

## Winter 2017



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Newsletter of the German Language Division of  
the American Translators Association



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## Editorial

Dear Readers,

As the world has watched—you might say with shock and awe—a dramatic changing of the guard in Washington, another one has taken place, albeit much quieter and more graciously. Ruth Boggs was elected and officially became our new GLD Administrator at the division's annual meeting on November 4, 2016, at the ATA 57th Annual Conference in San Francisco. And despite any alternative facts you might have heard, she gave her inaugural address in front of a packed house of GLD members—the largest gathering of GLD members ever! (Really, folks, it's true).

Ruth takes over at a historic moment. The GLD turned 20 in 2016. And wouldn't you know, it all started right there in the City by the Bay. Find out more about the **GLD's humble beginnings** on the website. But before you do, turn the page and read Ruth's very first "Word from the Administrator," followed by the minutes to the annual meeting. Keep going to get the scoop on the GLD List—and a good laugh—in Gerhard Preisser's annual report.

GLD members in Europe gathered for our fourth annual workshop on February 11. In her (Translation) Notes from the Homeland on **page 8**, written as this issue was "going to print" in January, GLD European Coordinator, Karen Leube, was pretty sure she knew what the Kaffeeklatsch would be about.

Back at ATA57 in San Francisco, new GLD member Stelle Waltemade was one of the many newbies at our association's flagship conference. She just couldn't help herself — California was calling! Stella shares her

story on **13**. Lea Rennert is another newbie: my new editor. Learn about the person behind the red pen on **page 14**.

For some of us, a journey in search of spiritual enlightenment might be just what the doctor ordered. The **Camino de Santiago** is a large network of ancient pilgrim routes stretching across Europe and walked by hundreds of thousands every year. In 2016, GLD member Linda Marianiello was one of them. Read about her journey on **page 16**.

ATA recently completed a journey of sorts, one that ended in the launch of the new computerized ATA certification exam. The Colorado Translators Association (CTA) was one of the first ATA chapters to offer the exam. GLD member and CTA President, Marion Rhodes, shared a first-hand account recently on the CTA blog, which we've reprinted on **page 19**.

The journeys of translators and interpreters are as diverse as the languages we speak and the areas in which we specialize. But we all have things in common, one of which is the need to maintain our second—or third, or fourth—language. ATA member Eve Lindemuth Bodeux has published a comprehensive guide on how to do just that. Find a review by fellow ATA member Beth Smith, which originally appeared in *The ATA Chronicle*, on **page 21**.

Finally, if you need help planning your journey through the year 2017, be sure to check out the calendar of events at the end of this issue.

Mit besten Grüßen aus dem Rheinland  
Matt Baird

### Displaying the ATA logo is a benefit that some members overlook.

If you don't, you're missing out on an important way ATA can work for you. All ATA members may access and use the ATA logo. Learn more **here**.



## A Word From the Administrator

Liebe Kolleginnen und Kollegen,

Grüße aus dem frühlingshaften Northern Virginia, wo nach einem sehr milden Winter schon die Osterglocken blühen und in Washington, D.C. sogar erste Knospen bereits die Kirschblüte andeuten.

Es ist zwar schon ein paar Monate her, aber ich hoffe, ihr habt das Neue Jahr gut angefangen.

Auch ATA57 ist mittlerweile Geschichte. 199 GLD-Mitglieder nahmen an der Konferenz in San Franzisko teil. Bei unserem „Annual Meeting“ fand auch die Administrator-Amtsübergabe von Michael Engley an mich statt. Ich freue mich über das mir entgegengebrachte Vertrauen und werde mich bemühen, euren Erwartungen gerecht zu werden.

Mehr zum Annual Meeting und dem aktuellen Leadership Council in den Minutes auf [Seite 4](#).

Hier in Washington, D.C. haben wir im Januar die Amtseinführung des 45. Präsidenten hinter uns gebracht. Jetzt werfen große Ereignisse ihre Schatten voraus – allen voran natürlich ATA58!

Die Jahreskonferenz 2017 ist praktisch ein Heimspiel für mich. Daher ist meiner Mitstreiterin **Melissa Field** und mir besonders daran gelegen, sie für die GLD zu einem Erfolg zu machen. Der Grundstein dafür ist gelegt.

Als Guest Speaker für die Konferenz haben wir der ATA Frau Karin Königs vorgeschlagen. Frau Königs unterrichtete 20+ Jahre lang am Fachbereich Sprachen der Fachhochschule Köln mit den Schwerpunkten „Übersetzen allgemeinsprachlicher Texte Englisch-Deutsch“ und strukturbedingte Übersetzungsprobleme. Seit 2006 bietet sie freiberuflich Workshops und seit 2016 auch Webinare zum Thema „Systembedingte Übersetzungsprobleme Englisch-Deutsch“ an. Sie ist Autorin des Lehrbuchs *Übersetzen Englisch-Deutsch – Lernen mit System* (Oldenbourg Verlag, München, 3. Auflage, 2011).

Sollte unser Vorschlag von der ATA angenommen werden, wird Frau Königs zwei einstündige Vorträge halten, von denen wir uns viele praxisbezogene Informationen erhoffen.

Natürlich hoffen wir, auch von euch viele *proposals* zu bekommen, um das Angebot für die GLD abzurunden. Wir haben viel Talent und Fachwissen in den eigenen Reihen und es wäre schade, wenn das nicht weitergegeben würde.

Auch was unser *social event* in Washington, D.C. betrifft, sind wir bereits eifrig bei der Sache. Mit meinem quasi-Nachbarn **Gerhard Preisser** – nicht nur in seiner Kapazität als Listmaster, sondern auch in Sachen „Geselliges Beisammensein“ leistungstark und kampferprobt – werde ich mich demnächst auf die Socken machen, um potenzielle Optionen zu auszuloten. Erste Ergebnisse dazu hoffentlich im nächsten Interaktiv.

Unser Leadership Council ist ebenfalls nicht untätig. **Matt Baird** ist dabei, **Lea Rennert** den Job des Newsletter Editors schmackhaft zu machen. **Jessica Lucio** arbeitet intensiv an einer deutschen Version unserer Webseite ([www.ata-divisions.org/GLD/20016/](http://www.ata-divisions.org/GLD/20016/)).

**Karen Leube** führte am 11. Februar erfolgreich den „European Workshop“ in Karlsruhe durch und wird hoffentlich zu gegebener Zeit darüber berichten. **Carlie Sitzman** ist in Sachen New Member + Proofreading Coordinator aktiv, und **Sarah Allen** und **Sandra Jones** bemühen sich, unsere Präsenz in den sozialen Medien auszubauen. **Michael Engley** ist unser Conference Coordinator und sammelt die hoffentlich zahlreich eingehenden *Proposals*.

Soweit also mein „Sitrep“. Ich wünsche euch ein weiterhin erfolgreiches und natürlich umsatzstarkes Jahr!

Ruth Boggs  
GLD Administrator



**Ruth Boggs** joined ATA in 1991 and is certified in German>English & English>German. She holds an M.A. in Writing from George Mason University. Before becoming a full-time freelance translator & interpreter in 1995, she was assigned to the German Embassy in Washington, D.C. Ruth has traveled the United States extensively as a State Department contract interpreter. She lives in Fairfax, Virginia and can be reached at [rutheboggs@gmail.com](mailto:rutheboggs@gmail.com)

[Click here to read the English version.](#)

## German Language Division Minutes from the 2016 Annual Meeting ATA's 57th Annual Conference in San Francisco

The annual meeting of the German Language Division of the American Translators Association was held on Friday, November 4, 2016, at the Hyatt Regency. The meeting was called to order at 4:45 p.m. by Division Administrator Michael Engley.

Agendas for the meeting were distributed while Michael welcomed the group in his opening remarks. Michael moved to accept the agenda, and this movement was seconded by Ruth Gentes-Krawczyk. Michael also moved to accept last year's minutes as printed in the *interaktiv*. This movement was seconded by Matt Baird.

Michael Engley offered his report on sessions at the annual conference. Members of the GLD submitted ten proposals for sessions at this year's conference, of which seven were accepted. Members also presented in a number of other divisions. All members presenting at this year's conference were asked to stand, and were recognized and thanked for their contributions. First-time attendees were also addressed and encouraged to volunteer with the GLD.

Jessica Lucio, the GLD's webmaster, was greeted and thanked before providing her report. The new GLD website is up and running. A German version is in the works. **E-mail feedback** (suggestions, errors, etc.) to Jessica is requested.

Matt Baird, the newsletter editor, was invited to provide his report. The *interaktiv* is published semi-annually in the winter and

summer via link to download a PDF version.

The newsletter is truly interactive in that there are links embedded throughout the issue to allow the reader to directly reach additional information, full versions on other websites or email addresses. Issues normally include a number of current reports, articles and reviews along with a calendar of events. New issues are focused on a theme such as

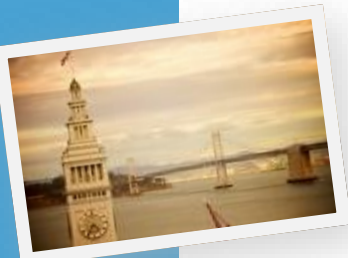
"Did you know?". Please **let Matt know** of any conference sessions presented outside of the GLD, as the summer issue will highlight those.

Thanks were extended to everyone who has contributed to the last issues. Katrin Rippel

Galati, who has worked very hard on the design and layout of *interaktiv*, was recognized and thanked, along with Kimberley Scherer and Ute Kegel who proofread the galleys. Matt could use some help with the calendar session and encouraged anyone interested to contact him. Matt also took this opportunity to request other submissions for *interaktiv* including articles for reprint or blogs.

Carlie Sitzman was invited to give her report on the proofreading pool and new members. She welcomed all new members and provided handouts with links and information to all GLD resources. The handout also provided a link to the proofreading pool. Carlie then explained the purpose and the structure of the proofreading pool. The ongoing issue of how to contact new members to the GLD is still being assessed by ATA headquarters, and there is no timeline for resolution.

"The new GLD website is up and running. A German version is in the works. E-mail feedback (suggestions, errors, etc.) to Jessica is requested."



ATA57 San Francisco  
Photo credits by Jeff  
Sanfacon



As the EU coordinator, Karen Leube reported that there are now GLD members from 6 countries in Europe. Their primary contact is on a Yahoo list. The EU social events have become very popular, now extending over two or more days and consisting of both social and educational sessions. The next event is planned in February in Karlsruhe. Christiane Nord, author of *Hürden-Sprünge, Ein Plädoyer für mehr Mut beim Übersetzen* will be the featured speaker. Karen encouraged any interested GLD members living in EU to contact her.

Sandy Jones, social media coordinator, reported that the GLD Facebook page now has 251 "likes." The new Twitter account was designed with the same look as the Facebook page. It has been up and running for a few weeks now, so please follow it if you are on Twitter: @ATA\_GLD.

Gerhard Preisser, our "listmaster" of the GLD listserv, shared his annual report with those present. It was, as always, both entertaining and informative. A retrospective of the list membership and activity since our last annual meeting, the report mentions some of the more "pikant" and "humorvolle" excerpts from the posts, and yet also provided food for thought. Despite an ever increasing number of subscribers (now 476), the number of postings has dropped by half since a high point in 2009. A record number of threads also had to be closed last year (6). Could it be that our members have found other platforms on which to engage with one another? Gerhard's plea is for those members to come back, we need you and you know who you are. There was brief discussion of migrating to another platform away from Yahoo, e.g. Google groups, but such a move could be very time and work intensive.

Michael presented Melissa Field with a certificate from the ATA thanking her for her past two years as assistant administrator

Election results were announced: the new division administrator is Ruth Boggs. The assistant administrator is Melissa Field. Ruth presented Michael with a certificate from the ATA thanking him for serving as division administrator for two years. Ruth thanked him for his hard work over the past two years.

Ruth addressed the room, acknowledging the historical significance of this year's meeting. This represents the GLD's twentieth year. With the help of Claudia Kellersch, the GLD was formed in 1997 at the ATA conference in San Francisco. All past administrators were asked to stand. Many improvements and developments implemented over the years were mentioned, and Ruth encouraged the submission of further ideas for improvement. Ruth then asked those in attendance to offer any suggestions for speakers at next year's conference in Washington D.C. to be held on October 25–28, 2017.

For next year's conference, there were several suggestions for speakers and sessions:

–Jill Sommer suggested a speaker from the FBI to address the topic of wiretapping.

–Brigitte Hillebrecht suggested a speaker on the topic of Normenwesen, differences between the US and Europe.

–Marita Marcano Baulesch suggested Karin Königs, a highly regarded E>G translator offering a number of workshops, seminars and webinars on translation skills. This would meet the need for more high-level sessions aimed at more experienced translators.

–Matt Baird suggested conducting a "translation slam" like the FLD had this year.

–Jill Sommer suggested holding a raffle next year.

–There was also a suggestion for Robin Bonthron to speak on the topic of Brexit.

The annual meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Melissa Field



ATA57 San Francisco  
Photo credits by Jeff  
Sanfacon



After starting out as a university teacher, Gerhard decided to pursue a career as a full-time E>G translator some 20 years ago. He has been in charge of the GLD List since 2009 and lives with his family and the mandatory "translator dog" in Manassas, Virginia. [xlator@comcast.net](mailto:xlator@comcast.net)

## Jahresbericht von Gerhard Preisser, GLD List Owner

Eigentlich wollte ich ja eine ganz spezielle Gruppe unter uns besonders herzlich begrüßen, nämlich – und ich zitiere hier aus einer Wortmeldung auf der Liste vom vergangenen August – die „vertrocknete[n], verbitterten[n], humorlose[n], vom Leben enttäuschte[n], verkrachte[n] Existenzen“. Aber wenn ich meinen Blick so in die Runde schweifen lasse, muss ich erkennen, dass uns die Vertreter dieser Fraktion offenbar versetzt haben. Oder könnte es sein, dass es die gar nicht gibt? Wie auch immer, ich freue mich sehr, dass sich so viele erfolgreiche, dynamische und offenbar durchaus mit Humor gesegnete Übersetzer und Dolmetscher heute eingefunden haben, um unserer Jahresversammlung beizuwohnen und den Jahresbericht für das Jahr 2016 zur Kenntnis zu nehmen, den ich in meiner Eigenschaft als Listmaster der GLD-Liste hiermit vorlege.

Ich möchte die an dieser Stelle üblichen statistischen Hinweise auf zwei Zahlen beschränken: 476 und 4107. 476: So viele Mitglieder hatten wir mit Stand vom 28. Oktober 2016; das sind 10 mehr als zum gleichen Zeitpunkt des letzten Jahres. Es gelingt uns also weiterhin, neue Listenmitglieder zu gewinnen – ein Trend, der jetzt schon seit Jahren Bestand hat. 4107: Das ist die Zahl der *postings* im aktuellen Berichtszeitraum – ein Wert, der auf den ersten Blick ganz passabel erscheint, der aber um über eintausend Beiträge unter dem des letzten Jahres liegt. Ich konstatiere also mehr Mitglieder und deutlich weniger Wortmeldungen.

Woran liegt das? Nun, die Zahl der *messages* ist seit Jahren rückläufig. (2014 war ein kleiner statistischer Ausreißer.) 2009, im Jahr meines Amtsantritts, verzeichneten wir sage und schreibe circa 8200 Listenbeiträge, also

“Ich möchte die an dieser Stelle üblichen statistischen Hinweise auf zwei Zahlen beschränken: 476 und 4107.”

etwa doppelt so viele wie jetzt. Über die Gründe kann ich nur spekulieren: Der Spiegel hat vor einem guten Jahr berichtet, dass die Menschheit immer schlauer wird – einer Studie zufolge, deren Prämisse ich eher nicht verstanden habe, soll sich der Intelligenzquotient weltweit angeblich um drei Punkte pro Jahrzehnt erhöhen, was für die Jüngeren unter uns eine wirklich gute Nachricht ist. Oder liegt es vielleicht daran, dass das Internet immer informativer und Google immer klüger wird? Oder hat dieser Rückgang eventuell damit zu tun, dass nicht wenige Mitglieder, die noch vor Jahren mit zahlreichen geistvollen und überaus hilfreichen Beiträgen zu glänzen wussten, eine Art Rückzug angetreten haben und sich heute vorwiegend auf anderen Plattformen austauschen? Sollte ich mit dieser Vermutung Recht haben, appelliere ich an dieser Stelle an all diese Abtrünnigen, ungeachtet ihrer vielleicht durchaus triftigen Gründe, unserer *community* den Rücken zu kehren, sich wieder im Schoße der Liste einzufinden. Und noch eine These: Vielleicht hat die mangelnde Bereitschaft, sich auf der Liste zu Wort zu melden, ihren Grund ja im Führungsstil des Listmasters, den ein Mitglied vor ein paar Monaten als „diktatorisch“ bezeichnet hat. (Nebenbei bemerkt: Der Betreffende hat diese Charakterschwäche meinerseits wohl sogar der ATA-Führung zur Kenntnis gebracht, sodass ich von Glück sprechen kann, heute überhaupt noch vor Ihnen stehen zu dürfen.)

Was immer die Gründe für diese Halbierung der Listenbeiträge seit 2009 sein mögen, ich hoffe inständig, dass wir diesen Trend, der ja nun wirklich nicht unser *friend* ist, umkehren können. Nicht dass wir noch an dem Punkt ankommen, an dem ich mich in Zeiten wie diesen genötigt sehe, politische Diskussionen zuzulassen, nur damit die Zahl der Wortmeldungen wieder nach oben geht.

Wie üblich möchte ich mich bei Ihnen an dieser Stelle wieder für Ihre Beiträge zur Erweiterung meines Wissenshorizonts bedanken. Dank der großen Auskunftsbereitschaft unserer Mitglieder weiß ich jetzt, dass ein „attitude mechanic“ nicht der richtige Ansprechpartner für die Reparatur von Dachschrägen oder die Korrektur einer mangelhaften Einstellung ist, und ich wurde auf die auf den ersten Blick nicht unbedingt zu erkennende Koinzidenz der Begriffe „alternative Stricksockentante“ und „tree hugger“ hingewiesen.

Sehr gefreut hat es mich, als ich im März endlich selbst einmal Gelegenheit hatte, mit meinem eigenen Wissen zu brillieren und im Rahmen eines Threads mit dem Betreff „Geschlechterstube“ klarstellen konnte, was genau ein „Gentleman’s Club“ ist. Es wurden

auch wieder hochinteressante Themen angesprochen, unter denen die im August in die Runde geworfene Frage „Who knows about mowing grass?“ fast schon wie ein Ruf der Verzweiflung klang.

Ich habe mich im Berichtszeitraum veranlasst gesehen, sechs Forumsthreads zu schließen – das ist ein Rekord, auf den ich auch hätte verzichten können. In den meisten Fällen hatte das damit zu tun, dass sich mir der Bezug zum Daseinszweck unserer Liste nicht erschlossen hat oder dass nach einer zunächst eher unverfänglichen Diskussion Gemüter plötzlich in Wallung gebracht und hier und da wohl auch Messer gewetzt wurden.

Nun ja, wir leben bekanntlich in unruhigen Zeiten, und ich hoffe doch sehr, dass wir in den kommenden Wochen und Monaten auf der großen Bühne der Politik eine Detente erleben werden, die sich auch auf die Liste übertragen wird. Im Großen und Ganzen jedoch lief alles wieder in durchaus geregelten Bahnen, und es macht mir immer noch große Freude, die Beiträge einer so eindrucksvollen Ansammlung hilfsbereiter Experten auf den verschiedensten Gebieten moderieren zu dürfen. Vielen Dank.

“Wie üblich möchte ich mich bei Ihnen an dieser Stelle wieder für Ihre Beiträge zur Erweiterung meines Wissenshorizonts bedanken.”

### Die Liste wo einiges los ist!

The GLD list is one of our member benefits – an opportunity to collaborate with and learn from each other. Subscribers pose questions, assist others by responding to queries or simply follow the conversation.

As Listmaster Gerhard Preisser puts it: Wer helfen kann, hilft; wer eine Antwort weiß, hält damit nicht hinterm Berg. Kollegialität und Kooperation werden großgeschrieben. Die auf unserer Liste vertretenen Übersetzer und Dolmetscher konkurrieren nicht miteinander – sie inspirieren einander, und ich habe das außerordentliche Vergnügen, diesen regen, auf höchster Kompetenz und viel gutem Willen beruhenden Austausch moderieren zu dürfen.

### Subscribing is as easy as 1, 2, 3:

1. Send an email to: [gldlist-owner@yahoogroups.com](mailto:gldlist-owner@yahoogroups.com)
2. In the subject line, enter: **subscribe gldlist**
3. In the body of your email, write your:
  - email address
  - full name
  - ATA membership number



**Karen Leube** grew up in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. She earned Bachelor's and Master's degrees in German in the United States and obtained a Ph.D. in English and German as a Foreign Language (DaF) from the University of Heidelberg. She taught translation at the universities of Heidelberg and Mainz (Germersheim) and now works as a freelance translator and seminar facilitator from her office in Aachen.

## (Translation) Notes from the Homeland

*Karen Leube*

As I receive the third "gentle reminder" from *interaktiv's* editor to submit this column, I'm fighting a bad case of writer's block. Perhaps it's because each morning's headlines, whether in the English or German language press, "trump" the headlines from the day before. However we ATA GLD members living abroad stand on politics, we're back to being the "go-to" people for explaining what's happening "over there." I, for one, was interviewed by the local newspaper in Aachen the day before the inauguration, asked to share my expectations, hopes and fears about the new administration.

"However we ATA GLD members living abroad stand on politics, we're back to being the "go-to" people for explaining what's happening "over there"."

No doubt the new political climate will be a major point of discussion on the sidelines of the upcoming workshop of GLD Members in Europe to be held in Karlsruhe on February 11. Twenty-five of us will be convening to address topics in the categories "Quality in our professional association," "Quality in our translation work" and "Quality in our business." Our guest speaker will be Professor Christiane Nord, who will share insights and tips on "Hürden-Sprünge: Ein Plädoyer für mehr Mut beim Übersetzen." Professor Nord was one of the distinguished speaker for ATA's Educational Division at ATA's Annual Conference in 2014 and also taught a number of GLD members during her time on the faculties at the University of Heidelberg and the *Fachhochschule* in Magdeburg.

We plan to put Professor Nord's tips into practice on the spot at language-specific translation workshops following the presentation. In addition, we will pool ideas about marketing our businesses, listen to synopses

of memorable ATA conference sessions and disseminate news from ATA headquarters and the GLD Leadership Council.

GLD member Cynthia Klohr has been working tirelessly in her adopted hometown of Karlsruhe to keep us entertained and well-fed during the workshop. On Friday, we'll convene and tour a local brewery and have dinner together. Our networking dinner is planned for Saturday evening and on Sunday morning, we'll be enjoying a private tour of the "Ramses" exhibit

featured at the *Badisches Landesmuseum*.

The timing of the workshop will also allow us to brainstorm about the next ATA conference to be held in Washington, DC, from October 25 to 28. Proposals for sessions may even be sparked by the discussions and presentations. For many of us, this year's timing may be tricky: With 2017 marking the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation, October 31 will be a public holiday throughout Germany this year. That may be a boon in terms of vacation days. But considering the **action-packed agenda** and the hordes of visitors expected, many of us GLD Members in Europe may be busy interpreting and translating and/or celebrating and may have a hard time deciding where we want to be. Those of us who plan to "dance at both weddings" will need to catch the first flight back from the US. It will help that the time difference is shorter this year.



## The GLD at the 57th ATA Conference

Melissa Field and Jessica Lucio

Here we are already in 2017, and the ATA conference in San Francisco already seems so long ago. But for those of you who did not have the chance to attend the conference in San Francisco or who missed out on the GLD events, let me tell you a little bit about it!

### GLD presentations

Various GLD members held inspiring presentations throughout the conference.

On the newly renamed Advanced Skills and Training (AST) day, Judy Jenner gave a three-hour course on attracting direct clients. Seasoned professional Jill Sommer held a course with Allison Bryant on using OCR and advanced formatting in Word to recreate the formatting of PDFs in translations. This year's guest speaker Philip Boehm also spoke in depth on the voice in literary translation. And not least, financial translators were lucky to have another opportunity to take part in Robin Bonthron's masterclass on International Financial Reporting Standards.

In the German language track, Ulrike Walter-Lipow explained **celiac disease, gluten sensitivity and the gluten-free diet**. Philip Boehm offered two sessions, one on translating for the theater and another on how to deal with "foreignness" in translation. Geoffrey Coy talked about editing strategies to take German to English translations to the next level. Marion Rhodes shared **German immersion strategies for expatriates and other German enthusiasts**. Silvia Fosslien and Margot Lück-Zastoupil discussed the **challenges of gender neutrality in German translations**.

And as in previous years, the GLD was well represented in all areas of the conference!

I hope I didn't forget anybody. Some of this year's GLD presentations, as well as presentations from past conferences can be found [here](#).

### GLD networking event

We wrapped up a busy Thursday filled with conference sessions and met in the lobby of the hotel for a short walk to the venue. Town Hall, a bustling and popular tavern situated in the heart of the Financial District, reserved their loft space for our event.

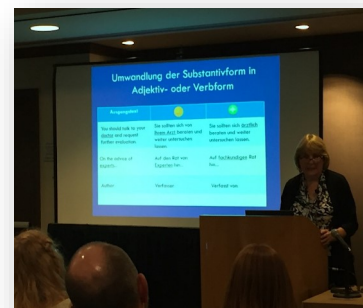
Located in the first story of a historic building overlooking Howard Street, our group spent well over two hours chatting, eating and drinking. Since our event was capped at 80 attendees, the size of the room was just about right. A few tables around the room's edge offered seating to those who were quick enough to grab a chair, and the rest of us mingled through the standing crowd.

The food was plentiful and a uniquely different interpretation of southern fare. The menu featured crab cakes, potato latkes, ribeye skewers, charred squash, chicken mini-tacos, smoked salmon on toast, roasted meatballs, bacon-wrapped shrimp and mushroom profiteroles. My mouth is watering just recalling how tasty it was! Unlike some previous years, the food was also plentiful, with servers still bringing out appetizers even after many had left.

A cash bar was set up in our room, easy to reach and not overly crowded after the initial rush. Despite the high drink prices (this is San Francisco after all!), we all enjoyed spending a few hours in this ambiance, mingling with each other, re-connecting with old friends and discovering new ones.

If you are planning to attend this year's conference in Washington DC, keep your eyes open for information on our next GLD networking event. It is sure to be a memorable

"Some of this year's GLD presentations, as well as presentations from past conferences can be found [here](#)."



one, with plenty of locals living in DC, Maryland and Northern Virginia to scout out the best locations. I hope to see many of you there!

### GLD annual meeting

The annual meeting of the German Language Division was held on Friday, November 4. There are a couple of things that made this year's meeting special. For starters, the GLD was formed in this very city 20 years ago. And this was also the final annual meeting held with Michael Engley at the helm as administrator. But more on that in a moment.

Members of the GLD Leadership Council each presented the highlights of their respective area. First, Jessica Lucio told us all about the new GLD website, which you are looking at.

Next up was Matt Baird, our newsletter editor. He described all of the main features of *interaktiv*, how to find [past issues](#) and what to look for in upcoming issues. He also thanked his team of editors, layout experts and contributors, all who have worked so hard to make our newsletter a real benchmark publication.

Carlie Sitzman presented her report on two areas: the proofreading pool and new members. She even had handouts for all new members providing links and information on all GLD resources.

Karen Leube was next to take the podium, reporting on the activities of GLD members in Europe. That is a growing and *very* active group! They have another event planned in February in Karlsruhe, where renowned translator, author and trainer Christiane Nord will be the guest speaker.

Sandy Jones spoke next on all things social media. The [GLD Facebook page](#) (now at 250 likes) and [new Twitter account](#) have been outfitted in a matching look. Visit the Twitter account at [@ATA\\_GLD](#) and let's get more followers.

Gerhard Preisser, our listmaster, shared his annual report, equal parts entertainment and information. In summary, we continue to grow while the number of posts has actually dropped. More members, but less activity? His message to all of us: "[Come back, we need you.](#)"

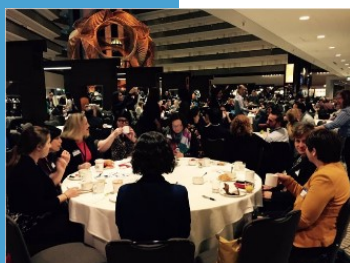
After the reports section, Ruth Boggs was introduced as the new Administrator. She addressed the group (in German!), welcoming everyone, and thanked Michael for two years of hard work. With a nod to all the changes that the GLD has undergone over the past twenty years, Ruth is looking forward to another excellent conference in 2017 on her home turf in Washington D.C. A number of excellent suggestions for potential guest speakers were gathered. The full minutes are posted on [page 4](#).

### GLD at the TweetUp

The TweetUp wasn't a GLD event per se but it was organized by our Social Media Coordinator Sandy Jones and turned out to be quite popular among GLD members. What the heck is a TweetUp I hear you ask? A TweetUp is a face-to-face meeting of people who know each other from the social media platform Twitter. It was lovely to get to meet and talk to fellow Tweepers (Twitter users) in real life, even though having breakfast and tweeting at the same time did require some proper multi-tasking skills.

If you're a Twitter user yourself or considering joining Twitter, you should check out the brand new [GLD Twitter account](#). And don't forget to follow us.

If you'd like to get some more impressions from 57<sup>th</sup> ATA Conference, you should check out the [conference review](#) written up by brand new GLD member and first time attendee Claire Cox. And if you missed it, make sure to watch out the conference video:



Jessica Lucio  
@DoubleDotTrans  
Come say hello :) @Babelane @SJ\_translations  
@language\_news @Tesstranslates @IMCTranslations  
@yosistraduzco @MahaElMetwally #ATA57 #TweetUp  
07:53 - 4 Nov 2016  
👍 2 🗨️ 3

GLD members Marion Rhodes, Judy Jenner, Sandy Jones and Matt Baird at the TweetUp.

Photo credits by Michael Engley and Jessica Lucio

## A Con-shop or a Work-ference?

Matt Baird

**This year's 4th annual GLD Workshop in Germany, held in Karlsruhe on February 11, was in a category of its own.**

The fourth annual GLD workshop was actually the sixth gathering of GLD members in Europe in so many years. After ATA52 in Boston, Karen Leube pointed out that some GLD members in Germany only get together “across the pond” despite living only a hop, skip and a jump from one another.

So, she organized a lunch with several members in Wiesbaden a few months later. That led to a *Kaffeeklatsch* in Frankfurt the following year – coordinated to coincide with then GLD Assistant Administrator Michael Engley's trip to Europe. After that, GLD Administrator Eva Stabenow asked Karen to join the GLD Leadership Council as our official European Coordinator.

But we wanted more. Living in Germany, we all felt somewhat isolated from ATA. We not only wanted an opportunity to venture out from our home office caves, we wanted to network and learn from each other.

Karen – a self-described extrovert with a knack for organization – had the answer and the GLD Workshop was born – a full-day *Tagung* that has grown into somewhat of a mini-conference that includes everything from hands-on skills training to coffee-in-hand networking.

“Her presentation reminded us all that we are not only translators and writers, but cultural ambassadors. We are the experts who know whether a text will resonate with the target audience.”

After twice meeting in Mainz and once in Munich, the GLD Workshop moved to Karlsruhe, where Cindi Klohr – a regular workshop attendee and resident of Baden-Württemberg's second-largest city – offered to be our boots on the ground.

To keep costs to a minimum, past workshops have been fueled entirely by participants who offered to share their expertise. Whether it was accepting international payments or dealing with book authors, we've had plenty to talk about.

This year – with the group's blessing – we invited a guest speaker to round off the educational program. Prof. Dr. Christiane Nord encouraged us all to be bolder translators – a plea that is obviously music to my ears! Her presentation, *Hürden-Sprünge: Ein Plädoyer für mehr Mut beim Übersetzen* reminded us all that we are not only translators and writers, but cultural ambassadors. We are the experts who know whether a text will resonate with the target audience. Dr. Nord told us: “Zum Übersetzen gehört auch ein gewisses missionarisches Ethos.”

The 2017 workshop was divided into three sections: 1) Quality in our professional association, 2) Quality in our translation work, and 3) Quality in our business. In the first





## GLD Workshop Planning Committee

Led by Karen Leube, the planning committee comprised Birgit Vosseler-Brehmer, Cindi Klohr and Matt Baird. Hats off to Cindi for leaving no stone unturned. The entire weekend ran like clockwork. And many thanks to Elke Mailand, who serves as our treasurer but was unable to attend.

section, we recapped ATA's 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference San Francisco, including several summaries of attended sessions. Then we listened to Dr. Nord's inspiring presentation, followed by two breakout sessions (German>English and English>German) to put her plea into practice. Finally, participants shared their marketing secrets and learned how professional development opportunities are all around us.

The well-rounded day would not have been complete without ample time to socialize. In addition to generous coffee breaks, we enjoyed a fascinating brewery tour and a tasty

*rustikal* meal – my favorite! – on Friday night, somewhat finer dining and fellowship on Saturday night and a cultural experience at the *Badisches Landesmuseum* on Sunday.

The response has been overwhelmingly positive and planning for the next year's event – likely in Berlin about the same time – will begin soon. So stay tuned!

We – Karen, Birgit, Cindi and I – would like to thank all of you who attended. Your presence was a big part of why the event was such a success!





## California Calling – ein Newbee berichtet

Stella Waltemade

Geliebäugelt hatte ich mit einer ATA-Mitgliedschaft schon länger. Und als ich dann las, dass die Jahreskonferenz 2016 in San Francisco stattfinden würde, war klar: Mitglied werden und Flug buchen. Wie es der Zufall so wollte, traf sich die europäische Untergruppe der German Language Division einige Monate vorher in München – zehn Minuten entfernt von meiner Wohnung! Die perfekte Gelegenheit also, um vorab erste Kontakte zu knüpfen und den Sprung über den großen Teich mit ein paar bekannten Namen im Gepäck zu wagen. Auf nach SF!

Ich hatte mich von vornherein gegen eine Unterbringung im Konferenzhotel entschieden. Stattdessen quartierte ich mich bei alten Freunden in San Franciscos Mission District ein, die ich ohnehin mal wieder besuchen wollte. Rückblickend gar keine so schlaue Entscheidung. Zwar konnte ich so den ein oder anderen Dollar sparen (und davon hat man, wie wir wahrscheinlich alle schmerzlich feststellen mussten, in San Francisco nie genug). Aber die direkte Nähe zum Ort des Geschehens ist sicherlich praktischer. Ganz einfach, um sich ab und zu zurückziehen und/oder ein kleines Nickerchen zwischen den einzelnen Veranstaltungspunkten halten zu können. Ohne meine bezaubernde Freundin und Kollegin Annette Wellmann, die mir dankenswerterweise den Zweitschlüssel zu ihrem Hotelzimmer anvertraute, hätte ich mich in der Lobby langmachen müssen (und das ist bei einer Körpergröße von 1,80 gar nicht so einfach).

Zur Konferenz: Ich hatte mich bei meiner Planung auf Sessions konzentriert, die

entweder auf meine Fachgebiete Marketing, Werbung und Politik abzielten oder ganz allgemein übersetzungsrelevante sprachliche Fragestellungen beinhalteten. Von beidem gab es a) leider nicht allzu viel, b) fand das, was für mich im Angebot war, oft parallel statt und c) fielen einige der interessanten Programmpunkte kurzerhand

aus oder waren wegen Überfüllung (!) geschlossen. Pech. Merke fürs nächste Mal: Auch die auf den ersten Blick „uninteressanten“ Sessions besuchen und sich nicht vom Titel täuschen lassen. So kommt man auf frische Ideen und

außerdem, lernen tut man ja eigentlich immer irgendetwas.

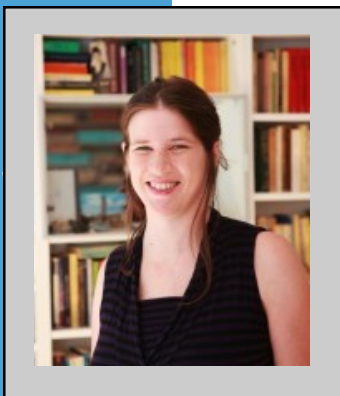
Weitaus wichtiger für mich war die persönliche Interaktion: andere Übersetzer zu treffen, sich über Berufliches auszutauschen und zu hören, wie andere „das alles eigentlich so machen“. Für eine einzelkämpfende Quereinsteigerin wie mich, die den lieben langen Tag alleine vor sich hinwerkelt und sich ab und zu fragt, ob das auch wirklich ein „echter“ Beruf ist, ein riesengroßes Plus. Besonders gefallen hat mir der abendliche GLD-Networking-Event. Die Gespräche mit anderen GLD-Mitgliedern waren äußerst kurzweilig und informativ und der Wein lecker.

Abschließend kann ich nur sagen, dass sich der Ausflug für mich voll und ganz gelohnt hat: viele sympathische Kontakte, neue Einblicke und ein bewundernswert reibungsloser Ablauf. Dank an alle, die organisatorisch mitgewirkt haben; ich komme wieder!

“Weitaus wichtiger für mich war die persönliche Interaktion: andere Übersetzer zu treffen, sich über Berufliches auszutauschen und zu hören, wie andere ‚das alles eigentlich so machen‘.“



**Stella** kommt ursprünglich aus Köln und lebt, unterbrochen von Zwischenstopps in Aix-en-Provence, Washington D.C. und London, in München. Nach einer Ausbildung am Münchner Sprachen- und Dolmetscherinstitut, einem Masterstudium der Politischen Wissenschaften, vielen Jahren als TV-Producerin und einem Intermezzo als wissenschaftliche Angestellte der grünen Landtagsfraktion Bayern arbeitet sie seit +- acht Jahren als freie (Werbe-) Texterin und Übersetzerin.



## Translator in Profile: Lea Rennert

### Where are you based and what brought you there?

I live in Bloomington, Indiana, and have been living here for almost six years now. I grew up in Vienna, Austria, but my Dad is American, so the idea of going to the US didn't seem quite that foreign to me. We made the decision to move from Vienna to Bloomington when my husband (also American) got a scholarship to the law school, and after he graduated, we decided to stay.

### What got you started in translation?

I didn't grow up thinking that I was going to be a professional translator. But looking back, it is obvious that translating always held a particular fascination for me. I grew up bilingually and remember making a game out of trying to come up with the appropriate word in the other language as quickly as I could. The first time I was paid for doing translation work was at a summer job when I was 17, where I translated a large amount of articles for a bilingual database on sustainable development programs. And all throughout my years at the university—I studied economics at the Vienna University of Economics and Business—I kept doing translation jobs on the side, mostly for independent artists and NGOs and all through word-of-mouth, to help pay the bills. It still took me several months after moving to Bloomington until I realized that this was something I could turn into a viable career! After a few months in the US, our oldest daughter started daycare, and that's when I reconnected with my former clients in Vienna and took Corinne McKay's introductory course about

"After a few months in the US, our oldest daughter started daycare, and that's when I reconnected with my former clients in Vienna and took Corinne McKay's introductory course about translation as a profession, which was incredibly helpful."

translation as a profession, which was incredibly helpful. I took the ATA exams, both English to German and German to English, in 2012 and 2013 and was asked to join both ATA grader teams, which was a wonderful boost to my confidence as a "newbie" to the field. Looking back, I'm incredibly glad I took the jump, and I couldn't be happier with my chosen profession.

### What languages do you work in and what are your areas of specialization?

I translate both from English to German and from German to English, with about half of my work coming from direct clients and half coming from agencies. I work with several great agencies for whom I regularly translate PR and other corporate communications material. My direct client work is more varied, ranging

from highly specialized economic translations (where I can actually use my economics degree!) to creative projects such as screenplay translations and literary texts.

### What do you like most about being a translator?

I like being able to chart my own course and choose my own clients. I love that I learn new things with every job I take and that my work is almost never boring. I enjoy that there are so many aspects to being a translator in addition to translating and writing well—from effectively researching new topics to using and learning about technology to running a business and all that entails. There is always something new to learn!

I love working with clients on texts that are relevant to them and making sure that the results are of high quality and exactly what they need. I especially enjoy projects that are all about preserving a client's voice and communicating in a way that engages readers and piques their interest. I love using language to create a picture in the reader's mind, and while this is obviously relevant to screenplays, literary texts, and journalism, I believe it is just as important when it comes to corporate communications and PR. Even rather technical documents benefit from being more accessible and engaging!

Practically speaking, I love that I can theoretically work from wherever I want. While I enjoy meeting and being around other people, I also need a lot of time to myself, and so I usually don't mind the solitary nature of the work. I do, however, enjoy working in a team, and so I've begun to build a network of highly qualified translators, editors, and proofreaders who I can cooperate with on specific direct client jobs. I'm also grateful that the agencies I regularly work with have excellent project managers and editors, and that there is a valuable back and forth regarding the translations we produce.

#### **What do you like the least?**

I find it hard to deal with the unpredictability, not just when it comes to income but also when it comes to time. I would love to be able to plan out a larger portion of my work a couple (or more) weeks in advance. I actually have a few ideas that I'm planning to implement in the next few months, and I'm curious to see if they will make a difference.

**"I love using language to create a picture in the reader's mind, and while this is obviously relevant to screenplays, literary texts, and journalism, I believe it is just as important when it comes to corporate communications and PR."**

#### **What are your goals for 2017?**

I would like to be more specific and focused when it comes to my direct client work. Given the variety of projects I've done, from corporate communications to economics to creative content, I've always found it hard to choose just one area to go after. But in 2016, I worked on a number of translations that were especially gratifying, and so I've decided to continue to specialize more deeply in those areas and to experiment a bit with my marketing and client outreach in 2017. A significant practical step on the way will be an overhaul of my website—it's a little overdue!

#### **What are your hobbies or other interests?**

We have two children, so whenever I'm not working, I spend a lot of time with them and with my husband, Jim. After being by myself for most of the day, I generally want to see people in

the evening, so I try to meet friends as often as I can. I'm interested in current affairs, and I like getting to know people and having deep conversations about a variety of topics. I am a voracious reader and usually have at least three or four books I am currently reading at any given time. I also listen to podcasts a lot – I just finished listening to a 23-hour series on World War I!

#### **Be a GLD Contributor!**

Do you write or blog about the translation industry - or would you like to and need a platform? We want you! Please contact Matt Baird about how you can become a GLD blogger!

[matt@boldetranslations.com](mailto:matt@boldetranslations.com)





An Active Member of ATA, Linda Marianiello has translated professionally from German to English since 1990. She specializes in literary translation, yet also works in a number of other specialty areas, including legal, marketing, the Arts & Humanities, religion, and travel. Her translation of Dieter Kühn's iconic biography of the Berlin poet Gertrud Kolmar for Northwestern University Press was a finalist for the Helen & Kurt Wolff Prize in 2014. She lived in Munich, Germany from 1984-1993, where she played principal flute for the Bavarian State Opera and the Bavarian Radio. Linda holds a B.A. with Honors from Yale University and an M.A. from CUNY-Brooklyn College.  
[beakspk@comcast.net](mailto:beakspk@comcast.net)

## Translator on Tour: A Spiritual Journey on the Camino de Santiago

*Linda Marianiello*

From July 15-30, 2016 I had the privilege of traveling the Camino de Santiago in northern Spain. My traveling partner, Jim Gittelsohn, is not a translator, but someone who was also seeking spiritual insight for his life. Jim and I have been friends since college, and we had a great time driving and then walking the Camino.

Prior to beginning our journey in Pamplona, I spent a week in Munich. My husband and translation partner, Franz Vote, and I lived in Germany for over a decade. Franz is an opera conductor who made it all the way to the Metropolitan Opera via the Bayreuth Wagner Festival, where he came to the attention of the MET's Music Director, James Levine. I worked as an orchestral flutist for the Bavarian State Opera and a recording artist for Bavarian Radio in Munich. So we actually came to translation from the world of professional music, although we both studied German extensively in college.

During my trip to Munich, my chamber music trio gave two concerts, one in a beautiful Rococo chamber music hall in Augsburg, and another for the Johanniter-Stiftung in Herrsching am Ammersee near Munich. I was joyfully reminded of how much people love music in Germany! At the same time, I had the privilege of meeting one of our translation clients, the head of a music studio in Augsburg who is very involved with a Renaissance and Baroque monastery in Irsee. Without his work, the great music written at Irsee would have been lost. This is a very exciting collaboration for us, as it combines our musical and linguistic talents.

"My faith in online train itineraries was sorely tested when the route I was traveling no longer went to Irun, where I needed to change for a train to Pamplona."

After three days in France, including a visit with a close friend in Paris, I traveled by train to Pamplona, where Jim picked me up at the train station. My faith in online train itineraries was sorely tested when the route I was traveling no longer went to Irun, where I needed to change for a train to Pamplona. Instead, I was dumped in the French city of Hendaye, where I had to speak French and Spanish in order to find out how to get from Hendaye to Irun within the one-hour interval that my ticket allowed before the train I had to catch left for Spain. This is definitely not a recommended experience!

Our journey on the Camino de Santiago/Jakobsweg began in Pamplona. The Festival of San Fermín had just ended the night before, and the city was relatively quiet. What a great introduction to Basque culture. Pamplona is a very beautiful, historic city. Spain's Meseta Central is far too hot to safely walk in July and August, so we opted to cover more ground by renting a car for a week before beginning on foot from Sarriá. We wanted to see the Basque part of Spain, Castilla y León, and the Rioja region.



Highlights of the drive included staying at a hotel on the main plaza of Burgos with views of the Cathedral (photos 1 & 2); visiting a small town called Laguardia, a former fort and beautiful medieval town in La Rioja (photo 3); a visit to a Gallinero (sacred chicken coop with an amazing legend behind it!) in the main church at Santo Domingo de la Calzada (photos 4); an incredible museum with priceless ceiling frescoes attached to the Basilica of San Isidoro in León. And I must also mention San Sebastián and Comillas on the Atlantic coast of northern Spain (photos 5), where the beaches were absolutely beautiful and sometimes rugged!

We took a train from León to Sarría, where we began our walk to Santiago de Compostela on foot. I had dreamed of walking the Camino for over twenty years after speaking with a friend in New York who had been there and seeing a documentary on PBS about the Way of St. James. In the ideal world, it would have been wonderful to walk the entire route from Roncevalles in the French Pyrenees, but there were time constraints. And in order to earn your "Compostela" you must walk the last 120 kilometers of the Camino from Sarría to Santiago de Compostela under your own steam.

Why did I choose to make this trip and what did I hope to experience? To begin with, I have always marked a new decade in my life

with some sort of special trip or event. Having turned 60 a year ago, I decided that now was the time to finally walk the Camino. In order to take a month off from work without financial worries, I sold one of my instruments, a custom piccolo that I no longer need for professional work. There is something symbolic in this act that stayed with me throughout the walk, as it represented a sacrifice, an offering and a commitment to the journey.

Travel guides for the Camino cannot possibly convey what it is for an individual to walk the Camino, because people go for different reasons. Furthermore, English-language guides do not say much about the physical demands of the walk. That is why I was not mentally prepared for the level of difficulty that we encountered. However, I have done Iyengar yoga for several years. Franz and I had hiked at 7,200 ft. above sea level in Santa Fe for several months beforehand, so I found that I could meet the demands of the Camino in Galicia, which has very mountainous terrain. It is also stunningly beautiful country (photos 6-8): long stretches of oak and eucalyptus forests, small towns that sometimes date back to Roman times or even to the Stone Age, farm after farm in fertile country with beautiful crops of wheat, rye and sunflowers, plus sheep, goats, cattle and chickens.



(1) Burgos Cathedral



(2) Main Altar Burgos Cathedral



(3) Rioja vineyards from Laguardia



(6)



(7)



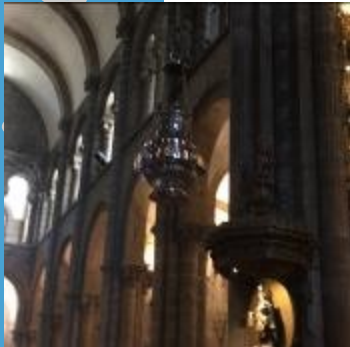
(5) Beach at Comillas



(4) Organ in Santo Domingo Cathedral



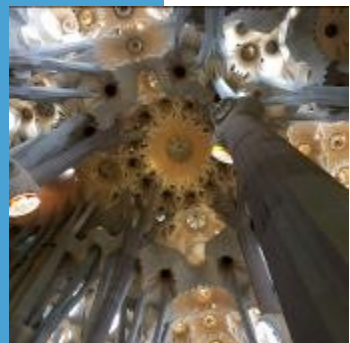
(8)



(9)



(10)



(11)

To give a sense of very special, synchronistic events that one cannot possibly anticipate, I'll share a few surprises that were particularly meaningful to me. Firstly, I took my flute along in my backpack, so music was literally with me for the entire Camino. One Sunday morning we stopped at a small albergue in a tiny town because we needed to hydrate – one of the biggest challenges on the Camino is to drink enough water, especially in hot weather. This section of the Camino has many wonderful little spots at regular intervals where you can get a cool drink and rest. This particular albergue had a lovely bar, and the owner was playing music of Johann Sebastian Bach! How inspiring to hear the Magnificat coming out of the bar as we sat in the nearby garden to enjoy a refreshing drink. And when we left that little albergue, we ran smack into a farmer walking two of his best cows along the road. They had big horns, so I was a bit cautious. But there was nothing to fear, as he and they were very friendly.

For me, the most precious moments on the Camino were being out in the countryside in complete quiet. It was so peaceful that one could get really quiet inside and receive insight that is hard to come by in our busy world. I realized that this is what I had sought all along and had found in total solitude. (Although there were lots of people on the Camino, one could still walk alone for long stretches.) The other moment that was decisive was our arrival at the Cathedral in Santiago de Compostela, which is located on an enormous square with historic buildings. It is absolutely magnificent! They hold a pilgrim mass in the Cathedral every day at noon. I was so moved by the first pilgrim mass that I attended a second one the next day!

The priests who led the mass had profound words for those in attendance. At the second pilgrim mass, there were also priests from Germany, Portugal and Italy officiating, so certain parts of the mass were celebrated in all four languages. But the homily was always in Spanish. Not many Americans or Brits travel the Camino in July, however, and no part of either mass was conducted in English.

For me as a musician, the pilgrim mass was incredibly inspiring. The organ in the Santiago Cathedral is glorious, and there were beautiful chants led by a nun. The mass culminates when the *Botafumeiro* (photo 9), an enormous censer that swings through the Cathedral transept to the accompaniment of full organ and song, is raised high in the air and brought into motion by eight laymen.

We spent the last three days of our trip in Barcelona and flew home from there. Jim and I both wanted to see Antoni Gaudí's Sagrada Família (Cathedral of the Holy Family, photos 10-11). We also visited Barcelona's ancient Jewish Quarter and the remains of a second-century synagogue.

I would recommend walking the Camino de Santiago to anyone who finds it compelling. You will likely have experiences that are life-affirming and may change you forever. The one caveat is that basic knowledge of Spanish is essential, so please be sure to take a Spanish course before walking the Camino. You will be very glad that you did!





## New Computerized ATA Exam Helps Translators Focus On What They Do Best

Marion Rhodes

In September of 2016, CTA became one of the first chapters of the American Translators Association to offer a computerized sitting of the ATA exam. The 3-hour written test allows translators to demonstrate that they meet certain standards of the translation profession. For years, the translations that are part of the test had to be written by hand, and test takers had to bring any dictionaries or glossaries they wanted to consult for help in hard copy format.

This year, ATA finally launched a version of the exam that allows linguists to work on their computers and use digital as well as online resources to complete the test. CTA member Monica Villalobos has taken the exam in both formats. In an interview, she told CTA about her experiences.



“Monica Villalobos has taken the exam in both formats. In an interview, she told CTA about her experiences.”

**Please start by telling us a little bit about yourself. How long have you been a translator, what is your specialization, what brought you to this career, etc.?**

For the past 9 years, I have been working as an educational translator and interpreter for Eagle County School District in the Rocky Mountains. Although I studied architecture and design in my home town, San José, Costa Rica, I got involved in the field when I started working as a phone interpreter for a language service company in my country. When I moved to Colorado, I applied for the translator position at the school district. At

the time, my older sister was already a certified translator in Costa Rica and was working to become certified by ATA. In the beginning, she helped me tremendously to evolve into a professional translator. Right away I knew this was an exciting career and one I am passionate about. The learning process is constant and the challenges are non-stop, I love it! My expertise is in the K-12 field and cultural awareness.

**What do you hope to gain from ATA certification?**

I am hoping to gain recognition, officially. The ATA certification is one of its kind; it confirms and speaks of the excellence of the professional.

**You have now taken the ATA exam both in handwritten format and in the new computerized format. Which version did you prefer and why?**

I prefer the computerized version because it allows the person to change, modify, correct, and rearrange paragraphs and sentences faster than if it was done by hand.

**Were there any challenges or surprises for you during the computerized exam?**

I incorrectly assumed that with the computerized version I would finish the exam in less time. When I took the handwritten exam in 2012, I used every single minute of the three hours provided. Since typing is a much faster process than writing, I thought I would finish sooner. However, during the computerized



**Marion Rhodes** is an English-German translator and copywriter specializing in PR and marketing communications. A native of Germany, she has lived in the United States for more than 15 years, where she is serving as president of the Colorado Translators Association. Her educational background includes a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Nebraska and a certificate in German to English translation from New York University, and she is currently finishing her master's degree in integrated marketing communications from West Virginia University. Marion lives in San Diego with her husband, two daughters and three dogs. [mari-on@imctranslations.com](mailto:mari-on@imctranslations.com)

"I would choose the computerized version. By typing it, I save time I can directly apply into making sure my translation is nearly perfect."

version, I was able to dedicate more time to the thought-process and revision, and I still used every minute provided.

**Do you think the computerized exam accurately mimics real-world working condition for translators?**

Although I have never worked with translation software, I believe the computerized exam mimics today's working conditions,

because people are able to use several online resources (aside from the ones you can bring), just like most translators do on a daily basis.

**Can you think of an advantage of the handwritten version over the computerized version that might make people prefer the old-school approach?**

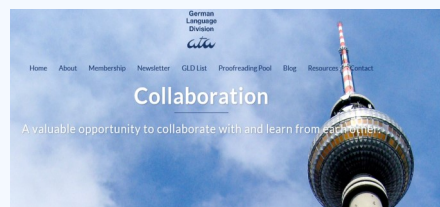
Handwriting is an excellent way to work on your fine-motor skills and strengthen the muscles in your hand and arm.

**If you had to take the exam again, whether for the same or another language combination, which version would you choose?**

I would choose the computerized version. By typing it, I save time I can directly apply into making sure my translation is nearly perfect.

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## Book Review:

# Maintaining Your Second Language: Practical and Productive Strategies for Translators, Teachers, Interpreters, and Other Language Lovers.

Beth Smith

While at an event with a group of French teachers that was also being attended by a representative of the French Consulate, one of the teachers told me that she was afraid she would have to talk to him. This is definitely someone who could benefit from Eve Bodeux's new book, *Maintaining Your Second Language: Practical and Productive Strategies for Translators, Teachers, Interpreters, and Other Language Lovers*. So could translators who are uncomfortable communicating with their clients in their non-native languages, interpreters who are looking for ways to perfect their skills, businesspeople who work with foreign clients, and anyone else who enjoys learning and practicing at least one foreign language. The book's subtitle says it all: *practical and productive strategies for translators, teachers, interpreters and other language lovers*.

### Something for Everyone

Whether you need to brush up on your listening skills, perfect your pronunciation, improve your writing, expand your vocabulary, practice reading, or all of the above, you will find many ideas to help you achieve your goals. Designed for advanced learners of a second language, the book is organized into sections related to various skills and resources (e.g., visual content, podcasts and radio, audio books, and taking courses). You can read through the entire book from beginning to end, trying different suggestions as you go, or you can jump to the section that addresses what you would most like to work on. Many of the suggested activities tackle several skills at once. For instance, if

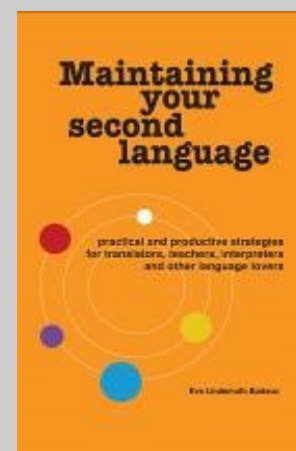
you decide to play a word game like Taboo in your second language, your listening, speaking, and vocabulary will all get a workout.

The sheer number of strategies and approaches ensures that there will be something for everyone. One person might embrace the challenge of trying to write poetry in their second language, while another person who wouldn't willingly touch a poem in any language might love to get in some writing practice by keeping a journal, creating lists, or commenting on social media in their second language.

Want to improve your speaking fluency? Talking to native speakers is great, but we don't all have a ready supply of native speakers on standby to help us practice. How about reading aloud, shadowing (which involves listening to a recording and repeating what the person is saying while they are still speaking), or memorizing and mimicking a scene from a movie, part of an interview, or a few minutes of a comedy routine?

### Resources as Well as Techniques

One of the things that I really appreciate about this book is that it not only suggests activities, but also recommends resources. In the "Podcasts and Radio" section, for example, there are numerous suggestions for how and where to access podcasts and radio broadcasts. The book even offers an entire section on slowing down media playback, which can be used not only with podcasts, but also with audiobooks, videos, and more.



**Author:** Eve Lindemuth Bodeux

**Publisher:** Spectacle Book Press

**Publication date:** April 1, 2016

**ISBN:** 978-0997305401

**Price:** \$21.95

**Available from:** [amazon.com/Maintain...](https://www.amazon.com/Maintain...) or [itunes.apple.com/us/book/id1113756058](https://itunes.apple.com/us/book/id1113756058)



**Beth Smith** is a French>English translator and high school French teacher near Houston, Texas. She specializes in advertising and marketing, travel and tourism, and literary translation. Her translation of Renaud Gaucher's *La finance du Bonheur* was published in May 2016. Contact: [BethSmith@itranslatefrench.net](mailto:BethSmith@itranslatefrench.net).

To be honest, it had never occurred to me to slow anything down, but thanks to the very clear instructions in this section, I'm sure that I will try it not only for myself, but also for my students. The ability to slow down a video or a song just a little could make it so much easier to understand.

To offer another example, in the section dedicated to reading, there are ideas not only for how to decide what to read (like checking out what's popular on Goodreads and similar sites), but also suggestions for finding books available for free online, ordering books, using foreign library materials online, and more. There is also a section dedicated to ordering resources from abroad that offers even more tips and tricks.

### It's Up to You

Near the beginning of the book, there is a series of eight questions designed to help you set your language goals. Bodeux suggests creating a formal plan, and the questions in this section are designed as a guide to help you choose specific goals (such as learning a certain number of new words per week) and to decide on specific steps you will use to achieve your goals (like reading one book per month in your second language). Once a plan is in place, you can assess your progress periodically and decide if you want to revise your goals. By doing so, you're essentially setting your own curriculum for a personalized language class.

The book even includes a section on self-study techniques. The great thing about this

is that nobody knows you better than you, and you probably know exactly what you should work on to enhance your language skills. The downside (at least for some of us) is that you're not only the student, you're also the teacher, so you have to be disciplined enough to find books to read, podcasts to listen to, choose MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses), and so on, and then actually put what you learn to use. This is where having a formal, structured plan can be helpful. Plus we're already people who love languages, so the chance to learn new things and improve our skills can be seen as a treat rather than a chore.

### Overall Evaluation

As translators and interpreters, maintaining our language skills is a major job requirement. Yet working on those skills doesn't have to be painful or boring; it can be fun. Yes, we have all spent many years studying our various languages, and yes, you will already be familiar with some of the suggested activities and resources in *Maintaining Your Second Language*. But I am willing to bet that everyone will also find some fresh ideas. For instance, it would have never occurred to me to improve my second-language skills by using them to study a third language!

I recommend Bodeux's book for anyone looking for new ways to expand their language skills. Even if you only did the activities suggested in the "Try This" tips found periodically throughout the text, you would be busy for a long time.



With 20 years' experience in the translation industry, **Eve Lindemuth Bodeux** is a French to English translator for direct and agency clients and an independent project manager for direct clients around the world. She frequently writes and presents on issues related to translation and the business of translation. She is one of the co-hosts of the podcast *Speaking of Translation* and is the author of the recent book *Maintaining Your Second Language*, targeted at translators, interpreters and others who use language professionally.

## Calendar of Events 2017

Date	Location	Organization/Event	More Information
10 – 11 Mar	Glasgow (Scotland)	<b>Language Show Live Scotland 2017</b>	<a href="http://www.ciol.org.uk">www.ciol.org.uk</a>
12 – 16 Mar	Leipzig (Germany)	<b>10th Leipzig International Conference on Translation &amp; Interpretation Studies</b> <i>Translation 4.0 – Translation in the digital age</i>	<a href="http://ialt.philol.uni-leipzig.de">ialt.philol.uni-leipzig.de</a>
15 – 21 Mar	Europäisches Übersetzer-Kollegium Straelen (Germany)	<b>Aus kritischer Distanz. Wie redigiere ich mich selbst?</b> Sprachenübergreifendes Grundlagenseminar für Literaturübersetzer	<a href="http://www.literaturuebersetzer.de">www.literaturuebersetzer.de</a>
24 – 25 Mar	Frankfurt (Germany)	<b>BDÜ-Seminar:</b> <i>Fördertechnik in Theorie &amp; Praxis</i>	<a href="http://seminare.bdue.de">seminare.bdue.de</a>
24 – 25 Mar	Warsaw (Poland)	<b>The Translation and Localization Conference 2017</b>	<a href="http://www.translation-conference.com">www.translation-conference.com</a>
25 – 26 Mar	Speyer (Germany)	<b>BDÜ-Seminar:</b> <i>Medizinische Statistik (fast) ohne Formeln</i>	<a href="http://seminare.bdue.de">seminare.bdue.de</a>
26 – 29 Mar	Amsterdam (The Netherlands)	<b>Globalization &amp; Localization Association (GALA) Conference 2017</b> <i>The language of business/the business of language</i>	<a href="http://www.gala-global.org/">www.gala-global.org/</a>
26 – 29 Mar	Amsterdam (The Netherlands)	<b>InterpretAmerica</b> <i>think! Interpreting 2017</i>	<a href="http://www.interpretamerica.com/">www.interpretamerica.com/</a>
30 – 31 Mar	Vienna (Austria)	<b>The many facets of legal interpreting and translation</b>	<a href="http://www.eulita.eu/">www.eulita.eu/</a>
31 Mar – 1 Apr	Cologne (Germany)	<b>BDÜ-Seminar:</b> <i>Einführung in die Elektrotechnik für Übersetzer und Dolmetscher</i>	<a href="http://seminare.bdue.de">seminare.bdue.de</a>
31 Mar – 1 Apr	Ludwigshafen (Germany)	<b>BDÜ-Seminar:</b> <i>Die Welt der Banken und ihre Sprache</i>	<a href="http://seminare.bdue.de">seminare.bdue.de</a>
31 Mar – 2 Apr	Lenzburg (Switzerland)	<b>22. Seminar für literarisches Übersetzen</b>	<a href="http://www.literaturuebersetzer.de">www.literaturuebersetzer.de</a>
7 – 8 Apr	Leipzig (Germany)	<b>BDÜ-Seminar:</b> <i>Workshop Stimm- und Sprechtraining</i>	<a href="http://seminare.bdue.de">seminare.bdue.de</a>

Date	Location	Organization/Event	More Information
8 Apr	Wake Forest University, Winston Salem, NC (USA)	<b>Carolina Association of Translators &amp; Interpreters (CATI)</b> <i>30<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference</i>	<a href="http://www.catiweb.org/">www.catiweb.org/</a>
10 – 14 Apr	Paris (France)	<b>1st World Congress on Translation Studies</b> <i>Workshop on Corpora and Translated Language</i>	<a href="http://cmt.u-paris10.fr/cmt2016/">cmt.u-paris10.fr/cmt2016/</a>
21 – 22 Apr	Munich (Germany)	<b>BDÜ-Seminar:</b> <i>Workshop Transkreation ... für alle Über-Setzer, die Über-Texter werden wollen</i>	<a href="http://seminare.bdue.de">seminare.bdue.de</a>
23 – 30 Apr	New York City (USA)	<b>ViceVersa: Deutsch-Englische Übersetzerwerkstatt im Ledig House</b>	<a href="http://www.literaturuebersetzer.de">www.literaturuebersetzer.de</a>
27 – 28 Apr	Duesseldorf (Germany)	<b>BDÜ-Seminar:</b> <i>Rechtspsychologen und Sachverständige bei Gericht und ihre Aufgaben</i>	<a href="http://seminare.bdue.de">seminare.bdue.de</a>
7 – 9 Jun	Budapest (Hungary)	<b>memoQ Fest 2017</b> <i>9<sup>th</sup> Annual User Conference</i>	<a href="http://www.memoq.com/en/memoqfest">www.memoq.com/en/memoqfest</a>
14 – 16 Jun	Barcelona (Spain)	<b>Localization World 34</b> <i>Translation &amp; localization industry conference</i>	<a href="http://locworld.com/events">locworld.com/events</a>
15 – 16 Jun	Washington, DC (USA)	<b>InterpretAmerica 2017</b> <i>Labor. Management. Technology</i>	<a href="http://www.interpretamerica.com/">www.interpretamerica.com/</a>
16 – 17 Jun	Hannover (Germany)	<b>BDÜ-Seminar:</b> <i>Mit Erfolg in die Selbstständigkeit: Sprachmittler starten durch</i>	<a href="http://seminare.bdue.de">seminare.bdue.de</a>

### What's all the talk about?

Join ATAtalk and find out! ATA recently launched **ataTalk**, a forum for discussions of ATA policy, activities, and governance issues. It's a place where members can voice opinions and discuss issues. Note that questions and problems that need to be addressed right away should continue to be directed to [president@atanet.org](mailto:president@atanet.org).



### Listen to the ATA Podcast

Find all episodes and links to subscribe here: [www.atanet.org/resources/podcasts.php](http://www.atanet.org/resources/podcasts.php)



### ATA Certification Exams

The ATA generally has 30-40 exam sittings each year. Please visit the ATA Certification Program page on the ATA website for the most up-to-date list:

[www.atanet.org/certification/upcoming.php](http://www.atanet.org/certification/upcoming.php)



Date	Location	Organization/Event	More Information
23 – 25 Jun	Poznan (Poland)	<b>Institute of Linguistics at Adam Mickiewicz University</b> <i>12<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Legal Translation, Court Interpreting and Comparative Legilinguistics (legal linguistics)</i>	<a href="http://www.lingualegis.amu.edu.pl/">www.lingualegis.amu.edu.pl/</a>
23 – 25 Jun	Wolfenbuettel (Germany)	<b>VdÜ</b> <i>Jahrestagung des Verbands deutschsprachiger Literaturübersetzer</i> <i>14. Wolfenbütteler Gespräch</i>	<a href="http://www.bundesakademie.de/">www.bundesakademie.de/</a>
24 – 25 Jun	Heidelberg (Germany)	<b>BDÜ-Seminar:</b> <i>Kombiseminar: Deutscher und englischsprachiger technischer Jargon</i>	<a href="http://seminare.bdue.de">seminare.bdue.de</a>
30 Jun – 1 Jul	Karlsruhe (Germany)	<b>BDÜ-Seminar:</b> <i>Standardklauseln in Verträgen – Terminologie und Formulierungen EN/Dean Fulcher</i>	<a href="http://seminare.bdue.de">seminare.bdue.de</a>
1 – 2 Jul	Heidelberg (Germany)	<b>BDÜ-Seminar:</b> <i>Kombiseminar Filmuntertitelung: Grundlagen und EZTitles</i>	<a href="http://seminare.bdue.de">seminare.bdue.de</a>
7 – 8 Jul	Munich (Germany)	<b>BDÜ-Seminar:</b> <i>Kombiseminar: Stress-Medizinisches Fachwissen und Umweltgifte-Medizinisches Fachwissen ...</i>	<a href="http://seminare.bdue.de">seminare.bdue.de</a>
8 – 9 Jul	Heidelberg (Germany)	<b>BDÜ-Seminar:</b> <i>Energietechnik: Windkraftanlagen und Biogas/ Biomasse</i>	<a href="http://seminare.bdue.de">seminare.bdue.de</a>
10 – 14 Jul	Cologne (Germany)	<b>TermNet International Network for Terminology</b> <i>International Terminology Summer School 2017</i>	<a href="http://www.termnet.org/">www.termnet.org/</a>
21 – 23 Jul	Eitorf /Cologne (Germany)	<b>BDÜ-Seminar:</b> <i>VKD Summer Camp II - Dolmetscher als Unternehmer - Aufbauseminar (Professional)</i>	<a href="http://seminare.bdue.de">seminare.bdue.de</a>
23 – 29 Jul	Norwich (UK)	<b>International Literary Translation and Creative Writing Summer School 2017</b>	<a href="http://www.bclt.org.uk/summer-school/">www.bclt.org.uk/summer-school/</a>
3 – 5 Aug	Brisbane (Australia)	<b>Fit 2017/21th World Congress</b> <i>Disruption and Diversification</i>	<a href="http://www.fit-ift.org/">www.fit-ift.org/</a>
28 Aug – 1 Sep	Antwerp (Belgium)	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> international Summer School in Translation Technology</b>	<a href="http://www.arts.kuleuven.be/">www.arts.kuleuven.be/</a>
31 Aug – 2 Sep	Leeds (UK)	<b>50<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the British Association for Applied Linguistics</b> <i>Diversity in Applied Linguistics: Opportunities, Challenges, Questions</i>	<a href="http://www.baal2017.org.uk">www.baal2017.org.uk</a>
25 – 28 Oct	Washington, DC (USA)	<b>58<sup>th</sup> ATA Annual Conference</b>	<a href="http://www.atanet.org/">www.atanet.org/</a>