipping lines between Japan and the West, the effect of modernization on NYK vessels, the amazing luxury passenger ships, and the sad history of the wars in which marine transport was also crucial. A single remaining ship, the "Hikawa Maru," anchored in the harbor now as a museum, provides an unusual setting for wedding ceremonies and receptions, as well as a destination for middle-school field trips.



**Hikawa Maru**

Small museums are something I enjoy almost any time, but this visit had special resonance as I thought of my departed grandfather, whom I never knew personally. He had been born in Minnesota of Finnish immigrants, and spoke only

Finnish until he was 6 years old and went to school. He appears to have been a natural linguist. He had learned enough Japanese to befuddle a group of Japanese schoolchildren at a train station. They asked "who are you?" and he replied energetically, "I'm a Japanese!" They were pretty sure that this six-foot foreigner didn't qualify, but the accent was convincing.... On another occasion, when it was time to travel with a delega-

tion from Japan to Mexico City to discuss port arrangements with Mexico, he took along a Spanish grammar book on the train. By the time they arrived, he was managing the essentials of interpretation among Japanese, English and Spanish.

I love those stories, but I am even more grateful for the love of Japan that my grandfather brought to his work and conveyed to his children and, through them, to me. After the NYK Museum, I went to the Doll Museum to admire the Japanese *ningyo*, ranging from fat little babies meant to be played with, to lacquered warriors bearing exaggerated facial expressions, and the *keshi-bina*, extremely small dolls furnished with tiny little go boards, hair combs, and *netsuke* to hold their *obi* in place. I loved almost all of them, and wondered whether my mother's professional involvement with sand-tray work, which requires that the therapist acquire small images and objects, might have had its roots in her trip to Japan. Surely part of that imperative to "open up Japan" to trade came from ardent foreigners, who saw the refined, cultivated nature of Japanese art and objects and wanted to enjoy them for themselves.

But it isn't the dolls, the fabrics, the

**Continued on Page 5**

## Yokohama (from Page 4)

architecture or the objects that matter the most in a foreign culture—it's the people. The best inheritance that I remember from my grandfather in this arena is the respect with which he treated the Japanese, a respect that endured even in the terrible years of the war, when human relations were so difficult to maintain. I feel that respect in my bones, because I remember, when I was a child of 6 or 7, being taken by my mother to visit my grandfather's colleagues, then aging in San Francisco's Japantown. I remember how glad they were to meet Leonard's grandchildren, and with what pleasure they offered me a bun filled with red-bean paste, and talked with my mother of times gone by.

Which brings me, after "transportation" and "trade," to the third part of my musings in Yokohama harbor, "translation." I think that while the first two can be conducted purely for economic benefit, something more is needed to be a good translator. One cannot be a really



Yokohama Harbor

good translator without respect, and, yes, love. It is when we open ourselves to another culture, when we delight in what it has to offer and look for the qualities we like in its people, that we are able to absorb the essentials and become the link between cultures that is so vital a part of our modern world. My grandfather was not a professional translator, but he loved Japan and its people and I am the beneficiary of that love.

Most probably it was growing up in a household that had such respect for other people and other cultures that inclined me to consider the Foreign Service as a career choice after college. And it was fascinating to me to see that among my colleagues at "third world" posts overseas, it was the curious who were also healthy and happy. Those who disliked the post, the people, and the culture were oddly prone to physical disease—and they were never the good linguists.

Respecting another culture doesn't mean putting on blinders. Yokohama, like other Japanese cities, was sometimes unwise in its rebuilding after the devastation of the war. There are envi-

ronmental and societal costs that Japan has paid for its fantastic economic progress over the last 50 years. But it was a privilege and a joy for me to visit Yokohama harbor; to admire the red-dragon gate of the city's Chinatown; to pass by the old British Consulate (now the Yokohama Archives); to see a water fountain donated by the Indian community in memory of those who perished in the earthquake of 1923; and to meditate on the interplay of Japanese and foreign cultures that has produced the modern city of Yokohama. For me, at least, Yokohama was "worth a visit."

写真提供：(財)横浜観光コンベンション・ビューロー

*Ann G. Macfarlane is in her second year as President of ATA. She is accredited in English to Russian and runs her own company in Seattle, Russian Resources International. She served as a diplomat in the U.S. Foreign Service, and her educational background includes study in England and Germany. She is a big fan of the JLD, and her article on IJET-2000 appeared in the September ATA Chronicle.*



China Town

## Machine Translation (from Page 1)

European Patent Office are, in fact, using the service. I decided to give it test drive.

For my test, I picked a short application on a very simple invention. The document was the pre-grant publication of a patent application for a “portable terminal with fingerprint read function,” JP 10-63844. I first translated the document the old fashioned way, and later compared my translation with the computer product.

The machine translation exceeded my initial expectations, and the more I studied it, the better it looked. True, the computer came up with some strange translations (“*the gestalt of 1 implementation of the invention*” ...), and sometimes expressed meaning clearly, but in an odd way (“... *touch the fingerprint recognition section with the finger point, and a fingerprint matches whether you are him*”). Most of the really important information, however, was there. As one might expect, the computer had difficulty parsing a longer claim, but it handled two shorter claims quite well. Sample passages from both are quoted below, with machine translations in italics.

Following is the machine translation of the longer of the three claims:

*[Claim 1] The fingerprint input section which inputs a fingerprint in the personal digital assistant which has the screen-display section. The fingerprint feature-extraction section which incorporates the inputted fingerprint data as image data, It is the personal digital assistant which contained the fingerprint read station possessing the data comparison-test section which matches by comparing the fingerprint data inputted as the fingerprint data registered beforehand in*

*agreement.*

This is confusing, but I have some suggestions that might help a non-Japanese-speaking reader make more sense of it.

### Look for ‘characterized,’ to identify the preamble.

The word ‘characterized,’ which appears in most Japanese claims, identifies the part you expect to find at the beginning of a claim (here, *a personal digital assistant with a fingerprint reading function*). From this last sentence, it is also fairly clear what the claimed invention is supposed to do.

### Use the abstract.

Provided at the same Web site is a free English language abstract translated by one of our colleagues. In this example, for instance, the abstract correctly refers to the invention broadly as a “portable computer terminal,” whereas the machine translation incorrectly uses the narrower “personal digital assistant.” The abstract can also provide some help in tying the elements together.

### Look for familiar constructions.

Three elements in this claim are written in the familiar “something for doing something” form, rendered by the computer as, “something which does something.” This makes it easy to identify these elements as *fingerprint input, fingerprint feature extraction, and data-comparison-test sections*.

There are still some loose ends, and the computer did not get the relationships between elements quite right. Again, the abstract can be helpful in this regard. Following is a human translation of Claim 1:

A portable computer terminal with fingerprint reading capability characterized in that, in a portable computer terminal having a screen dis-

play, it is a portable computer terminal having provided therein, a fingerprint reader comprising:

a fingerprint input unit for inputting a fingerprint;

a fingerprint characteristic extraction unit for reading-in the inputted fingerprint data as image data; and

a data comparison decision unit for comparing the inputted fingerprint data with pre-registered fingerprint data for performing a matching operation therebetween;

wherein use of the portable computer terminal is enabled only if a match is found between the pre-registered fingerprint data and the inputted fingerprint data.

The computer did much better with the shorter second and third claims. Claim 2, for example, was translated by the computer as:

*The personal digital assistant with a fingerprint reading function according to claim 1 characterized by registering a fingerprint pattern by connecting the above-mentioned personal digital assistant with the high-order equipment.*

This is quite close to the following human translation:

A portable computer terminal with fingerprint reading capability as recited in Claim 1, characterized in that fingerprint patterns are registered by connecting the portable computer terminal to a higher-level system.

The computer also translated an operating procedure quite well, as shown in the following table:

As I mentioned earlier, the machine did much better than I thought it would. That said, however, the subject

**Continued on Page 7**

Machine Translation	Human Translation
<i>The operator who is going to use a personal digital assistant first presses the fingerprint of the finger point against the fingerprint input section, and inputs his fingerprint (step 101).</i>	A person wishing to use the terminal inputs her fingerprint by pressing a fingerprint (fingertip) against the fingerprint input unit (Step 101).
<i>Next, the fingerprint inputted in the fingerprint feature-extraction section is incorporated as image data (step 102), and extraction work of the characteristic feature point is performed (step 103).</i>	Next, the fingerprint characteristic extraction unit reads in the input fingerprint data as image data (Step 102), and performs a characteristic point extraction task (Step 103).
<i>After an extraction of the characteristic feature point finishes, the fingerprint data and pattern matching which are registered beforehand are performed (step 104).</i>	When the characteristic point extraction is complete, a pattern match is performed against the pre-registered data (Step 104).
<i>If the matching with the fingerprint data inputted the data registered beforehand and can now be taken, it supposes that it is good using a personal digital assistant (step 106), and a matching cannot be taken, it is regarded as an unauthorized use, and use is made impossible (step 105).</i>	If a match is found between the pre-registered data and the presently input fingerprint data, portable terminal use is enabled (Step 106), but if the data do not match, this is treated as attempted unauthorized use, and terminal use is disabled (Step 105).

matter in this application is very simple. Level of complexity could make a big difference. Care to give it a try? Here's how it works:

Access the JPO English language home page at <http://www.jpo-miti.go.jp/homee.htm>.

On the home page, click on the Industrial Property Digital Library (IPDL).

In paragraph 2 of the displayed page, select "Searching PAJ" (Patent Abstracts of Japan). This takes you to a "Searching PAJ" page that supports searches by text, date, IPC code, or

document number (application no., pre-grant publication no., or patent no.).

Enter, for example, '10-63844,' and click on SEARCH. This displays a hit list.

Click on the document number to display an English language abstract of the document.

Click the DETAIL button. This will display a machine translation of the claims.

You can then obtain translations of the other sections by clicking on the desired section title.

Conclusion: Machine translations are useful for some purposes, and a reader's skill in extracting useful information from them should improve with a little effort and practice.

Gerry Gooding became an ATA-accredited Japanese-to-English translator in 1989. He is also a registered U.S. patent agent.



## 訂正とお詫び

前号JLD Timesの「需要たっぷり、ローライゼーション(その2)ヘルプファイルの翻訳作業」と題された記事において、脚注の\$マークに関する説明がありました。この記事の中(11ページ)で、「これは、.rtf形式のヘルプファイルをコンパイルしたときにコンパイラが脚注の\$マークに続く文字列を抽出し、ヘルプの目次として使用するためです。以下の図はMicrosoft Wordのヘルプの目次で展開したものを例として挙げた図で

すが、この目次でページに“?”マークのついたアイコンの次に続く文字列が実はこの脚注の\$マークに続く文字列なのです。」という記述がありましたが、この記述はWinHelpの正確な記述ではありません。

WinHelpの目次において“?”マークのついたアイコンの次に続く文字列は、.cntという拡張子のついたコンテンツファイルからきており、.rtfファイルの\$マークに続く文字列からくるものではありません。WinHelpでは、「キーワード」に表示される単語または言葉がヘルプの複数のページに使

用されている場合、その単語または言葉(キーワード)をダブルクリックするとそのキーワードを含むページのタイトルを別のウィンドウに一覧表示する機能がありますが、.rtfファイルの\$マークに続く文字列は、この一覧表示されるタイトルとして使用される文字列です。

この点を御指摘いただいたJLD Times読者のRobert Campbell氏に感謝すると共に、ここに訂正しお詫びいたします。

# アウトサイダー・パブリッシング 「エアライニーズ」の出版

By Tadahiko Tamura

私は香港に本社のあるキャセイ・パシフィック航空 (Cathay Pacific Airways, Ltd.) の日本支社に32年間勤めた後、1998年に早期退職制度に応募して退職し、現在は航空関係の翻訳や研修の仕事をフリーランスでおこなっております。そして、2000年3月に「エアライニーズ」(Airlines) という159頁の本を出版する機会に恵まれました。Airlinesとは造語ですが、航空業界で使われる200近くの用語や表現を解説したものです。出版と言っても出版社によるものではなく、自費出版の形をとったものです。芸術の分野では、専門の教育を受けていない素人の作品をアウトサイダー・アートと言うそうですが、「エアライニーズ」はいわば私が無手勝流で出したアウトサイダー・パブリッシングです。しかし、今では関東地区の4ヶ所の書店で販売もされていますので、商業的な意味での「出版」の部類に入らな

しょう。その後、ご縁があり2000年の9月にはATA Conference の日本語部会で拙著について発表させて戴く機会を得ました。そこで、何故私とその様な本を出すことになったのか、またどういうプロセスで出版に至ったのかについて、日本での出版にご興味のある方々のご参考になればと思い、JLD Times に寄稿させて戴くことになりました。

ふり返ってみますと、私は様々な面でラッキーだったのですが、それを支える幾つかの要素もあった様です。それをまとめますと、(1) ネタ本、(2) ホップ、ステップ、ジャンプ方式、(3) 人的ネットワーク、(4) パブリシティ、という事になります。

まず、ネタ本ですが、私が勤務中に新入社員用に同名の小冊子を出したことがあり、いわば真珠の核のようなものが存在していたのです。その冊子は社内の評判も上々で、私の中に「将来、モノになるかもしれない」という感触が芽生えたのです。

そこで、退職後も興味を持ちつつ、コツコツと材料を集めました。主なターゲットを航空業界に興味のある若い人たちに絞り、分かりやすい文章を書くように心がけました。ある程度まとまったところでコピー屋さんに行き、表紙を付けた何やら「本らしきもの」をとりあえず10冊作ってみました。それを元の会社の同僚や、英語学校を営んでいる知人、デザイン・ハウスの友人、富井塾 (月1度の勉強会のある翻訳教室) の方々に配りました。幸い、皆さんからは「面白いじゃないか」という好意的なコメントを戴き、大いに勇



気づけられました。また、その過程で誤字や内容面での問題点が浮き彫りになり、いわば一石二鳥の効果がありました。

それから、航空・旅行関係の出版社に原稿を持ち込んだのですが、残念ながら反応は思わしいものではあ

りませんでした。そこで、思い切って1500冊ほど自費で出版することにしました。専門学校の知人がまとまった数を買取するという約束をしてくれ、他の同種の学校に持ち込めばある程度はさばけるのではないかとこの読みもありました。前述のデザイン・ハウスの友人が編集を担当し、またイラストレーターを紹介してくれました。この様な「ホップ・ステップ・ジャンプ方式」が幸いし、またヒューマン・ネットワークの大切さを実感した次第です。そして、いよいよ立派な表紙のついた本を手にした時は、何か自分の分身が生まれてような喜びを感じたものです。

さて、パブリシティですが、どんな書籍も人に知られなくては無意味です。そこで、広告宣伝費をかけずに「知らしめる」方法がパブリシティです。今度は編集者の立場に立って、どう紹介すれば読者が興味を抱くか、という観点から一文を練り上げました。結果的にこれが功を奏し、航空・旅行関係の専門紙が取り上げてくれました。それを見た成田空港や羽田空港にある航空雑誌の専門店から「ウチで扱いたい」というファックスが発行元に舞い込んだのです。嬉しくなると、書店主を訪ねたところ、異口同音に「専門家の書いた本は色々あるのですが、この様に親しみやすい文章で書かれたものが今までなかったのですよ」というコメントで、まさに目からウロコでした。

以上がささやかなアウトサイダーパブリッシングの顛末です。この本は大手出版社が全国の書店で販売するというものではありませんが、少々負け惜しみを言いますと、自費出版であれば締め切りもなく内容や装丁も自分の好きなように出来るというメリットがあります。また、何よりもそのプロセスを楽しむことが出来ますし、一冊一冊持ち歩く過程で新たな人的ネットワークも広がります。

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# Report on Michigan Court Interpreters Orientation Training

By Izumi Suzuki

Michigan's first court interpreters workshop took place at the 36th District Court, downtown Detroit on October 12 and 13, 2000.

Overall, I was very impressed with what the Court Administrative Office had prepared for participants. They had a training room with video facilities ready for us, with a computer room attached. We had sweet rolls and coffee in the morning, hot lunch with nice table decorations, and cookies and other drinks in the afternoon. However, on top of such amenities, the two instructors they flew in from California and Virginia were highly qualified people:

Patricia Michelsen-King who serves as a consultant to judiciaries throughout the country and is a federally certified court interpreter; and Greg Miller, who has 20 years of experience as a certified court interpreter, and over 10 years of experience as a test developer and rater. They are both

Spanish<>English interpreters. There were about 30 participants of different languages: Spanish, Arabic, Serbian, Chinese, Korean, Russian, Polish, Macedonian, French, Vietnamese, Lao/Mon and Japanese. Some work at the court quite often, others have never done any interpreting.

We were given a big binder full of information: just to get the book was worth the \$75. It includes an

overview of court interpreting, legal terms and phrases, overview of Michigan courts/process, ethics issues, modes of interpretation, English/Spanish glossaries, interpreting exercise materials and resources. Pam Creighton from the State Court Administrative Office talked about how this certification program came about. The National Center for State Courts was formed last September. It is a consortium of 25 states. They prepared the Model Code of Professional Responsibility for Interpreters in the Judiciary. Michigan is now in the process of developing the version for the State of Michigan, and it will be out the

first of the year. Based on this, they are going to train judges and court administrators. They will start conducting certification tests, first starting with Spanish in mid-December.

(Spanish-specific workshop took place in Lansing on October 14 & 15, attended by 50 interpreters.)

Then Arabic will follow. After that, it is not decided yet. However, if an interpreter gets certified in another state, he/she will be considered certified in any state that participates in the consortium, too, even if a particular language test is not given in the state he/she works in. Federal certification is given only in three languages: Spanish, Navaho and Haitian-Creole. Federal and state certifica-

tion tests are similar, but the Federal one has higher standard: 80% as opposed to 70% for the state one. Pam pointed out that the Michigan Court Rules of 1985 states "The compensation for an interpreter in the municipal court shall not exceed \$25.00 for each day and \$15.00 for each half day actually employed." (No, this is not typographical error between day and hour. Actually, courts generally pay \$35/hour in Michigan.) She continued that there is no way the court can get quality interpreters at this ridiculous compensation. She wants to hire high quality interpreters at adequate fees. She believes that certification will help improve the situation, and I agree.

We viewed videos that explained good and bad examples of court interpreting behavior, and of the judge's handling of the interpreter. Then we discussed professional ethics and the role of the court interpreter. Some of the topics we discussed were:

1. What should the interpreter do if an attorney asks you to explain the rights to her client while she is speaking with another client?

2. After the judge sentences a defendant to a rather stiff fine, you hear the defendant say under his breath, "You bastard!" Should the interpreter interpret it?

and on and on.

Then we did exercises for consecutive and simultaneous interpreting. Since most of us had different language interpreting skills, we did it from English into English. We also worked on memory enhancement exercises and note-taking techniques. It was fun! For simultane-

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*What should the interpreter do if an attorney asks you to explain the rights to her client while she is speaking with another client?*

By Eric Selland

*A Thousand Names: The Poetry of Shuri Kido*

*That night  
An exquisite wound opened,  
One must not speak of the soul*  
[Kido Shuri, *Sen no Namae*]

Over the past three years this column has been devoted to introducing Japanese poets, some new and some not so new, who offer anything but the stereotypical idea of a *traditional* Japan. In doing so I hope to have also demonstrated how Japanese writers and intellectuals have, throughout the past century and into this one, been in active engagement with the ideas and art forms of their time—and that this is not merely imitation, but a dialogue with other artists and other world cultures.

In this, the 12th and final of the series, I introduce another younger poet, one who brings together an intriguing and effective mixture of recent Western and Japanese Modernist influences. The editor of a recently published anthology of translations of Ezra Pound into Japanese, Shuri Kido (himself included as one of the translators) has produced a body of work over the past 15 years that is a densely intelligent interweaving of thought, image and linguistic exploration that immediately brings to mind that difficult American instigator of Modernism. Kido brings with him not only this fascination with Pound and other American poets such as William Carlos Williams, who he has also translated, but has also completed a long and fruitful apprenticeship with Yoshioka Minoru (introduced last issue), inheriting that poet's feel for both the lushness of the language, and depth and complexity of material.

Kido demonstrated his facility with

the master's style in an earlier collection, *Hitetsu*, which is in effect a critique in poetic form of Yoshioka's legacy. Through this process Kido reaches for something beyond. With the risk of oversimplification, one could say that this early period of Kido's work is especially intellectual (here the comparison with Pound begins to fit). During these years Kido wrestled with the big literary questions (just what was the significance of the postwar period (i.e. the postmodern) to Japanese poetry, and where can Japanese poetry go now after the end of this period and the loss of direction felt after the death of Yoshioka who had been so inspiring to younger writers? Kido approached these questions not only through his own poetry, but through his work as an editor, columnist and anthologist.

It therefore came initially as a surprise to some in Japan for this difficult poet to offer in his most recent work, *Sen no Namae* (A Thousand Names), something less intimidatingly literary. For the first time Kido approaches the personal, discovering a way to explore and work through his own internal predicament, his own personal pain. This is not to say that the poet has suddenly turned confessionalist. This is a deeply philosophical work touching upon universal problems of the human condition. The book's impetus comes from the poet's own experience of having been injured in a major accident, but rather than focusing merely on the banal details of his months of hospitalization and persistent pain even years later, the book moves toward more universal, and even mythic proportions through a style which is deceptively simple.

On the surface the book is a collection of sensitive meditations on "The Name of the Sky," "The Names of the Stars," "The Names of Demons" and so on, but on a deeper level Kido deals with one of philosopher-critic Walter Benjamin's obsessions (the pure language of names, and the impossibility of reaching that ideal of perfection. At

the center of the book lies a poem curiously titled in English, "Call Me Ishmael." This is the first line of Melville's *Moby Dick*. It is also one of the interests of American poet and founder of the Black Mountain School, Charles Olson, whose work Kido has studied.

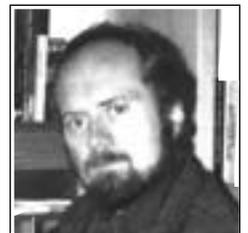
This impetus to call, to call out the name, is the claim to identity, to authentic being. "All I have been given / is language," Kido writes, as if to say that the only resting place for that identity is in language, in writing. "Whispering uncountable names / I shoulder their burden / no place to sleep"... Kido's attempt to articulate an identity and exorcise his own pain through writing becomes necessarily the acceptance of a burden... the burden of existence. For in the words of another poet, Paul Celan, "We remain equal to ourselves... to recover that too."

*Sen no Namae*, Shichousha ISBN 4-7837-1172-0 C0092

*Shichousha Gendaishi Bunkou #140: Kido Shuri Shishuu* ISBN 4-7837-0909-2 C0392

*Shichousha Kaigaishi Bunkou #11: Paundo Shishuu, Kido Shuri Yakuhen* ISBN 4-7837-2510-1 C0398

*Eric Selland is an independent translator working and living near San Francisco. His primary interest is in translating Japanese literature as well as writing poetry, but he pays the bills by translating in the fields of business, finance and some technical subjects.*



*From the Editor: Eric Selland's long-running literary series, Kyutai Kankaku, ends with this issue. We thank Eric for having provided us with the softer side of what makes translation so delightful to those of us who have chosen it as our profession. Eric's new book of prose poems, The Condition of Music, Sink Press, 2000, ISBN 0-9623806-8-7, is available now from Small Press Distribution (www.spdbooks.org).*

アウトサイダー (from Page 8)

自分の書いたものを人様に読んでいただくのはある意味で怖いことですが、「面白かった」というコメントを戴くと、ジワリと喜びがこみ上げてきます。有り難いことに幾つかの専門学校からテキストに使いたいとの申し出があり、また元の勤務先のみならず他社の現役のキャビン・クルーからも「仕事にとっても役に立つ」との評判を

得ています。

ところで、在職中、私には他のエアラインは競争相手という意識が強かったのですが、退職してみると他社のことや民間航空の発展の歴史など色々な興味が湧いてきました。そんな訳で、航空関係の資料収集は今も続いており、ある程度まとまった時点で、また「エアライニーズ2」が出せればよいな、と夢見ております。

In 1966 Tadahiko Tamura joined Cathay Pacific Airways where he became involved in the ins and outs of air-line operations and became the head of the personnel department in 1983. After taking an early retirement from the airline in 1998, he has been active as a translator specializing in the area of airlines as well as a consultant for corporate training.



Michigan Interpreters (from Page 9)

ous, we used a couple of court scenes from movies. We also went to a courtroom and Patricia explained to us how each section was called, and what procedure takes place during a trial. She also explained some legal terminology.

Greg gave us some reference book publishers and resources. He also suggested some good reference books. If you are interested to know more about these, please send me your fax number. I will fax these 2 pages to you. He also took us to the computer room and we practiced searching some useful sites for legal interpreting. It was great!

The last session was about the certification itself. Usually this is an all-oral test. (However, earlier I heard there might be some 10 court-related sentences to translate into a foreign language.) They use your SSN. Your test will be recorded and graded by out-of-state graders. Different dialects are taken into account. There are two administrators in the room, no graders. Later graders will use score sheets to grade a test. The test consist of 3 parts:

1. Sight translation (6 min. long for each language pair - 2 minutes to review, then 4 minutes to orally translate, so all together 12 minutes)

2. Consecutive interpreting of a witness's testimony (18 min. long using CD). This is into a foreign language. There are about 40 sentences, and you interpret every one

to three sentences. You can (and should) take notes, and are allowed to ask for repetition twice during the session. Graders will look at :

- a) poor retention
- b) slow response time
- c) use of the third person
- d) embellishment
- e) paraphrasing
- f) changed meanings
- g) inventing words
- h) lack of note-taking skill
- i) change of levels of language, and so on.

3. Simultaneous interpreting of a testimony or a closing or opening argument (6 min. long, excluding the time to adjust your headphone.) They will not stop the tape. They would look at choppiness, whether you can keep up with the speed (about 120 words/minute, which is on the slow side), omissions, legal vocabulary, etc.

You have to get 70% plus in each section to pass. If you get between 65 and 77%, they will rescore. A score sheet has a number of units such as the following:

- grammar and syntax
- false cognates/interference
- general vocabulary
- technical vocabulary (=legal, court)
- idioms and expressions
- conservation of style (=register)
- numbers, names and dates (accuracy)
- modifiers and emphasis
- position (words likely to be left out. e.g. "if anything," "Isn't it

true," "allegedly," etc.)

The test was looked at by many experts all over the United States. It is quite common that people don't pass the first time. Spanish has four versions of test per year, so you can take a test four times a year. Creole has two versions. You will receive a test result form. You are not allowed to use any dictionary. This test was patterned after the Federal test. There are some test samples available in "The Interpreter's Companion" (1991) and "Interpreter's Edge" (1992) by Holly Mikkelson, Acebo Press. You can also order some exercise tapes from the Court Reporters Association.

What I mentioned here is just an overview of what I learned in those two days. If you are interested in knowing more about court interpreters' certification, please contact me: (izumi.suzuki@suzukimyrs.com).

Izumi Suzuki is an interpreter and a translator, ATA-accredited in both directions between Japanese and English. Izumi and her husband Steve Myers operate Suzuki-Myers Associates, Ltd. in Novi Michigan. Izumi was a member of the board of directors of the ATA, and is the Administrator of the Japanese Language Division.



# “Innovations” IJET-12@Monterey/2001

第12回 英日・日英翻訳国際会議  
Twelfth International Japanese/English Translation Conference

米国カリフォルニア州モンレー  
2001年5月26日(土) ~ 27日(日)

Monterey, California  
May 26 (Sat.) and May 27 (Sun.), 2001

参加費(土曜日夕刻、モンレーベイ  
水族館でのディナー代を含む)

一般参加者: \$200

学生: \$100

Cost (includes dinner Saturday night  
at the Monterey Bay Aquarium)

Standard fee: \$200

Student rate: \$100

技術革新を主なテーマとして、第12回英日・日英翻訳国際会議が米国カリフォルニア州モンレーで2001年5月26日～27日に開催されます。同地は、息を呑むような美しい大自然に加え、人気のモンレーベイ水族館やペブルビーチ・ゴルフ場など、数々のすばらしい施設を備えています。サンフランシスコから車で2時間、シリコンバレーから1時間という便利さのモンレーは、第一級の会議・宿泊施設を提供するばかりでなく、各種レジャーを楽しむ場所としても最適です。

今回のIJET会議では、英日・日英多数の翻訳家が興味をもつさまざまな話題について討議しますが、なかでも過去数年間、全世界、特に翻訳業界に強い影響を及ぼしている技術革新に焦点を合わせる計画です。ウェブサイトやインターネット、翻訳サポート・ソフトの利用、またコンピュータ・ゲームの翻訳に関するセッションを行います。

この価値ある翻訳会議に加え、ビジネスとレジャーの両立をお考えの皆様にとっても、モンレー訪問は理想的トラベル・プランと言えます。利用空港が西海岸サンフランシスコ国際空港であるため、世界中どこからでも気軽にお越しいただけます。ぜひ参加をご検討ください。

With technical innovations as its key theme, the twelfth IJET conference will be held on May 26 and 27, 2001, in Monterey, California, an area of breathtaking natural beauty as well as world-class sights including the renowned Monterey Bay Aquarium and Pebble Beach Golf Course. Only two hours from San Francisco and an hour from Silicon Valley, Monterey offers not only top level conference facilities and accommodations but a wide variety of leisure activities as well.

This IJET conference will cover many issues of interest to Japanese and English translators, but will place special emphasis on the technical innovations that have had such a powerful impact on the world over the last few years, especially on the translation industry. Panels on Web sites and the Internet, use of translation support software, and issues relating to computer and video game translation are only part of the array of sessions offered.

While the content of the conference offers excitement, the Monterey location provides those looking for a combination of business and leisure time the perfect business/vacation opportunity. The West Coast location with its key connection at the major international airport of San Francisco makes this site easily accessible to travelers from around the world.

詳細についてはホームページ<http://www.ijet.org/ijet-12>に掲載中です。  
またはAlan Siegrist (Eメール: [ijet-12@ijet.org](mailto:ijet-12@ijet.org)) までお問い合わせください。

For further information check out the web site at: <http://www.ijet.org/ijet-12>  
or contact Alan Siegrist at: [ijet-12@ijet.org](mailto:ijet-12@ijet.org)