

# ELNA UPDATE

Quarterly Newsletter published by the Esperanto League for North America  
PO Box 1129 • El Cerrito CA 94530 • USA

4/1998

ISSN 1081-6224

## Esperanto Calendar 1999

➤ All-California Esperanto Conference, 26-28 March, 1999; Hallmark Inn, Davis CA; info: Steve Belant, 1004 P St #1, Sacramento CA 95814; ☎+1-916-4417617; ✉tkek99@esperanto.org

➤ 30th Summer Esperanto Workshop, San Francisco State University, 6 - 23 July, 1999; info: Cathy Schulze, 410 Darrell Rd, Hillsborough CA 94010; ☎+1-650-3421796

➤ 47th ELNA Annual Convention, 24-26 July, 1999; Sheraton West Port Hotel, St. Louis MO; info: ELNA, PO Box 1129, El Cerrito CA 94530; ☎+1-510-6530998; ☎+1-510-6531468; ✉elna@esperanto-usa.org

➤ 84th Universal Congress (UK), 31 July - 7 August, 1999; Berlin, Germany; info: UEA, Nieuwe Binnenweg 176, NL-3015 BJ Rotterdam, The Netherlands; ☎+31-10-4361044; ☎+31-10-4361751; ✉uea@internl.net

➤ 55th International Youth Conference (IJK), 9-16 August, 1999; Zánka, Hungary; info: LKK de IJK, Pf. 87, HU-1675 Budapest, Hungary; ☎+36-88-424339; ☎+36-1-2828885; ✉hej@mathbme.hu

☐ For a complete calendar of Esperanto events go to: [www.hungary.net/esperanto/kalendar.htm](http://www.hungary.net/esperanto/kalendar.htm)

➤ For your travel needs please contact Lusi Harmon, c/o Esperanto Travel Service, 6104 LaSalle Av, Oakland CA 94611; ☎+1-510-3392001; ☎+1-510-3396317.

## A MINORITY LANGUAGE IN CHINA

Yakutaye, a 14-year-old Uighur girl, dreams of becoming a doctor but in the meantime she is learning Mandarin in the knowledge that she has to learn China's official language to get ahead. She faces a problem common to many in this capital of Xinjiang, a Moslem-majority autonomous region in the northwest that is home to China's ethnic-Uighur minority and a host of other groups.

Slogans such as "You must learn Chinese to master technology" and "Let's study Chinese hard" written on the blackboards of Yakutaye's school, 99 percent of whose 2,250 pupils are Uighur, pay testimony to the language dilemma.

The Chinese constitution promises the right to Xinjiang's 47 recognized minorities to learn in their own languages, but in reality Mandarin is crucial to everyday life as the province becomes increasingly "Sinoised." Ethnic-Chinese Han have grown from 300,000 or eight percent of the Xinjiang population when the communists took over in 1949 to about 6.6 million last year, 38.4 percent of the total, according to official data. Chinese in Urumqi, a rapidly growing city, now account for 80 percent of the population as more and more leave impoverished provinces elsewhere in the country. They have come to dominate completely

the economy of this mineral-rich province.

Uighurs, whose roots are in central Asia, still form the majority in Xinjiang, particularly in the South, but are aware that their culture and language is increasingly under threat. "Mandarin is the official language of the People's Republic of China and minorities must learn the official language," says Aziz Zukulla, the Uighur head teacher of a school which since 1992 has taught its more able pupils in bilingual Chinese-Uighur classes. "We want to give them the best chance in life, in particular to help them get into the leading Chinese universities," he adds. In his school's six bilingual classes, all lessons in mathematics, physics and chemistry are taught in Mandarin.

Like in Tibet, education authorities have a policy of teaching primary school children exclusively in the local language before progressively introducing Mandarin at later ages. Uighur groups abroad slam the policy as cultural genocide.

In theory, Uighurs can enter the universities of Xinjiang without knowing a word of Mandarin, but in practice mastery of the Chinese language is essential to winning a job in the provincial administration and to communicate with local Chinese officials, who rarely speak Uighur. Beijing has made some effort recently to address grievances by appointing more Uighurs to civil service jobs, in a bid to defuse tensions highlighted by separatists who are waging an

occasionally violent struggle. (Nov 4, 1998 *World Tibet Network News*)

We received the following request for teachers to work in China:

We need English teachers who are Esperantists and native speakers of English. Why Esperantists? By means of these teachers, who will be distributed throughout the land, we can spread the idea of Esperanto. People here tend to think of English as the "international" language; however they might believe an English-speaker who recommends Esperanto.

You do not need to be a professional teacher because in China people learn languages for diverse reasons and at different levels. We need teachers in universities, high schools and various other courses. Of course these earn different pay depending on grade and qualifications. Usually an English teacher receives 1500-200 RMB monthly and also a paid apartment. Although this sum is equal to just \$200, it is double that of a Chinese teacher, and would easily support three Chinese citizens.

In any case, enthusiasm for both Esperanto and China is crucial! For details, please contact: PENG Zhengming, 301 Dong 3-2, Meiyuan Xiaoqu, Fujiapo, Wuchang, Wuhan CN-430070, China

## Children's Drawings as Intercultural Links

A year ago an Esperantist student at the Teachers' College in Szombathely Hungary had the idea to collect children's drawings from around the world and analyze them from a psychological viewpoint. The theme was approved for her thesis and so she sent out requests. Thanks to Esperanto she received over 500 drawings from 14 countries. Katalin Borsos, the student in question, organized an exposition in early November which displayed 90 of the most interesting works. Many non-Esperantist teachers and students attended the opening, which took place at the usual Esperanto club meeting. Also present was Bengt Nordlöf from Sweden, whose presence quite naturally required the constant use of Esperanto to interpret the inaugural speeches of Borsos, her faculty sponsor, the department chair, and an avantgarde artist. The non-Esperantists in the audience listened with admiration, breathlessly wondering after each segment of the artist's speech whether the interpreter could possibly render into this "artificial" language these endless, scarcely understandable, highly poetic "thought-waves". The translator and the language succeeded well. The department chair expressed the desire to include Esperanto as one of the languages (in addition to English, German and Italian) which language teachers learn for use in elementary schools. She came to the opinion that Esperanto is much more easily usable by children and would destroy linguistic barriers between nations, as was demonstrated by the international collection of children's drawings. (from *Ret-info*)

## UEA meets ISO

Since 1990 UEA (World Esperanto Association) has had an official category A status with the Technical Committee TC 37 of the ISO (International Standards Organization). There are only 18 international organizations in this category, e.g. Unesco, World Health Organization, European Commission. As its name (Terminology: Principles and Co-ordination) suggests, the goal of Committee TC 37 is to create a basis for the terminology work of the other committees of ISO which are working for normalization in specific fields of industry, public administration, science, etc. The relations with this ISO committee are being handled by the Terminologia Esperanto-Centro, which recently published the *Terminologia Gvidilo*. [see p. 4 of this issue for a description] At the most recent (Aug 14, 1998) meeting of the Committee, Unesco presented a program on the "Multilingual Information Society", which dealt with the existence of technical lexicons of all specialized subjects as a condition for the survival of minor languages. (From *UEA gazetinformilo*)

## Esperanto Cafe in Montreal

On Aug 31, the Esperanto Cafe opened its doors in the center of Montreal's fashionable riverside business district. Its owner, Julie Martel, chose the name to emphasize the fact that she offers food and drinks from many parts of the world. Although she is neither an Esperantist nor a member of any Esperanto organization, she does support our movement. The name of the cafe will serve as an advertisement on an important and busy street. The Montreal Esperanto club now meets regularly at the new cafe. For information about the club or cafe contact Normand Fleury: [esperanto@sympatico.ca](mailto:esperanto@sympatico.ca).

Please send a congratulation card or (better yet!) a postcard with a picture of a local cafe to Ms. Martel at: Café Espéranto, 250 av. du Mont-Royal Est, Montréal PQ, Canada H2T 1P5.

## COMPUTER GAME IMPROVES YOUR ESPERANTO!

If you like to play computer games and at the same time check and improve your knowledge of the International Language, have a look at the new game *Frešo* which can be found at: [www.moskit.art.olsztyn.pl/fresxo](http://www.moskit.art.olsztyn.pl/fresxo).

The creator of this game, Krzysztof Tkacz, is the webmaster of the homepage for the Esperanto club in Olsztyn, Poland. The club is also named "Frešo". If you like the game, or have comments about it, please send them directly to Tkacz, who seeks further useful application of Esperanto. A cool bonus: if you visit the homepage of "Frešo" you can download an Esperanto-based screen saver. (from *Ret-info*)

# ELNA CORRESPONDENCE COURSES

**Learn Esperanto in the convenience of your own home through ELNA's Home Study Program!  
There is no time limit.**

*Each level is self-contained so that all you need is some spare time and a tape-recorder. In addition, your course will be guided by a qualified instructor of Esperanto who will give you the personal attention you need.  
Levels One and Two emphasize development of everyday conversational skills.*

**LEVEL ONE** • Using the textbook and cassette tape for the popular *Jen nia mondo 1* radio course, this twelve-lesson course will guide you to mastery of basic Esperanto.

COURSE MATERIALS: Workbook (32 pages), *Jen nia mondo 1* book (66 pages), *Jen nia mondo 1* audio cassette.  
**\$40.00** (+ \$1.60 sales tax for Californians)

**NOTE:** *If you already have the Jen nia mondo set for Level One, you may deduct \$15.10 from the price of the course (Californians deduct \$16.70).*

**LEVEL TWO** • This thirteen-lesson course focuses on a more detailed analysis of Esperanto as a language in its own right, and is recommended for the serious student as a follow-up to Level One.

COURSE MATERIALS: Workbook (53 pages), *Jen nia mondo 2* book (89 pages), *Jen nia mondo 2* audio cassette.  
**\$49.00** (+ \$2.05 sales tax for Californians)

**NOTE:** *If you already have the Jen nia mondo set for Level Two, you may deduct \$18.70 from the price of the course (Californians deduct \$20.75).*

Levels Three and Four, both completely in Esperanto and adapted from two popular Eastern European textbooks, focus on grammar and Esperanto history. Although they both contain word lists with Esperanto definitions, a good English-Esperanto dictionary would be helpful, especially for translation exercises. No cassette is included in the course materials; however, students are encouraged to exchange tapes with their instructors.

**LEVEL THREE** • Based on an Esperanto class's adventures and including fables, anecdotes and Esperanto history, this twenty-five lesson course uses progressively more complex texts for expanding vocabulary and polishing grammar.

COURSE MATERIALS: Workbook (183 pages) **\$53.50** (+ \$1.10 sales tax for Californians)

**LEVEL FOUR** • In the fourteen lessons of this course the student is exposed to the highlights of Esperanto history and culture and the fine points of Esperanto grammar, as well as to the art of translation.

COURSE MATERIALS: Workbook (98 pages) **\$33.00** (+ \$.75 sales tax for Californians)

## ELNA CORRESPONDENCE COURSE REGISTRATION FORM

Please return this form with payment to: *ELNA, PO Box 1129, El Cerrito CA 94530*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone/Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please enroll me in the correspondence course indicated below. I am enclosing \$\_\_\_\_\_.

LEVEL ONE

LEVEL TWO

LEVEL THREE

LEVEL FOUR

## NEW FROM THE BOOK SERVICE

**ANTOLOGIO LATINA**, *Translator and editor: Gerrit BERVELING*. This long-awaited anthology lives up to its promise, for the author delivers a wide range of material from the obviously great to the unjustifiably obscure – all in highly polished style which well reflects aspects of the original. Here you can taste the rich flavors of Latin literature much more accurately than in English translation. Two volumes. 1998. 576p. 210x140. Paper. Brazil.

**ANT008** \$45.50

**ARBO... KIU FORKURIS, LA**, *Martin BURKERT*. A charming story for children. Not merely cute, it informs readers about ecology and the importance of trees. Bi-lingual (Esperanto-Japanese) edition. 1990. 38p. 255x130. Bound. Japan.

**ARB001** \$15.40

**BRULANTA KASTELO, LA**, *Leopold VERMEIREN*. Trans. Ivo DURWAEL. An interesting story which reveals many aspects about medieval European life. Suitable for post-basic students or anybody who enjoys historical fiction about knights and courtly matters. 1997. 48p. 200x140. Paper. Belgium. ISBN 90-71205-71-1

**BRU001** \$5.10

**EL SISMA ZONO**, *Mikaelo GIŠPLING*. Begun as correspondence in verse sent to friends, this volume includes truly masterful poems which describe the state of society in post-Communist Russia, and many others which deal with issues universally human. Fine poetic sense, excellent versification and rich imagery. Introduction by William Auld. 1994. 109p. 200x140. Paper. Belgium. ISBN 90-71205-56-8

**ELS001** \$12.70

**ILI VIVIS SUR LA TERO**, *Maryvonne & Bruno ROBINEAU*. Div. trans. This amazing story of an eight-year trip all around the world visiting Esperantists and sharing their lives, dreams and work. Much more than a simple travelogue. This was the best-selling book during the World Congress last summer. Illustrated. 1998. 243p. 240x160. Paper. France. ISBN 2 908068 96 6

**ILI002** \$25.70

**KIEL ŜTALO ESTIS HARDATA**, *Nikolaj OSTROVSKIJ*. Trans. Solomon I. CINS. This inspiring novel was one of the most popular Russian books during the Soviet era. The author introduces us to noble youths who fight for social equality, brotherhood and justice, remaining ever loyal to the working class as they confront traitors and opportunists. 1997. 363p. 200x145. Bound. Russia.

**KIE003** \$13.80

**MIA PADO**, *Gerrit BERVELING*. A collection of twentyfive years worth of essays, reviews, poems, and interviews from this famous and important writer. Follow the author down the path of his life's work and share the depths of his spiritual thought. 1997. 311p. 210x120. Paper. Brazil.

**MIA003** \$26.90

**MURDOJ DE KADAVREJO-STRATO, LA**, *Edgar Allan POE*. Trans. Edwin GROBE. One of USA's most colorful writers presents challenges to a translator: see how Grobe solves them! Pass it on to an overseas friend after you have read it. 1998. 24p. 215x175. Paper. USA.

**MUR003** \$2.20

**NEĜA LANDO, KAWABATA Yasunari**. Trans. KONISI Gaku. The author won a Nobel prize for literature largely on the merits of this novel, which is published here as part of the series "Oriento-Okcidento" (#11). Second edition 1992. 119p. 210x145. Paper. Japan.

**NEG004** \$20.30

**RUĜDOMA SONGŌ (Vol. III)**, *GAO E*. Trans. XIE Yuming. The third and final volume of this vast and complex novel. Everyone who has begun reading this story will feel compelled to finish; and anyone who gets started here will want to go back to the previous volumes of this great epic. 1997. 627p. 200x140. Hardbound. China. ISBN 7-5052-0322-3

**REG003** \$30.00

**TERMINOLOGIA GVIDILO, Heidi SUONUUTI**. Trans. Sabine FIEDLER. A technical analysis of the process of creating standardized vocabularies for any branch of science, with special focus on the organization of the various tasks involved. This booklet should interest any aspiring linguist. (See article elsewhere in this issue for other details)1998. 38p. 210x150. Paper. Netherlands. ISBN 92-9017-057-3

**TER004** \$7.30

**TRI NOVELOJ, Nathaniel HAWTHORNE**. Trans. Edwin GROBE. Even these obscure short stories are worth re-reading. Grobe's highly polished translation is an excellent inducement to rediscover these little gems. An excellent gift for overseas friends who are unaware of American literature. 1998. 26p. 215x175. Paper. USA.

**TRI013** \$2.20

**URSO-KURSO (Lessons 1-6)**. This attractive package will appeal to small children who are fond of bears, cats and other cute animals. The course aims at learning words for numbers, colors, shapes, body parts and family members. Consists of: Workbook (36p. 295x210), Teachers' Guide (32p. 295x210), one audio cassette and a deck of 36 playing cards (105x75). More lessons will be published soon. England. 1997.

**URS002** \$39.20

**VULPO KAJ LA VINBEROJ, LA, Guilherme FIGUEIREDO**. Trans. Benedicto SILVA. A famous and funny play whose characters are ancient Greeks: a philosopher, his wife, an army captain and several slaves. They wrestle with the importance and the dangers of personal freedom. Of course, the rule of force and women's (non)freedom are discussed. 1997. 90p. 210x140. Paper. Brazil.

**VUL003** \$10.40

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