# HELMA NEWSLETTER

News of the Language Problem and Esperanto as a Solution

Jan-Feb 1988

### Making News This Issue

#### U.N. & Esperanto

A report on the U.N.-sponsored Conference on Language in Religion starts off our coverage of Esperanto at the U.N. Esperanto was the subject of one paper delivered during the proceedings. You'll also read about translation and the work of UEA at the United Nations.

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#### U.S. & Soviet Citizens Talk

Charles Hall reports on the Unique opportunity for U.S. and Soviet citizens to meet and discuss common goals and aspirations at the Citizens' Summit held in February of 1988.

See Pages 6-7

#### A Golden Opportunity

Bernard Golden writes on informing the public about Esperanto in this first article of three that he will write for the *Newsletter* over the next year on various topics. Next issue Dr. Golden will discuss neologisms and Esperanto.

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And Much, Much More to Delight and Inform You!	

ELNA Convention '88

## San Diego Vokas!



Mission Bay Park: A series of islands, lagoons, waterways and peninsulas form this 4,600-acre park in San Diego (photo courtesy of San Diego Convention & Visitors Bureau).

THE ESPERANTO LEAGUE FOR NORTH AMERICA will be holding its 36th Annual Conference during the period July 15-20, 1988, at the Ramada Inn in San Diego, California.

Conference fee is \$35, including meeting access, refreshments, conference materials and transportation to/from airports. For those who can't attend the entire Conference, one-day passes are available for \$7. The optional banquet (choice of Beef Brochette, Chicken Tampico or Vegetarian dinners) on Tuesday, July 19, costs \$15 per person, including tax and tip.

Lodgings at the Ramada Inn cost \$52.00 per night single occupancy,

\$28.50 per night double occupancy, plus 7% tax.

The Ramada Inn is located within easy walking distance from Old Town, the San Diego of 1867, with its Victorian Village and Junipero Serra Museum. There will be an optional excursion on the afternoon of Monday, July 18, to Balboa Park and its world-famous zoological gardens; cost of the optional excursion is \$20.

Registration and fees, including lodging, may be sent to the ELNA C.O., P.O. Box 1129, El Cerrito, CA 94530. Please indicate type of room preferred (single, double), preferred roommate (if you have one), and whether you are a smoker or non-smoker.

Has a new era begun for Esperanto? If you are new to the language, you might well think so; if you have been involved with the Esperanto movement for some time now, you probably won't notice much of a difference. But there are a few signs, here and abroad.

Membership in UEA grew in 1987 by more than three thousand—almost eight percent. That has to be a record of some kind. For some years UEA was butting its head against the 40,000-member barrier; now, in the space of a year, it has moved up to face the new 50,000-member barrier.

Almost nine hundred of those members are from the United States. This also has to be a new record. These memberships are divided about equally between associate members (ELNA members who are not also individual members of UEA) and individual members. The figures are not exaggerated; UEA works up its statistics in such a way as to avoid overlap.

It was widely believed that after the World Esperanto Congress of 1986 in Beijing, the last decade's almost frenetic growth of the Esperanto movement in China would slack off. This does not seem to have happened. As an example: last fall my good friend Chien Ming-chi, who is paid to teach Esperanto at East China Normal University in Shanghai, was confronted by a basic class containing more than seventy would-be students of Esperanto. In the new spring semester she has been saddled with a new class of equal size. ECNU has now formed its own university Esperanto Society.

The California Department of Education this year sponsored the All-California Esperanto Conference in Sacramento. DoE has some undefined interest in the possibility of using Esperanto to improve the state of education in California. The Berkeley Esperanto League is developing a proposal to introduce Esperanto into two Berkeley-area grade schools; if successful, this might develop into a pilot project operating under the moral, if not financial, aegis of the state.

It is a good time to be involved with Esperanto. I feel particularly honored to have been chosen to edit the ELNA Newsletter, at least temporarily, during this period.

There will be changes in the Newsletter to reflect the changes in the worldwide Esperanto movement. Some of you will, Ihope, agree with these changes. Some of you will, I also hope, disagree with them. One of our first changes is to attempt to inaugurate a letters-to-the-editor column. Tom Goodman, long-time ELNA member, motor of the Esperanto movement in the Baltimore area, sometime member of the ELNA Estraro, leads off the column this month with some disquieting ideas about the health of the American Esperanto movement. I hope that others of you out there will feel the desire to express your ideas.

Mark Stephens, the Director of the Central Office, has promised to provide a regular column for the Newsletter-well, as regular as his duties will permit, anyway. You'll also find the first of his columns in this issue.

We hope to continue the new column on UEA that we began with the September-December issue. Esperanto is, after all, an International Language, and it ill behooves us to ignore the activities of our major International Organization—an organization with which ELNA is closely associated.

This month you'll find us a bit short on local news. We hope to remedy that by the next issue. For instance, in the next issue you'll see reports on the March open house at the ELNA office and on the All-California Esperanto Conference plus whatever information from March and April those of you outside the editor's immediate area will be kind enough to send him.

In future, I hope to be able to provide you with more complete reports on regional conferences. We've had three of those for the past few years: TKEK in California in the springtime, and NOREK and the Intermountain Conference in the autumn. This year we're adding a new one: the Midwest Conference in the late springtime.

As promised in the last issue, one of the major changes we're going to make is to increase the number of Newsletter pages each year. Currently you, the members of ELNA, receive 72 pages of Newsletter each year. I think that a larger and more frequent Newsletter is justified. It won't happen all at once; but, as promised in the last issue, we'll finish off this year with two sixteen-page issues. That is, incidentally, good insurance against having the editor produce another late double issue: can you imagine the amount of work that would go into producing a single 32-page number of the Newsletter?

As stated in the last issue, the deadline for material for the May-June issue is April 25. You may not have this issue in hand by that time, so let me alert you to the deadline for the following issue: because of the summertime vacations, the deadline for material for the July-August issue is July 25.

One final point: language. In the past there have been arguments over whether or not the Newsletter should use predominantly English or Esperanto. Some national magazines-e.g., La Mondo in China-prefer to use the national language almost exclusively; others, such as Budapesta Informilo, stick with Esperanto. La Revuo Orienta in Japan tries to maintain a happy medium, and to some extent that is what we will do. If you want to contribute something in Esperanto, feel free to do so; if you feel more comfortable with English, I won't object. I hope that we will get plenty of material in Esperanto; I myself write in Esperanto if I consider it more appropriate (e.g., in book reviews).

As editor, I reserve the right to correct grammatical errors and spelling in either language. I would not arrogate to myself the right to "correct" your writing style.

For the moment, please send all material for the Newsletter to: ELNA Newsletter, c/o Don Harlow, P.O. Box 551, Pinole CA 94564.

## NEWSBRIEFS Esperanto in the Media

Allan C. Boschen discussed at some length the strides Esperanto has been making in the Third World in a letter to the Editor of **The Berkshire Eagle** (November 5, 1987).

An interview about Esperanto with Dmitri Perevalov, Chairman of the Soviet section of the Mondpaca Esperantista Movado, appeared in the Englishlanguage version of the Soviet informational magazine Sputnik (December, 1987). The article is very interesting and objective, though the reference by the interviewer (Juri Trofimov) to "times in some countries when the language was simply banned" for some reason fails to identify the countries in question. Perevalov's description of how he "caught the Esperanto bug" will be particularly revealing for those who have traditionally considered Esperanto a strictly European phenomenon.

Dianne Thomas of Lifelines (December 2, 1987) has an excellent article about Esperanto based on an interview with Esperantist Janet Emmons of Dearborn, Michigan. The article centers around Emmons' correspondence with other Esperantists in Poland and Yugoslavia, and how the use of Esperanto brings them closer together than any other language could.

Eugene F. Durand has a rather objective article about Esperanto, "100 Years of Hope," in the Adventist Review (December 10, 1987) published by the Seventh-Day Adventist Church. Durand's doubts about Esperanto's current or future success (based on an obvious lack of information about the current state of the Esperanto movement) are obviously regretful, and his suggestion for "... translating [Seventh-Day Adventist] materials into Esperanto for reaching the millions who speak it" is worth noting. (thanks to John Birmingham for sending this article)

While Marjorie Smith's essay "A Matter of Interpretation" that appeared in Newsweek (December 14, 1987) did not mention Esperanto, it raised the question of the language problem in a very direct way. Smith, who is apparently unfamiliar with Esperanto, is in favor of all national leaders making use of interpreters when conferring with each other, and we would have to agree that — in the absence of Esperanto! — some interpreters are about a thousand percent better than no interpreters. (thanks to the Chicago Esperanto Society for reprinting this article in their newsletter)

Keeping in Touch (Winter '88), newsletter of The Children's Museum in Flint, Michigan, carried an alert about the founding of the Esperanto Language Study Club. (thanks to Howard Saunders for sending this article)

ELNA member Maya Kennedy of Kensington (California) published a letter about Tolstoy's relationship with Esperanto in the **Vegetarian Times** (January, 1988).

Louise Woo of the Orange County Register (January 11, 1988) wrote a fine long article about the establishment of "La Amikeca Domo" (The Friendship House) in Garden Grove (California). The long article, which includes a box describing Esperanto and giving some examples, is based upon interviews with several Esperantists including Thom Wilkerson, J. Tillman Williams, ELNA C.O. Director Mark Stephens. Doug Butler, Michelle Misir, and Dan Dawes. Allen C. Boschen's letter to the editor, which appeared in the Berkshire Eagle (November 5, 1987), was reprinted in the Berkshire Section News (February, 1988) of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc. (thanks to Allen C. Boschen)

In the category of "advertising we least need" is a supposedly "amusing" piece by Bruce Felton, corporate communications (?) manager of D'Arcy Masius Benton & Bowles: "Advertising in Esperanto," which appeared in Advertising Age (February 1, 1988). According to Mr. Felton, whose tongue is plugged so firmly into his upper cheek that it seems to have lodged in his brain, regional variations in Esperanto make it impossible for Swedish Esperantists to understand the typical Esperanto phrase "La Crudbusters fa ci vian ovena klen kum un salo mostra" (Crudbusters gets your oven showroom-clean) - a version of Esperanto which we all know is spoken nowhere within 101 light years of Earth. Maybe Mr. Felton could take some pointers from the president of Sony, who knew how, when and to whom to apologize for a similar piece of nonsense last year. (thanks to Peter Krause for pointing this article out to us)

Steve Rösenthal, in MacWEEK (February 23, 1988) starts an article "Mac[intosh] applications need a common language" with: "Someday perhaps we'll all speak the international language Esperanto as a second tongue - and someday all Mac applications will freely exchange data. Until then, it helps to travel and work with multilingual friends." Though the article isn't about language per se, Rosenthal uses many linguistic metaphors to explain the problems with data transfer between applications, pointing out that "...basic gestures may get you by for the simplest of everyday business, but you really need a common language for more serious information exchanges." (the editor thanks himself for noticing this article)

In his interview with Presidential candidate and televangelist Pat Robertson, David Frost asked Robertson whether he thought that "speaking in tongues" (glossolalia) is a "kind of spiritual Esperanto." (thanks to Reg Reid for pointing out this passage)



#### **CALIFORNIA**

A new Esperanto club, the North Valley Esperanto Group (NVEG), meets on the third Saturday of each month at the Faith Reformed Church in Anderson. The president is the Rev. David Th. Stark. (Cathy Schulze)

#### LOUISIANA

Dr. Bob Hardy, a psychiatrist at the Base Hospital at Barksdale AFB, has proposed as a slogan on the hospital's coat of arms the words DEFENDI, RESANIGI, SERVI. "While the use of Latin in unit slogans is quite common," Dr. Hardy writes in his letter of proposal, "this would be the first unit slogan within the entire military, I am sure, that is conveyed in Esperanto, the world's universal second language. As such, it would not only be legible to the millions of Esperantists in the world (a far greater number than those fluent in Latin, for example), but would also reflect our commitment to science, logic, and a new way of doing things." (Dr. R. O. Hardy)

#### **MICHIGAN**

Esperantists in Flint, Michigan, have founded the Society of Esperanto Language Friends (Inc.). Howard F. Saunders is President, Florinda Rosen is Vice-President, John O'Dell is Director of Education and Training, Carolyn Williams is Director of Membership and Recruiting, and Jim Hillaker is Volunteer Committee Member. The group is planning, among other things, a late autumn Caribbean cruise for Esperantists. (Howard F. Saunders)

Sherry Wells spoke to the Hamtramck Rotary on January 7. ("La Semanto")

Janet Emmons spoke to the Rouge Valley Branch of the Women's League for Peace and Freedom in January. ("La Semanto")



The Library in Southfield had an Esperanto display case for four weeks, and the Library in Dearborn had one for six weeks. ("La Semanto")

Janet Emmons hosted a program about Esperanto at the Henry Ford Centennial Library in Dearborn. 26 people were present. Mary Napolitan talked about her experiences at the World Esperanto Congress in Warsaw this past summer. ("La Semanto")

#### **NEW YORK**

The Esperanto-Societo de Novjorko is considering proposals from the Esperanto Society in Suzhou (China) and the Esperanto group in Xi'an (China) for the establishment of sister-club relationships. (J & N Medrano)

John Bailey of the Esperanto-Societo de Novjorko has given a copy of the ELNA Booklist to the local library. Other Esperantists in other parts of the country might consider doing the same ... (Cathy Schulze)

## Problems with Interpreters

Although Esperanto allows people to speak to one another directly, some people feel that the use of interpreters is good enough. Newspaper columnist William Safire writes about an incident involving interpreters during the recent meeting between Reagan and Gorbachev. While on television, the two engaged in some friendly conversation. Reagan brought up a Russian proverb, "doveryal no proveryal—trust but verify." Gorbachev responded in Russian

which the interpreter rendered as "You repeat that at every meeting." But according to Russian language experts, Gorbachev used a rude word in his response (boltaete). A closer translation of his remark would have been, "You do run on at the mouth about that." One wonders how the president would have felt about that.

How much better would it be if each of them had learned some Esperanto? They could dispense with the interpreters and speak directly. Remember the problems that President Carter had in Warsaw, when an interpreter used out-dated words and syntax. Carter was made to say that he had an "erotic desire for Poles" and that he had left the U.S. never to return.

The above article appeared in "La Semanto" March/April 1988, the newsletter of the Esperanto Society of Michigan, P.O. Box 3011, Southfield, MI 48037-3011.—red]

### UNO KAJ ESPERANTO

## ESPERANTISTS PARTICIPATE IN U.N. CONFERENCE ON LANGUAGE IN RELIGION

With the active participation of UN staff members and members of the World Esperanto Association, the long-awaited Conference on Language in Religion took place on Friday and Saturday, May 15 and 16, 1987, sponsored by the Center for Research and Documentation on World Language Problems. Held at Bergen Community College, New Jersey, USA, the conference brought together some forty linguists, theologians, clergy and international specialists for a discussion of the role of language in religious practice and belief across the world.

The conference began on May 15 with a discussion of practical aspects of cross-cultural commun–ication in a religious context, a presentation on the language policy of the World Council of Churches by Andrea Cano and speeches by Lynda Icochea, Director of the Center for Inter-

national Studies at Bergen, and Ted Mall, of the Christian Ministries to the UN Community.

Mme. Françoise Cestac, Director of the Translation Division of the United Nations, opened the conference's full day of deliberations on May 16. The morning began with a session on the nature of religious language, with presentations by Gilbert Fell (Monmouth College), Robert W. Hall (University of Vermont) and Adnan Yusuf, Chief of the Arabic Translation Service at the United Nations. Later sessions dealt with the problem of inclusive language, with mysticism, and with religious practices.

Participants were pleased and surprised when Father George Korytkowski, of the Diocese of Metuchen, gave his paper, "Esperanto for Religious Purposes," in the International Language Esperanto. An English translation, distributed to the audience, allowed non-speakers of Esperanto to follow the speech. Father Korytkowski, a native of Poland, who has taught and studied in universities in Poland and Italy, is more comfortable speaking Esperanto than speaking English. The speech provided several of his listeners with their first opportunity to hear Esperanto in action and to note its suitability as a conference language.

The day ended with some practical examples of the religious role of language, in a ceremony organized by Father Maurice Carroll, of St. Vincent de Paul Church, and Francis Dubois, of UNDP. The evening program featured a concert by the United Nations Singers.

The Center plans to publish the conference proceedings.

#### NOVJORKA KONFERENCO DE CED & LA TRADUKA FAKO DE UNO

Laŭ kuna organizado de la Traduka Fako de la Unuiĝinta Naciaro kaj la Centro de Esploro kaj Dokumentado pri la Monda Lingvo-Problemo, okazis Internacia Konferenco pri Lingvo kaj Komunikado ĉe la sidejo de la Novjorka Oficejo de UEA je la 11a de decembro 1987. La konferenco pritraktis la temon "lingvo kaj kulturo en internaciaj organizaĵoj". Partoprenis la konferencon pli ol 100 homoj. El la 26 kontribuintoj, 13 estas funkciuloj de UNO. Unu el ili estas helpa ĝenerala sekretario de UNO kaj alia. helpisto por ĝenerala subsekretario. La konferencon malfermis la direktorino de la Traduka Fako de UNO kaj fermis la direktoro de CED, Prof. Humphrey Tonkin.

Kiel ni raportis en la pasinta numero, post la konferenco okazis akcepto, dum kiu Tonkin, en sia rolo kiel Prezidanto de UEA, transdonis la Premion Zamenhof al la direktoro de UNICEF, James P. Grant. Antaŭaj premiitoj estas s-ro Robert Muller (eksa helpa ĝenerala sekretario de UNO) kaj s-ro Amadou Mahtar M'Bow (tiama ĝenerala sekretario de UNESCO). S-ro Grant laŭdis la laboron de UEA por antaŭenigo de internacia komprenado kaj diris: "Esperanto kaj UNICEF havas saman signifon: Espero." UNICEF eldonos libreton pri la stato de la infanoj de la mondo en Esperanto.

(el UN kaj Ni #47)

#### UEA & AMBASADEJOJ DE UNO

La 21an de septembro, 1987, la prezidanto de UEA, Humphrey Tonkin, vizitis la polan ambasadon ĉe UNO kaj pasigis unu horon en pozitivaj diskutoj kun la ambasadestro koncerne subtenon flanke de la pola registaro al Esperanto ĉe UNO. Li ankaŭ renkontis funkciulon de la nederlanda ambasado por raporti pri la UK en Rotterdamo (1988) kaj varbi i.a. la helpon de la nederlanda registaro. S-ro Tonkin planas viziti pliajn ambasadojn ĉe UNO kaj deziras firme starigi reputacion de UEA kiel la ĉefa internacia neregistara organizaĵo, kiu okupiĝas pri problemoj de internacia komunikado.

## REPORT ON THE SOVIET-AMERICAN CITIZENS' SUMMIT Feb. 1-5, 1988, Alexandria, VA

By Charles M. Hall, Editor, EFHA Newsletter

Although my acceptance as a delegate to the conference appears to have been based on the fact that I had once taught Russian at the University of Utah, my personal motive was to attend, meet whatever Esperantists happened to be in attendance, and be a part of making as significant an impression on behalf of "La Esperanto Movado" as possible without becoming obnoxious. As far as I can tell I, or rather we, were successful.

I should add that it appeared at one point (and it all happened very fast) that I would not be able to go because of my total lack of financial resources. The conference, food, lodging, etc., was \$975, and the round trip plane fare was \$238 from Utah. However, being a resourceful Esperantist, I located a company who needed a car driven to Arlington, VA, and another one to be driver from Mt. Jackson, VA to Utah. I also had a friend who needed some research done in Washington, D.C., so my trnnsportation was essentially paid for. As for my food and lodging, I want to publicly thank Neal and Holly in Boulder, CO, for their hospitality both going and coming from Utah. I also stayed one night with John Dale in Falls Church, VA, and three nights with my brother-in-law's family (not Esperantists) in Great Falls, VA, and ate very frugally otherwise.

It was so special to get John Dale's help in preparing Esperanto materials to be handed out at the conference, and his advice on how to overcome the problem of not being able to act as the official delegate I had been accepted to be (actually I wore a PRESS pass and represented the Esperanto Movado).

I was further helped by Mr. Dick Sherwood, the man in Utah that I contacted to become a delegate in the first place. He let me have his ticket to attend the first luncheon, which gave me a chance to hear Carol Rosin, Dr. Brian O'Leary,

Theodore Taylor, and Soviet Cosmonaut Georgy Grechko. At this luncheon, I became painfully aware of the weakness of a bilingual conference of this nature. The speeches by the three Americans were outstanding and certainly deserving of the enthusiastic audience response, but Iknew (even with my very rusty Russian) that Georgy Grechnko's speech was equally deserving of the audience's enthusiasm, but it got almost no response. Even the people with earphones on their ears, who were supposed to be getting simultaneous translation, seemed oblivious to the great things he was saying.

After the luncheon, I had the unique opportunity of having an unencumbered though brief chat with Carol Rosin and Dr. O'Leary. I told Dr. O'Leary how impressed I was with the idea of a joint Soviet-American space flight to Mars in 1999, and how I liked the picture of the Soviet and American flags planted on that planet side by side, but I said I had this question: "When these two groups of Astronauts work together on that project, what language do you suppose they will be speaking?" Well, he and Carol were not so sure. So I helped them by suggesting that it would be a great day when those Astronauts could work together using a common neutral language, to which Carol Rosin responded, "Oh, you mean Esperanto!" to which I said: "Right!" Then she added: "I love Esperanto. It is a great idea."

With my PRESS badge, I was able to attend "Task Force Meeting #2," and I chose from a rather broad selection the EDUCATION section. I was pleased, while looking around the room during the introduction, to see Esperanto listed as a discussion topic in both Latin and Cyrillic letters. As the main group was divided into small 7-8 person discussion sections, I chose the CURRICULUM section, since that was closest to the wall where "Esperanto" was written. My inquiries regarding the origin of the "Esperanto" sign eventually led me to a delightful and

enthusiastic "Komencanto" named Helen Tittle King, currently of Largo, Florida, and formerly of Edwardsville, where her husband had taught at Southern Illinois Univ. before retiring.

The discussion leader did a great job of setting us up to make an excellent presentation for the cause of Esperanto, when she asked each member of the group to express themselves regarding their "secret" project. Helen was able to give an introduction to the Esperanto concept, which she did in an excellent manner. A second or third person around the circle from Helen was none other than Dr. Robert Muller of UN fame. Since neither Helen nor I had personally met him before, we were surprised and highly pleased when he strongly endorsed all Helen had said and added his own testimonial to the great value of Esperanto. By the time it was my turn to speak, I could hardly contain my excitement, as I did my best to put the finishing touches on our totally unrehearsed Esperanto presentation.

The next day, our curriculum Task Force group was supposed to solidify some proposals to the EDUCATION section as a whole. Somehow, however, we were unable to input a solid proposal regarding Esperanto that the group would accept. Some of them encouraged us by saying that we would be able to work Esperanto into one of the proposals which had been accepted. After the meeting had somewhat broken up, the discussion leader asked me how I felt about the outcome. When I said I was a little disappointed that we had not been able to put together an actual Esperanto proposal, she surprised me by saying: "Oh, that's right. We did not get a proposal on Esperanto. Well, let's do it." So she gave me a proposal form, and Helen and I got together and wrote up a very ambitious proposal, inspired somewhat by what William Shanks did and is doing at Arizona State Univ. in Tempe, going from a one-man to a 25-man Esperanto club in a relatively short time by conscientiously following seven or eight well-planned steps. We were also inspired and encouraged by the meeting the California Esperantists are going to have at the State Board of Education in Sacramento in March.

Details of our proposal will be given later. Suffice it to say here that it will involve building sizeable Esperanto groups in Florida, Utah, and a couple of areas in the Soviet Union during this 1988 year. It was necessary to give the addresses of a couple of Esperanto groups in the Soviet Union to make this proposal valid. We are grateful to Jim Deer of Portland, OR, for the addresses he got published in Kresko, with which we have had successful correspondence, and which made the submission of this application possible. We want to return the favor by giving the name and address of the one Soviet in the conference whom we were able to locate who has some knowledge of Esperanto: Mikhail ZYKOV, Global Family Soviet Peace Committee, 36 Prospekt Mira, MOSCOW, USSR. Of course, we will need all of the help we can get from any of you, our fellow Esperantists, in reaching the goal we have outlined for ourselves, if it is nothing more than keeping us informed of your activities to increase the number of Esperantists in your area.

I shall next report on the Round Table sessions that I attended regarding the "Sister Cities" or "Twin Cities" program. Although I have not noticed much Esperanto activity related to this program, it appears to have great potential especially as it relates to the rapidly increasing Soviet-American matchups that are occurring. For example: Oakland-Nakhodka; Boulder-Dushanbe; Kiev-Chicago; Moscow-Washington. There are about 20 official matchups so far.

Finally, I would like to tell how wonderful it was to chat with Dr. E. James Lieberman and other Esperantists in the Washington, DC, area on John Dale's phone. I also enjoyed my visit with Dr. Ruth Browning in the Arlington Library in Columbus. I only wish I could have taken time to visit more Esperantists along the way. I expect to be able to visit others in mid-April when I travel to Milwaukee, WI, via Lincoln, NE, to present seminars involving East European and Germanic family history (genealogy) research. Of course, the most exciting thing about these seminars is that the hosts are already requesting literature on Esperanto in preparation for my lecture about how I use the International Language in my family history field trips to and correspondence with Esperantists in Europe.

#### FROM THE CENTRAL OFFICE

During the year the Central Office receives about 2000 letters, cards and phone calls from all parts of the country and many areas of the world asking for information about Esperanto. To cope with the large number of inquiries, we have prepared two packets of information that can automatically be sent to interested parties to answer most of their questions.

Packet 1 consists of: a pamphlet about Esperanto; the first lesson of the free ten lesson postal course; a list of Esperanto clubs; a list of learning aids available from ELNA; and an invitation to receive further information about Esperanto.

A recent change to the invitation for further information is the addition of two spaces to indicate the names and addresses of friends that would like to learn about Esperanto. At present about 30% of the sheets that come back have requests for information to be sent to friends.

About 9% of those that request packet 1 will take the next step and ask for more information. At this time we will send: information about ELNA and UEA; "The Cultural Value of Esperanto";

"Correspondence and Traveling with Esperanto"; "On Learning Esperanto"; "TEJO"; "Esperanto and Children"; a list of specialist organizations; useful addresses; "The ABC's of Esperanto"; and a copy of the ELNA *Newsletter*.

One sampling taken last year indicates that about 15% of those who receive packet 2 will go on to become members of ELNA without any further prompting.

In addition to supplying information directly to the enquirers, the Central Office recently started supplying some 20 clubs with monthly listing of people who write in from their area. We do this so that local clubs can inform people about club meetings and events of local interest. At the same time, we will usually include any news or items of interest so that your club president or secretary can pass them on to club members.

If your club would like to be enrolled in this Program please write to the Central Office with the name of your club and the range of zip codes in your area. After the initial mailing of names for your club has been sent, we will mail updates at the end of every month.

Another reinforcement to the process of informing the public about Esperanto is the reappearance of the "ELNA Update." This update will be mailed out four times per year to all ELNA members and anyone who has written in during the previous 12 months. The update contains news briefs gleaned from the many different periodicals that come to the office, and is intended to show the diverse ways that Esperanto is being used in the world today.

There are two primary ways of knowing how successful the League is at promoting Esperanto in the United States. One is the number of members that ELNA and UEA has here in our country. The other is the number of requests we receive for information about Esperanto here at the Central Office. If you would like to help spread the word about Esperanto, please write the C.O. for a copy of "Suggestions for Promoting Esperanto." Be sure to include a self-addressed stamped envelope

-Mark Stephens

### Informing the Public about Esperanto

#### By Bernard Golden

Many American Esperantists are already familiar with Dr. Bernard Golden. Originally a noted archaeologist from the United States, Dr. Golden now makes his home with his wife in the town of Veszprem, Hungary. Dr. Golden is known throughout the Esperanto world as an accomplished author of fiction and plays, and a specialist on various aspects of Esperantology. This is the first of three articles which we will be publishing by him over the next year on various topics.

[For reasons beyond the control of Dr. Golden and ELNA, publication of this article has been delayed; so I have taken the liberty of pushing all of his projected dates back by a year. The article is otherwise exactly as received.]

I regard the dissemination of information about Esperanto on the national and local level as a joint activity which the national Esperanto organization coordinates. Competent individuals carry out the work either independently or in collaboration with local groups and organizations of specialists in various occupations. The media of publicity are existing magazines, newspapers and reviews or a special periodical about Esperanto in the national language, for example Világ és Nyelv (World and Language) published in Hungary. In my opinion the latter is superfluous and fails to reach the public effectively. I doubt that a monthly or bimonthly devoted to language problems in the world in general and to Esperanto specifically is a useful means of communication for the informational goals of the Esperanto movement. The important question is: does such a magazine have a market among members of the reading public?

The situation is quite different with regard to periodicals dealing with special subjects or aspects of life. The market for these already exists prior to publication. Thus a sufficiently broad base of subscribers and purchasers can be assured in order to guarantee the financial success of the publication. For example, it is

possible to estimate more or less exactly the number of dog owners in any country in order to know how many potential readers exist for a magazine about dogs. It is also very probable that every serious chess player regularly reads a periodical about that game. And what woman can resist the temptation to thumb through a fashion magazine? The same can be said about other magazines, the contents of which attract different sectors of the public such as automobile owners, home gardeners, hunters, etc. But who is going to dig into his pocket for money for a mélange of language themes? If I have correctly understood the explanation of those who propose such a periodical, the readership consists of an indefinite group of intellectuals in the social order.

I propose an educational program, the aim of which is to reach a much wider group, possibly the entire part of the population which is in the habit of reading periodical literature. Another essential characteristic of my project is the planning and directing of information to each special group in the framework of its own sphere of interest or professional work. It is evidently a matter of having reading material prepared by Esperantist specialists for their colleagues. For this purpose there are in all countries today dozens of well-known journals, magazines and newspapers with steady subscribers and loyal readers. It is much more valuable for an article to appear in such a periodical than in a magazine about language problems.

I propose that this year competent Esperantists with the ability to write select about twenty periodicals in different fields and prepare articles aimed at the readership of each publication. One article each in a group of prestigious periodicals in several countries in 1988 means that the message of Esperanto will reach a readership a thousand times greater than that of the annual issues of a language magazine still relatively unknown and with a very limited circulation. Besides, the program is not planned for only one year, but is a part of a

publicity campaign of long duration.

During the first year an endeavor should be made to publish an article a month, that is, a total of twelve in 1988 in each country participating in the plan. For the following year thirty periodicals should be selected with the aim of getting at least two articles published each month. In the following years the number of monthly articles increases: three, four, five, etc. If this procedure succeeds, in the first decades of the second century of Esperanto perhaps hundreds of articles about Esperanto will appear in periodicals all over the world, in addition to more frequent newspaper reports, and Esperanto will have become a topic of daily reading.

Here are some suggestions to guide the work of the first year. Articles suitable for an illustrated weekly can be prepared on the occasion of anniversaries concerning the history of the national Esperanto movement and the pioneers who taught the language and published the first books and periodicals. "The role of women in the Esperanto movement" could be the title of an article for a women's magazine. There is a place for literary works such as translations of short stories and poems originally written in Esperanto in different types of cultural reviews. Very appropriate for children's magazines are fairy tales, stories and poems translated from children's literature in other languages with Esperanto serving as a bridge-language. A study entitled "Our national literature in Esperanto translation" as well as critical and comparative literary essays have a place in journals dealing with literature history and comparative world literature. In this connection, there are various compilations of bibliographies and book reviews of foreign language literature which are not complete if Esperanto literature is not mentioned. These periodicals contain data about literary works in minor languages such as Ukrainian, Albanian and Yiddish. Why not Esperanto, too?

Continued on Page 10

## News from Abroad

AFRICA: "Brulo kaj Ritmo", the first collection of African poetry in Esperanto, was the result of considerable international collaboration. A collection of poems by Angolan poet and statesman Antonio Agostinho Neto was translated by Angolan Esperantist Lutumba Tima. With the help of the Esperanto Club of Norrkoping, Sweden, whose member Eugeniu Mustea (now with a UN mission in the Dominican Republic) discovered the manuscript in Luanda, Angola, the book was published. Kris Long of Great Britain checked the manuscript from a linguistic standpoint, and it was published by the International Cultural Service of Yugoslavia and Vulpo-Libroj of the Netherlands.

GERMANY (DEMOCRATIC RE-PUBLIC): As of 1988, according to a recommendation from the Ministry of Higher Education, colleges and universities in East Germany my teach Esperanto as an elective subject if competent instructors are available. It appears that Esperanto will soon be taught in about fifteen such institutions.

GERMANY (FEDERAL REPUB-LIC): The German Esperanto Association at the conclusion of its 65th annual convention in Rastatt declared "that a tendency in the European Community toward favoring a few languages threatened European integration" and that "Esperanto should be gradually introduced as a subject of equal standing with other languages; and schools in border regions should teach the language of the neighboring country." The organization called for "the introduction of model courses in Esperanto at universities and in adult education programs in accordance with a UNESCO resolution of November 1985."

GREAT BRITAIN: The renowned library at Oxford University, the Bodleian Library, recently held a major Esperanto exhibit. The exhibit was arranged by Dr. Marjorie Boulton.

POLAND: Esperanto got its start in the city of Bialystok, and it somehow seems appropriate that the Bialystok newspaper *Kurier Podlaski* should be the first in the world to publish a daily column about Esperanto. The author of the column, S. Dombrowolski, needs material: send magazines and such to him at *Kurier Podlaski*, ul. Wesolowskiego 4, PL-15000 BJALISTOK, Poland.

**VIETNAM:** In Ho Chi Minh (formerly Saigon), 375 Vietnamese and 25 Cambodian young people studied Esperanto last year in formal classes.

**SURINAM:** A series of three postage stamps to honor Esperanto's centennial was issued.



Bleak Future for Esperanto in U.S.?

This is an open letter to the members of ELNA to address what I believe to be a most serious issue: the future of Esperanto in the USA. While there will probably always be some people who find out about Esperanto through library books, a weakened (or eventually non-existent) national organization could greatly diminish any real involvement with Esperanto for many potential newcomers.

I realize how much the Central Office has depended on the volunteer help of a few truly dedicated older people and, seeing relatively little commitment from most younger members by comparison, I have concern for the day-to-day work that will need to be done by others to keep ELNA a viable organization in the future.

I doubt if one or two workers in the Central Office will be enough to fulfill all the necessary tasks for even our present size work load to continue (much less an expansion, were national interest to increase). More salaried workers might be part of the answer—for which more income would be needed, whether from increased dues or prices of materials sold, or investments, etc.—but surely more volunteers are still going to be needed.

I don't have any easy answers, but want to stimulate some thinking about this problem among our members so that we can do more than just "get by" for a while longer—and really do some longrange planning for ELNA's future (if there is to be one). Please submit ideas for upcoming issues of this newsletter so that others may share in the process.

Thomas H. Goodman, Baltimore, MD

[Tom, from a strictly financial point of view, ELNA is currently in better shape than it has ever been. And although the Esperanto youth movement in the USA is very small by the standard of other nations, I personally know of five young people who have occasionally worked as volunteers at the C.O. during the past year. But as a national organization, ELNA has indeed in the past been a bit short on "long-range planning"—and I think that we should really be working on that in the near future.

—DH1

## FRACTURED INGLISH

"The lift is being fixed for the next days. During that time we regret that you will be unbearable."

-Sign on elevator in Romanian hotel

The flattening of underwear with pressure is the job of the chambermaid. To get it done, turn her on."

—Sign in Japanese hotel room

"Because of the impropriety of entertaining guests of the opposite sex in the bedroom, it is suggested that the lobby be used for this purpose."

-Hotel sign in Zurich

"All rooms not denounced by twelve o'clock will be paid for twicely."

---Warning posted in Budapest hotel

## Announcements

At the Technical University of Budapest, researchers have designed ESPAROL, a speech synthesis system for Esperanto, to run on the Commodore C64 or C128. The system includes a piece of equipment to be connected to the Commodore machine (presumably through the cartridge port, though this is not made clear in the news release), and a program on a floppy disk. The system can be accessed through BASIC or other computer languages, and made to produce continuous text spoken at variable speed, whispered or spoken hoarsely. The entire system is available for 350 Deutschmarks (about \$200). A similar system for IBM PC's and compatibles is now being developed, and will be available for about \$300.

Wang Thomas Seraphin, one of the African participants in the World Congress in Warsaw last year, is looking for work outside his own country. He has worked as a hotel receptionist and has studied economics. He speaks French and understands a little English, as well as speaking Esperanto. He is willing to take on any kind of work. If anyone can help him in any way, please contact him (in Esperanto) at: Wang Thomas Seraphin, c/o Ndig-Djob Nicolas, B.P. 1916 DOUALA, Cameroun.

11a Internacia Semajno de Esperanto.

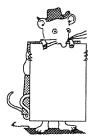
La Kultura Centro de Montpellier proponas al vi lerni aŭ perfektigi vian scipovon pri Esperanto de la 20a ĝis la 28a de aŭgusto 1988. Profitu, samtempe trapasante agrablajn feriojn en montara ripoza loko kadre de agrabla familia domo, proksime de Svislando (30 km. sudoriente de Ĝenevo). Ĉi tiun jaron la restado estos aparte interesa ĉar ni kalkulas pri multe da alilandaj partoprenantoj por krei vere internacian etoson. Vi trovos plurajn nivelojn de Esperanto-kursoj kaj. ankaŭ, piediradon en la montaro, ekskursojn, belajn vesperkunvenojn, kaj bonan manĝaĵon. Restadkosto kun tri manĝoj: 111 FF tage. Ebleco tendumi proksime.

Aliĝo/Informo: ESPERANTO, 5 rue du Dr. Roux, 34000 MONTPELLIER, Francio.

Translators wanted. Esperantists who would like to help promote Esperanto by aiding in the translation of some of Dr. Richard Mullins' writings into Esperanto and a third language of choice are invited to contact Dr. Richard Mullins, 342 W. Washington St., Macomb, IL 61455

Infanbildoj. En la 5a de junio ni havos urban feston nomatan "Dontak". Ĉiujare en la unua dimanĉo de junio ni havas la feston, kaj ĉiujare nia Esperanto-Rondo okazigas ekspozicion en la festejo, tuj apud la haveno de Jokohamo. En la festo venas multaj gejunuloj, infanoj kaj ankaŭ pli aĝaj geviroj, jen kun amikoj, jen kun familianoj. Do, la ekspozicion rigardas tre multaj civitanoj. Ĉi-jare ni planas ekspozicii bildojn de infanoj en la mondo. Ni estas tre ĝojaj, se ni povos ricevi multajn bildojn de infanoj el diversaj landoj. Do, ni petas vin sendi bildojn de infanoj en via lando, kaj ili atingu antaŭ la fino de majo. Sendu al DOI Ĉieko, Jokohama Esperanto-Rondo, 18-14 Saido 1-ĉoome, Koonan-ku, JOKOHAMO, 233 Japanio.

Argentina Esperanto-Lernejo serĉas subtenon flanke de la tutmonda esperantistaro. Ili bezonas monon kaj legaĵojn. Se vi povas sendi malnovajn librojn, revuojn, ktp, aŭ eĉ dolarojn, tio multe helpus. Monon oni povas direkti al ilia UEA-konto, kodo hali-r; legaĵojn oni sendu senpere al Argentina Esperanto-Lernejo, Casilla de Correo 278, RA-2000 ROSARIO, Argentino.



#### **GOLDEN** from Page 8

Magazines about hobbies and amusements form another promising group of special interest periodicals, not only for news items and articles but also for regular features. A travel magazine can report about arrangements made by national and international Esperanto organizations. Readers of philatelic magazines will certainly be interested in news about Esperanto stamps, postmarks and other paraphilatelic material.

Much more exacting is writing for publications in the academic field, and only a specialist himself can convince other learned individuals. In a professional journal concerned with the methodology of foreign language teaching, attention can be directed to the value of Esperanto as an introduction to further language learning.

In many periodicals intended for worldwide distribution, there are tables of contents and also summaries in foreign languages. The languages most frequently used are English, French, German and Russian. An attempt should be made to introduce Esperanto for this purpose.

It is possible to present many more details and suggestions for acquainting the public with Esperanto more effectively than has been done in the past. Well-planned programs directed at specific goals and the presentation of informative subject matter by authoritative experts are the foremost requirements for successful results.

[What do you think of Dr. Golden's general plan? What about some of the specific steps he proposes? Do you think such a plan is feasible in the United States? If so, do you think the American Esperanto movement is in a condition to undertake this or some similar sort of plan? Send your opinions, in English or Esperanto, to: ELNA Newsletter, c/o Don Harlow, P.O. Box 551, Pinole CA 94564.1

[In the May-June issue Dr. Golden will regale us with a short Esperanto article on "Neglositaj neologismoj"; and the September-October issue will carry his answer to the question "Is a Pan-American Esperanto magazine possible?"]



Note: Names and addresses are presented in boldface; family names and city names are capitalized. Commas are used to show where separation occurs between lines in an address.

#### **BRAZILO**

Anderson Laranja FRAGOSO, Rua da Jaqueira 45, 29100—VILA VELHA—E.5, 20-jara universitata studento, interesiĝas pri lernado de fremdaj lingvoj, aŭskultado de mallongondaj radiostacioj, muziko, filozofio, fremdaj kulturoj, k.c.

#### **ĈEĤOSLOVAKIO**

Pavel VOLF, Stadrodska 1483, 34701 TACHOV, 37-jara invalida geologopensiulo, pri naturo, geografio, vivo de homoj; ankaŭ volas interŝanĝi bildkartojn, naciajn kandojn en E-o.

#### GERMANIO (FEDERALA RESPUB-LIKO)

Bettina RADAU, Windscheidstr. 28, D-4000 DUSSELDORF 1 (BRD), 24-jara komencantino.

Marion PREISENDANZ, Feldstr. 1a, D-4005 MEERBUSCH 1 (BRD), 22-jara komencantino.

#### **HUNGARIO**

CZINKOTA Mihalyne, BUDAPEST, Ov u. 176/a, 1147. 53-jara librotenistino, apartenas al Esperanto-klubo, ŝatas ĝardenumi, rigardi televidon, legi, triki, stebi kaj vojaĝi.

HEGEDUS Tamas, PAKS, Kurcsatov 19., 7030. 17-jara studento, kun gejunuloj pri ĉiuj temoj.

#### **IRANO**

Hossejn AZIMIJAN, nu 19 str. Rohollahe, Ghaem mahallhe, GHAEM SHAHR-MAZANDN, 17-jara.

Kevin MOWLAI, 161 Yahcjaabad, 44176 LAHIJAN, 17-jara.

#### **IRELAND**

Brendan O'DRISCOLL, 44 Ardara Ve., The Donahies, 13 DUBLIN, 52jara, popolmuziko, lit.

#### **JAPAN**

NAKAZAWA Hirofumi, Kamiisida 3-3-19, Kofu-si, 400 YAMANASI-ken. 29-jara bankoficisto.

#### **KOREA**

Esp-klubo ĉe Hankuk Univ., CPO Kesto 4258, 100 SEOUL. 25 membroj volas kor. pĉt.

#### **POLLANDO**

Ireneusz KOPEC, ul. Buczka 2a, 68-200 ZARY. 24-jarulo, interesiĝas pri radioamatoroj, elektroniko kaj Esperanto.

Elzbieta ZELICHOWSKA, ul. 22 Lipca 12, 28-400 PINCZOW, 31-jara inĝenierino, specialisto pri mikrobiologio. Krom Esperanto scipovas la germanan, rusan, iom la francan. "Mi volonte legas librojn, gazetojn, televidas interesajn programojn. Mi ŝatas danci kaj kanti. Mi interesiĝas pri historio, sporto kaj turismo. Mi preferas ekskursi somere kaj pli volonte ekskursas perpiede. Mi ankaŭ volonte pentras."

Marcin SWIATEK, Gdansk-Wrzeszcz, ul. Zwirki i Wigury 1F/22, 80-463 ZASPA "C". 17-jara knabo, interesiĝas pri arto, muziko, literaturo, kaj sporto.

Anna LEWANDOWSKA, ul. Kolorowa 8/3, 02435 WARSZAWA 122, 28-jara.

CHECKO Daniel, str. st.Batorego 2, PL-68200 ZAVY. 28-jara fraŭlo; naturismo, fil., num., pk

Czeslaw FURMANEK, Trzcinica, 38207 PRZYSIEKI, Krosno, 34-jara instruisto elementa.

Eva TOMCZYK, ul. Janowskiego 40, 25-551 KIELCE. 13-jara pm bk.

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California: San Diego E-o Club, 3470 Juniper St., San Diego, CA 92104, (619) 284-8081 California: Inland Empire E-o Group, 3920

California: Inland Empire E-o Group, 3920 Market, Suite 141, Riverside, CA 92501, (714) 689-5576 or (619) 949-1958

California: Orange Co. E-o Assn., Box 1538, Garden Grove, CA 92642

California: Santa Barbara E-o Soc., 4710 Dexter Dr. #9, Santa Barbara, CA 93110

California: SFERO, 410 Darrell Rd., Hillsborough, CA 94010, (415) 342-1796

California: Berkeley E-o League, Box 324, Berkeley, CA 94701-0324, (415) 222-0187

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IL 60664-0774

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Michigan: Soc. of E-o Language Friends, 432 N. Saginaw St., Ste#202-338 Northbank Ctr., Flint, MI 48502-2016, (313) 766-1238

Missouri: St. Louis E-o Group, 8894 Berkay Ave., Jennings, MO 63136

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New York: UN Office of UEA, 777 United Nations Plaza, New York, NY 10017

North Carolina: E-o Soc. of the Carolinas & Virginia, P.O. Box 58063, Raleigh, NC 27658 Ohio: E-o Assn. of Ohio, 1144 Kingsdale Terr., Columbus, OH 43220

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Washington: Seattle E-o Soc., 6002 NE 61st St., Seattle, WA 98115

Regional (Rocky Mountain States): Intermountain E-o Group (AZ,CO,ID,MT,NM,UT,WY), 4825 W. Moorhead Circle, Boulder, CO 80303

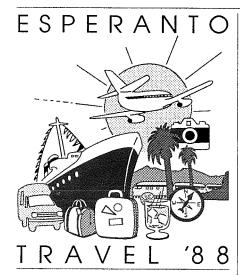
Regional (New England): E-o Soc. of New England, Box 44, Fayville, MA 01745



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#### NEWS—PLEASE EXPEDITE



CELEBRATE THE BEGINNING OF THE SECOND CENTURY OF ESPERANTO CELEBRATE THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF UEA ROTERDAMO (NEDERLANDO) JULY 23-30

By Feb. 20, 1344 participants from 54 countries had already signed up for the 73rd Universala Kongreso de Esperanto. Of this number only 39 are from the US. The total estimated number is 2500. It will be an auspicious convention without being so big that we feel lost.

Something big and exciting! On a suggestion from an Esperantist from Madagascar, the Local Congress Committee has agreed to organize a "county fair" type bazaar at the UK; all of the profits will be used for financial assistance to participants from third-world countries. At the bazaar, vendors will

offer their countries' arts and crafts, publications, stamps for collectors, origami kits, needlework, embroideries, etc. Musicians and actors will add to the atmosphere.

If you are interested in participating in this U.K., time is short. You should call Esperanto Vojaĝ-Servo right away. We will provide information on costs and make airline reservations for you. We have also organized a post U.K. excursion and cruise through four countries to Switzerland—an elegant way through the heart of Europe.

27 Jun-15 Jul: The best Esperanto classes in the World! San Francisco State University!

15-20 Jul: ELNA Annual Convention— San Diego—Post Convention tour from San Diego to Disneyland, the Grand Canyon, Yosemite, and San Francisco (if we get enough response).

**15-22 Jul**: 44th Annual Inter. Youth Conference—Zagreb, Yugoslavia.

23-30 Jul: 73rd UNIVERSALA KON-GRESO DE ESPERANTO.

30 Jul-7 Aug: Post U.K. Cruise and Tour visiting local Esperantists in Holland, France, Germany, and Switzerland.

11-20 Sep: All-Pacific Esperanto Conference and Australian Congress in Brisbane during EXPO. This congress is included in a tour of New Zealand and Australia—9 Sep-2 Oct.

WRITE OR CALL FOR INFORMATION
Esperanto Vojaĝ-Servo
578 Grand Ave.
Oakland, CA 94610
(415) 836-1710

Address Correction Requested Return Postage Guaranteed



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Any member wishing to assist in the work of any of the above named commissions or committees should communicate with the member shown.

ELNA Dues: regular, \$25; family, \$37.50; youth (under 26), \$18; patron of USEJ, \$9 + usual membership fee; senior (65+), \$15; sustaining, \$50; life, \$500. Dues are for the calendar year and are tax-deductible.

#### UEA dues 1988

Member-Yearbook Only (MJ)	\$14.00
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Societo Zamenhof (additional)	\$70.00
Subscription only to Esperanto	\$21.00
Subscription only to Kontakto	\$10.50
Life Membership in UEA	\$875.00

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