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SSILA BUSINESS

The 1982 SSILA election ballot is being distributed with this issue of the Newsletter to all members of the Society as of September 15, 1982. Ballots should be returned to the Secretary-Treasurer in a signed envelope (the ballot itself should not be signed) by November 1, 1982. The results of the election will be announced at the Annual Business Meeting on December 7th.

The preliminary program of the 2nd Annual Meeting of the Society (the XXIth Conference on American Indian Languages, held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Washington, DC, Dec. 3-7, 1982) is also being distributed with this issue of the Newsletter. Extra copies for posting and distribution may be obtained from the Secretary-Treasurer. A program update, and the agenda of the Business Meeting, will be distributed at the beginning of the CAIL sessions on December 4th.

The annual Business Meeting of the Society will be held in the Caucus Room of the Washington Hilton, Tuesday, December 7, 1982, from noon to 1 p.m.

CORRESPONDENCE

Would a worthwhile project for SSILA be the development of a cataloguing system for American Indian language books for the Library of Congress? We are all aware of how impossible the present system is, and it looks like I and the U of Alaska library are going to try to submit a sensible scheme to the LC for at least Alaskan books. But that raises the question of the whole of North America (and CA & SA), if one is to move in that direction. Could we locate anyone at LC who is interested, and in a position to institute a new system, and work with them to develop such?

--Michael Krauss, U of Alaska

[The Executive Committee will discuss this proposal during the fall, and perhaps make informal inquiries at the Library of Congress. How do other SSILA members feel about the urgency and feasibility of a new cataloguing system?--Ed.]

OBITUARY: ALEXANDER LESSER

Alexander Lesser, an anthropologist and anthropological linguist who belonged to the last generation directly trained by Franz Boas, died in New York on August 7th, at the age of 79. During his long career Lesser held teaching positions at Columbia, Brandeis, Brooklyn College, and Hofstra. Douglas
Parks (Mary College, Bismarck, ND) has sent us the following appreciation of Lesser's contribution to American Indian linguistics:

Although his primary interests were social philosophy and ethnological theory, Lesser collected a considerable amount of diverse linguistic material early in his career, much of it consisting of kinship terminologies. In 1928–29 he recorded numerous schedules for Siouan, Caddoan, and other groups in Oklahoma, and for the eastern Pueblo and other groups in the Southwest, in an attempt to map the distribution of types of kinship systems in the region. The Siouan terminologies were incorporated into his dissertation, Siouan Kinship.

Lesser's major linguistic work was with the Caddoan groups in Oklahoma, particularly the Kitsai, whose language was on the verge of extinction. During the summers of 1929 and 1930 he worked with the last fluent Kitsai speaker, who also spoke Wichita but no English. From her he recorded a large collection of Kitsai texts and grammatical notes that have saved this otherwise undocumented language from oblivion. Later he compiled a lexical slip-file based primarily on the texts. Also he recorded some linguistic texts while collecting ethnological data on Wichita.

Lesser's contributions to American Indian linguistics and ethnography are important and enduring; but since most of the materials he collected have not yet been published, their full significance is generally unrecognized.

(H-6) Interior Salish linguistics. Organizer: Prof. Anthony Mattina, D of Anthropology, U of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812.

(H-14) Bilingualism/bilingual ed for indigenous groups in Latin America. Organizer: Dr. Arlene P. Scanlon, D of Educational Development, U of Delaware, Newark, DE 19711.


All of these sessions are scheduled for Phase II of the Congress, to be held in Vancouver, August 20–25. Persons interested in participating in one of these symposia should contact the organizer. Papers not directly relevant to any of the scheduled sessions may still be submitted to the Congress Secretariat. Deadline for submission of all titles and abstracts, and for Congress registration, is January 1, 1983. For more information, including a copy of the full Preliminary Program, write: Xith ICAES, D of Anthropology and Sociology, UBC, Vancouver, BC, Canada V6T 2B2.

New Series Planned on Maya Hieroglyphics

The first volume in a new series tentatively entitled Recent Contributions to Maya Hieroglyphic Decipherment is now in preparation. Planned as a continuing series of monograph length volumes, RCMHD will provide an appropriate forum for disseminating recent and continuing research on Maya glyph decipherment which, for reasons of brevity and because of the specialized nature of such research, is not amenable to treatment in professional journals or other normal publication channels. Each volume in the series will consist of approximately 200–250 pages and will contain both short and longer contributions, averaging 5–10 pages in length. Papers will address decipherment
from an epigraphic, iconographic, or linguistic viewpoint, and contributions will be reviewed by a revolving editorial committee. Contributions to Volume One of RCMHD will include, but not be limited to, papers by Floyd Louinbur, Peter Mathews, John Justeson, Mary Ellen Miller, Pierre Ventur, Stephen Houston, Karl Taube, and Anne Dowd.

Volume One of RCMHD—as well as future volumes, provided that the first is successful—will be available on demand through the HRAFLEX Books program of the Human Relations Area Files, Inc. (HRAF) of New Haven. Publication of material in the HRAFLEX series does not preclude publication elsewhere in conventional form at any time. Volume One of RCMHD is scheduled for release in November of 1982 and may be ordered directly from HRAF, P.O. Box 2015 Yale Station, New Haven, CT 06520. Projected cost is $15 per volume, postpaid.

Those wishing to submit contributions for review should contact Mr. Stephen Houston, D of Anthropology, Yale U, New Haven, CT 06520.

The Aymara Foundation
Dr. Lucy T. Briggs, President of the Aymara Foundation, Inc., has sent SILAA a copy of the Foundation's report for 1981. The activities of the Aymara Foundation are directed toward assisting native speakers of the Aymara language in Bolivia and Peru with projects related to the development of literacy and literature in the language. During 1981 the Foundation aided in the establishment of libraries in rural schools and Aymara literacy courses for adults, assisted the Instituto de Lenga y Cultura Aymara in similar activities, and helped a group in Ingavi province of La Paz purchase a mimeograph machine. Criteria for grant awards and procedures for their administration were developed that reflect and respect Aymara sociocultural values. A total of about $1,350 was distributed during the year. Dr. Briggs writes:

Slowly but steadily, the Foundation is developing a model of assistance that accurately reflects Aymara concerns with reciprocity and mutuality, by letting Aymara members take the lead in determining criteria for grant awards. The small scale of our efforts in terms of money is, in this context, an asset. The model also permits a high degree of personal involvement of members in its activities, as well as careful attention to detail, features often absent from larger-scale efforts.

For further information, write the Aymara Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 12127, University Station, Gainesville, FL 32604.

What's in a name?
[The following item is reprinted from the Boston Globe, August 3, 1982.]

An American Indian named Fox Tree asked the Cambridge City Council last night to change the name of the Charles River to the Kwa Na Ha Nee river.

He asked the name be changed in remembrance and gratitude for the 100,000 years of contributions that Indians have made to world civilization.

Kwa Na Ha Nee, according to Fox Tree, means "Site of the waters, Great Mother Homeland, place of the birth of all Native First People and First Nations, the Turtle Island."

The council listened attentively for about 45 minutes, asked him several questions, but in the end decided that the request was outside its statutory powers....

Special issues of AMERINDIA on American Indian linguistic research in France

Eastern Ojibwa and Ottawa Dictionary Project
The U of Michigan, D of Linguistics, has received a 2-year grant from NEH to produce an extensive dictionary of Eastern Ojibwa and Ottawa. The project will cover the area of
southern Ontario and the lower peninsula of Michigan, as well as Manitoulin Island. The final dictionary will incorporate both older published material from these regions as well as develop new materials based on extensive fieldwork. Irving "Hap" McCue is the principal consultant, and Richard Rhodes is the project director.

Maximillian Expedition Commemorative Calendar

The Newberry Library, Chicago, is celebrating the 150th anniversary of Prince Maximillian of Wied's famous expedition up the Missouri River in 1833 by publishing a 1983 commemorative wall calendar. The calendar features full-color illustrations selected from the Library's collection of Karl Bodmer's sketches of Plains Indians, and also includes a detailed map of the expedition's route and month-by-month accounts of the progress of the journey. The text is in both English and German. The calendar may be ordered from The Newberry Library Bookshop, 60 West Walton St., Chicago, IL 60610. The price is $6.95, plus $1.50 for postage and handling (and 7% sales tax for residents of Illinois).

Linguist Wanted

A position is available at the Alaska Native Language Center, U of Alaska, for a linguist who is prepared to: (1) undertake field research in several Alaskan Athabaskan languages; (2) work with schools in developing pedagogical materials, especially for Athabaskan as a second language; (3) train Native speakers in literacy and language documentation skills; and (4) work with school districts on questions arising from language convergence situations. Candidates must have an MA in linguistics or language pedagogy, or equivalent experience in one or more Athabaskan language, and must have a willingness to travel to and spend extended periods of time in rural Alaskan communities. Contact: Director, ANLC, 302 Chapman Bldg., 516 Ambler Lane, Fairbanks, AK 99701 (907-474-7874). The contract period is October to July and the position is available immediately. Salary will be in the Instructor range at the U of Alaska.

Jacobs Fund Grants

The Melville and Elizabeth Jacobs Research Fund invites applications for small individual grants to support research on Native American cultures, primarily of northwestern North America. The Fund is designed to facilitate field research rather than analysis of previously collected materials. Appropriate are field studies of any aspect of culture and society, with emphasis on expressive, conceptual, and purely linguistic systems. (Projects in archaeology, physical anthropology, urban anthropology, and applied anthropology or applied linguistics will not be funded). Awards range from $200 to approximately $800; salary cannot be supplied, and only minimum living expenses can be considered. For further information and application forms, contact the Melville and Elizabeth Jacobs Research Fund, Whatcom Museum of History & Art, 121 Prospect St., Bellingham, WA 98225. Application deadline is February 15, 1983.

REGIONAL NETWORKS

[Additions, updates, and special announcements only. A full directory of regional conferences, newsletters, journals, and special publication series will be published annually in the February Newsletter.]

ATHABASKAN/ESKIMO-ALEUT

--Athabaskan Languages Conference. The Alaska Native Language Center is planning to host a 4-5 day Athabaskan Languages Conference at the U of Alaska, Fairbanks, some time between May 17 and June 11, 1983. For further information: Ruth Ridley or James Kari, ANLC, U of Alaska, Fairbanks 99701.


ALGONQUIAN/IOQUOTIAN

--14th Algonquian Conference. Quebec City, Oct. 29-31, 1982. Deadline for titles and abstracts was Sept. 10. Final program will
be available on Sept. 17. Contact: Prof. William Cowan, Linguistics, Carleton U, Ottawa, Ontario K1S 5B6.

--Cree Ajemoon, a bilingual magazine from the Cree of Quebec, is now available by subscription. Each issue has news of the region in English and Cree (in syllabics). $12 (plus $2 outside Canada) for 8 issues, payable to Cree Ajemoon, 1500 Sullivan Rd, Val d’Or, Quebec J9P 1M1.

--Tuscarora Literacy Conference. In the spring of 1981 a conference series devoted to the development of literacy in the Tuscarora language was initiated by speakers of that language. Four meetings have so far been held and another was planned for late summer, 1982. Contact: Blair A. Rudes, 708 Manor Rd. # 302, Alexandria, VA 22305.

NORTHWEST


CALIFORNIA/OREGON

--1983 Hokan-Penutian Conference. Tentatively scheduled for UC-San Diego, June 16-18, 1983. Contact: Margaret Langdon, D of Linguistics, UCSD, La Jolla, CA 92093.

UTO-AZTECAN

--Uto-Aztecan Conference on Ethno-Linguistics. First conference held March 29-30, 1982, at the Southwest Center, U of Arizona, Tucson. Next conference is scheduled to be held in Sisoguchi, Chihuahua, in June, 1983, and will focus on locational systems and address systems. Contact: Carlos Caraveo, Centro de Estudios Regionales, Universidad Autonoma de Chihuahua, Chihuahua City, Chih., Mexico; or Dr. Mardith Schuetz, Southwest Center, U of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721.

MAYAN

--Recent Contributions to Maya Hieroglyph Decipherment. New series. [See p. 2 above.]

ANDEAN

--Boletín Indigenista Chile. Articles and reports of current research --including linguistics--on indigenous groups in Chile. $12 (US) per year (3 issues). Order from: Manuel Romo Sanchez, Director, BIC, Clasificador 182, Santiago, Chile.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

A Bibliography of Inuit (Eskimo) Linguistics in Collections of the Metropolitan Toronto Library. Compiled by Barry Edwards, in collaboration with Mary Love. Metro Toronto Library Board, Languages Centre, 789 Yonge St., Toronto, Ontario M4W 2G8. 36 pp. No price. [About 250 entries. The Languages Centre of the Metro Toronto Library is rapidly becoming one of the most valuable research collections for Eskimo, Algonquin, and Iroquoian languages in North America.]

University of Northern Colorado, Museum of Anthropology: Occasional Publications in Anthropology. Recent titles:


Order from: Museum of Anthropology, U of N Colorado, Greeley, CO 80639. Checks should be made payable to "Museum of Anthropology".

Meet Cree: a guide to the language. H. Christopher Wolfart and Janet F. Carroll. U of Nebraska Press/U of Alberta Press. xxv+116 pp. 1981. $12.50. [This is a new and completely revised edition of a 1973 book "addressed mainly to teachers, nurses, and other Euro-Canadians who live and work in Cree-speaking communities" and also "widely used...as background reading in spoken language programs". This new edition also attempts to reach "the general reader who may turn to a brief book on the Cree language simply from curiosity". With Wolfart's background in Algonquian linguistics, and Carroll's experience in second language teaching, this is far and away the best practical introduction to an American Indian language that I have seen in years.--Ed.]


The Newberry Library Center for the History of the American Indian, Bibliographical Series. Indiana University Press. Recent titles:


Canadian Indian Policy. Robert J. Surtees. 128 pp. 1982. $4.95.


Order from: Indiana UP, 10th and Morton Sts., Bloomington, IN 47405. Add $1.50 per order for postage and handling.

América—Die Neue oder die Alte Welt? Werner Müller. Dietrich Reimer Verlag, Unter den Eichen 57, 1000 Berlin 45. 300 pp. DM 48.—. [An attempt to demonstrate that Northern Europe was the main point of origin for the early migrations into N America. Much attention is given to possible Eskimo-Indo European inter-influences, and other linguistic evidence of pre-Columbian connections between Europe and the New World. Müller's argument takes an especially novel turn when he suggests that N American cultures were the source of some late Paleolithic developments in Europe.]

Sound Recordings in Native American Languages: A Catalogue. Catherine Rodriguez-Nieto. Language Laboratory, U of California, Berkeley. xi + 89 pp. 1982. No price. [A catalogue of the tape recordings that have been deposited in the Language Laboratory archives at Berkeley, mainly by field workers for the Survey of California and Other Indian Languages. Not all are available for duplication without restrictions, but this catalogue is a giant stride toward making this valuable material more accessible to scholars and Native groups. As the editor points out, in the case of some languages no longer spoken (such as Chumash or Shasta) the tape recordings in the Berkeley archives "constitute the only audible record that will remain of them".]

1980-81 DISSERTATIONS

University Microfilms International lists the following dissertations on American indigenous languages in their most recent catalogue. The publication number (in parentheses following each entry) must be cited when ordering copies.


Begay, Joe Y., English Reading Competence of Navajo Students in Public and Bureau of Indian Affairs Schools. Ph.D. 1980, Arizona. (RTA81-05308)


Harris, Herbert R., A Grammatical Sketch of Comox. Ph.D. 1981, Kansas. (RTA81-28776)


Iris, Madelyn A., Navajo Children's Lexical Development and the Acquisition of World View. Ph.D. 1981, Northwestern. (RTA81-24911)


Morgan, Mary M., Language Change in Progress in Totontepec, Oaxaca, Mexico. Ph.D. 1980, Georgetown. (RTA81-01472)


Woodbury, Anthony C., Study of the Chevak Dialect of Central Yup'ik Eskimo. Ph.D. 1981, UC Berkeley. (RTA82-00308)

Copies of these dissertations may be ordered from University Microfilms International, 300 North Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48106. Orders may also be placed by telephone through 800-521-3042 (313-761-4700 from Michigan, Alaska and Hawaii, 800-268-6090 from Canada). Microform copies are $10 each, paper copies $20 each ($25 for hard covers). Add $1.50 + $1.00 per title for microform copies, or $1.50 + $2.00 per copy for paper copies. These prices are valid for academic addresses in the US and Canada only. For prices outside the US and Canada call or write UMI.

IN CURRENT PERIODICALS

Anthropological Linguistics [D of Anthropology, Indiana U, Bloomington, IN 47405]

24.1 (Spring 1982):

Barry F. Carlson and Laurence C. Thompson, "Out of Control in Two (Maybe More) Salish Languages" (51-65)

M. Dale Kinkade, "Columbian (Salish) C2-Reduplication" (66-72)

Brian Stross, "Maya Hieroglyphic Writing and Mixe-Zoquean" (73-133)

24.2 (Summer 1982):

James L. Armagost, "The Temporal Relationship Between Telling and Happening in Comanche Narrative" (193-200)

Current Anthropology [U of Chicago Press, 5801 S Ellis Av, Chicago, IL 60637]

23.3 (June 1982):

M. J. Hardman, "On Language and Aymara Personality" (327)

Glossa [D of Languages, Literature and Linguistics, Simon Fraser U, Burnaby, BC Canada V5A 1S6]


Kenneth L. Miner, "Discussion: The Order
of Dakota Person Affixes: The Rest of the Data" (35-42)

Linda J. Schwartz, "Reply to Miner" (43-44)

14.2 (1981):

R. D. Levine, "Passives and Controllability in Kwakwala" (139-167)

A. Mattina, "Imperative Formations in Colville-Okanagan and in the Other Salishan Languages" (212-232)

International Journal of American Linguistics [U of Chicago Press, 5801 S Ellis Av, Chicago, IL 60637]

48.3 (July 1982):

"Issue dedicated to Charles F. Voegelin in recognition of his contribution to our understanding of Human Linguistic Diversity."

Ken Hale, "Preface" (243-4)

LaVerne Masayesva Jeanne, "Some Phonological Rules of Hopi" (245-270)

Alice Neundorf, "Terminology Development in Navajo" (271-276)

Ellavina Perkins, "Extraposition of Relative Clauses in Navajo" (277-285)

Paul Platero, "Missing Noun Phrases and Grammatical Relations in Navajo" (286-305)

Josie White Eagle, "Teaching Scientific Inquiry and the Winnebago Language" (306-319)

Ofelia Zepeda, "'O'odham ha-Cegitodag/ Pima and Papago Thoughts" (320-326)

Journal of Mayan Linguistics [D of Anth, U of Iowa, Iowa City, IA 52242]

3.1 (Fall 1981):

Judith Aissen, "Introduction to the Tzotzil Papers" (3-4)

Margaret M. Fleck, "Tzotzil Numeral Root Morphology" (5-24)

Brian McHugh, "A Description of KVj/n Suffixes in Tzotzil" (25-46)

Harriet Magen, "Stem Reduplication in Tzotzil" (47-60)

Donald A. Ringe, Jr., "Tzotzil Affect Verbs" (61-86)

Language [LSA Subscription Services, 428 E Preston St, Baltimore, MD 21202]

58.2 (June 1982):

Robert A. Dooley, "Options in the Pragmatic Structuring of Guarani Sentences" (307-310)

La linguistique [Societe internationale de linguistique fonctionelle, 45 rue des Ecoles, 75005 Paris]

18.1 (1982):

Pierre Martin, "L'Obviatif en Montagnais" (145-149)

Lingua [N-Holland Publishing Co, P.O. Box 211, Amsterdam, The Netherlands]

57.1 (May 1982):


Linguistics and Philosophy [D. Reidel Publishing Co, P.O. Box 17, 3300 AA Dordrecht, Holland]

4.4 (1982):

Geoffrey K. Pullum and Gerald Gazdar, "Natural Languages and Context-Free Languages" (471-504) [Mohawk data is extensively discussed.]

Working Papers in Sociolinguistics [Southwest Educational Development Laboratory, 211 E 7th St, Austin, TX 78701]

98 (July 1982):

Anthony C. Woodbury, "Switch Reference, Syntactic Organization, and Rhetorical Structure in Central Yup'ik Eskimo"

NOTE TO COMPUTER USERS

The growing availability of relatively inexpensive micro- and mini-computers is having a deep impact on linguistics, and this is especially true of such data-oriented subfields as American Indian linguistics. Significant amounts of work are now being done with computer assistance, and most of us are at the very least curious about the potential costs and benefits of using computers in such time-consuming tasks as compiling dictionaries and concordances, storing and
editing large amounts of textual data, etc. It has been suggested that the SSILA Newsletter should serve as a forum for the discussion and evaluation of computer aided research in American Indian linguistics.

To this end, the Editor would like to ask for the assistance of one or more colleagues who have had some experience with computers and who might enjoy editing a short column in the Newsletter. The Editor would also like to hear from people about their experiences with various hardware (especially micro-computers) and software, and about their successes and frustrations.

If the response warrants it, a "Computer Users Corner" will appear in the Newsletter beginning in December.

SSILA welcomes applications for membership from all those who are interested in the scholarly study of the languages of the native peoples of North, Central, and South America. Dues are $3.00 per year. Checks or money orders should be made payable to "SSILA" and sent to the Secretary-Treasurer: Victor Golla, Department of Anthropology, George Washington University, Washington, DC 20052, USA.