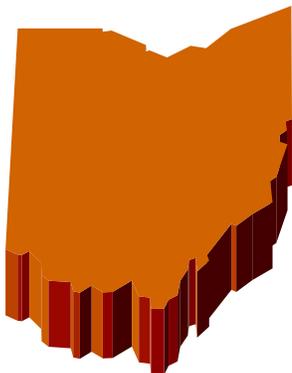


# NOTA BENE

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## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Fellow NOTAnauts\*:

Greetings from the corner of Parkview and West Maple. Firstly welcome to the latest NOTA members. Thanks to you our membership grew from 99 to 111.

Kudos to Tiffany Weiland for a successful "Effective Use of Social Media" workshop in Hudson. She presented on how to find other translators/interpreters to cooperate, collaborate and continue to communicate through LinkedIn, Facebook and other social platforms. Facebook alone boasts over 600 million users. Nowadays we can reach out to online communities all at one time. Your blog post, web page or comment can reach thousands. With online posts you reach people around the world and they can find you for work or to share strategies. Tiffany discovered a childhood friend from Taiwan who runs an importing/exporting business. Social media provides a forum to let people know your capabilities. Only fifteen minutes a day online can result in another contact or assignment. You can find Tiffany at <http://www.linkedin.com/in/tweiland>.



NOTA plans to hold a workshop in conjunction with the annual dinner this fall. More information to be announced. NOTA also plans to hold the American Translators Association exam 2012. Please visit [http://www.atanet.org/certification/upcoming\\_exam\\_sittings.php](http://www.atanet.org/certification/upcoming_exam_sittings.php) for eligibility requirements. Certification serves as another drawing card to present to current and future clients.

Don't tell anyone, but "cuchicheos" or rumblings surfaced about a NOTA blog for all to post, share and further expand your cyber presence. More to be revealed later.

Thanks to Vitaliy for coordinating the NOTA Coffee Hours. To date we've held one in Mentor and another in Columbus. Look for the next one on Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup> at Panera Bread in Fairlawn from 4 – 6 p.m. Contact Vitaliy at [vvp13ster@gmail.com](mailto:vvp13ster@gmail.com).

Would you like to write a blurb on your latest translation experience? A tip to share? Please forward all writings to Natalie, Public Relations Chair, at [nchubb@chubbtranslations.com](mailto:nchubb@chubbtranslations.com). Let us know your ideas and suggestions. This is your organization.

Best,

John, The Interpreter Guy

\*NOTAnauts: NOTA members who communicate electronically

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The last Executive Committee meeting was held on June 4, 2011. On the agenda were topics such as the surge in NOTA membership, our fabulous coffee hours, the annual Fall meeting, the possibility of hosting an ATA certification exam next year, future workshops and the creation of a NOTA blog.

## 22<sup>nd</sup> International Japanese/English Translation (IJET) Conference

By Elizabeth Bender

I recently attended the 22<sup>nd</sup> International Japanese/English Translation (IJET) Conference, which was held in Seattle this year on May 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> at the lovely Hotel Monaco. About 150 translators, interpreters, and other language professionals working in Japanese and English were in attendance, so it was a great opportunity to meet new people and get some sage advice.

The conference program featured an excellent lineup of workshops, seminars, and panels from which to choose; it was so good in fact, that at times I had trouble deciding which ones to attend! My personal favorites were Lee Seaman's presentation, "Trends in Medical and Pharmaceutical Translation", and "LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter, Oh My!" with Marc Menninger. I was also lucky to have the chance to attend Izumi Suzuki's presentation/workshop, "Walking the Talk: How to Become a Truly Professional Interpreter" – by sheer coincidence I was contacted the day after conference ended for an interpreting job that took place the very next day, so I was able to use Ms. Suzuki's expert pointers right off the bat.

I would like to thank the organizers and sponsor of this year's IJET conference, the theme of which was *Improving the Bottom Line in a Changing Business World*. The whole conference was incredibly well-organized and well-executed, and I feel like

*Story continued on page 3*



Elizabeth with fellow JAT member Lisa Hew at the IJET Conference

## UPCOMING EVENTS:



Coming soon-information on a networking session in July and a workshop in September.

Vitaliy Plinto is already working on events for 2012. If you are interested in presenting a seminar or hosting a networking session, contact

Vitaliy at [vvp13ster@gmail.com](mailto:vvp13ster@gmail.com).

*"Those who know  
nothing of foreign  
languages know  
nothing of their  
own."*

*~Johann Wolfgang  
von Goethe*

### Member Snippet

Apollo Renwick, a future translator, recently left for Morocco with his proud parents. Good luck, Apollo!



Apollo and his dad at the Columbus Coffee Hour held in May.

## IJET CONFERENCE (CONTINUED)

Benjamin Franklin is credited with lamenting the only two certainties in life, death and taxes. And while there's a chance the first may land you in a place on high surrounded by heavenly hosts, the latter will merely toss you into a state of utter frustration. So here are some tips to help language professionals who are sole proprietors or small businesses get started on their taxes.

1) If you are having a tax professional prepare your taxes, be sure to give him or her ALL the information in an organized manner. This may sound like a no-brainer, but tax preparers are bombarded with paperwork this time of year—in notebooks, files, binders and, yes, even shoeboxes. For individuals (sole proprietors) most professionals send out an organizer (accountants are not known for

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### ATA-TDC Conference Wrap-Up

Posted by Jill (@bonnjill) in [ATA, Business practices](#) May 3, 2011

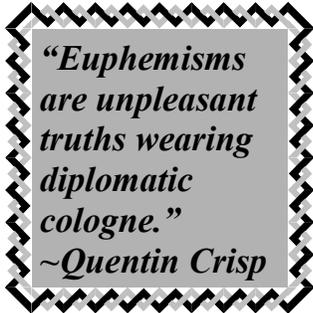
Seventy of the industry's top freelancers and translation agencies attended the ATA's Translation Company Division Business of Translation conference in Washington D.C. this past weekend. The focus of the conference was on business practices. The TCD opened up its conference to freelance translators for the first time and featured two session tracks, one for freelancers and one for agencies. Many people complain that the ATA allows agencies to be members, but I think it makes perfect sense. Although there are some behemoth translation agencies out there, many agencies are one- or two-people operations. In fact, many freelancers sometimes subcontract work when they have too much or have a client who needs a language that they don't work in, essentially making them function as agencies themselves. The line is so fluid that I don't feel we can or should draw a line.

I also wholeheartedly believe that the smaller ATA regional conferences offer more bang for your buck. I met two of my most valuable clients at the ATA Working for the Federal Government conference in DC back in 2004, and one of them still accounts for 25% of my income and is my favorite client (the other one is no longer in business). The smaller conferences allow you to network more and really get to know each other. Don't get me wrong – I still love the Annual Conference, but the size of it can be intimidating and doesn't ideally lend itself to really meeting potential clients. You exchange business cards and a potential client picks up your resume from the 100s of resumes on the Job Exchange table, but at the smaller conferences you can sit down with a potential client and truly devote time to getting to know them and what they need.

The TCD conference is without a doubt the best conference I have ever attended. Every single presentation I attended had outstanding and eye-opening content and really made me think about my business practices. Chris Durban was the keynote speaker and literally (!) threw down the gauntlet (in this case a gardening glove) and urged us to stand behind our work and sign it. She was funny and kept our attention from start to finish with her description of a Mystery Shopping exercise where she hired 5 agencies to translate a small French text into English. The resulting work examples she shared made me confident of the quality I offer to my clients. And we were just getting started...

If you take away just one new idea you can view a conference as successful. I had many this weekend and will be sharing them over the next few days. One "aha moment" for me was a comment Ana Iaria made during Chris' session on "10 Habits of Translators Who Prosper as Freelancers" in which she suggested freelancers take an hour lunch break to run errands and/or grab a bite to eat as if you were working in a proper office. It seems simple, but I think it will really change things for the better for me. When I get too overwhelmed I frequently let errands slide or forget to eat. I intend to implement this tip right away and see what a difference it will make.

*About the author: Jill is a full-time freelance German→English translator. She is secretary of the Northeast Ohio Translators Association, an active member of the American Translators Association, and an adjunct faculty member of Kent State University's Institute for Applied Linguistics. Jill maintains an active blog, [Musings From an Overworked Translator](#), which can be found at [www.translationmusings.com](http://www.translationmusings.com).*

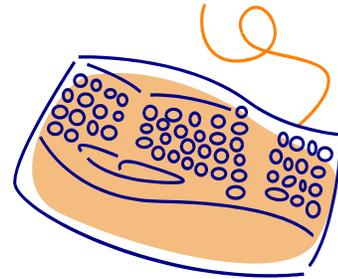


*"Euphemisms  
are unpleasant  
truths wearing  
diplomatic  
cologne."  
~Quentin Crisp*



## Instructions for Making Changes to your Personal Information on the NOTA Website

1. Enter <http://www.notatranslators.org> in your browser's address bar.
2. Click on "Member Sign In" at the top right side of the opening screen.
3. Enter your **username** and **password**.



**Username** (normally your first initial plus your last name, all lowercase, no spaces, although you can change this at any time)

**Password** (usually your first initial plus your last name plus the number 1 – all lowercase, no spaces, but you can change this at any time)

(**NOTE:** If your last name is double or hyphenated, only use the first part. Do not include any accented characters.)

4. This will display your personal member page on the screen, where you can then enter all relevant information and/or make any desired changes. Make sure that your correct language combinations are indicated and that you check the appropriate box if you have ATA certification.
5. After you have made all changes to your personal page, click on the **Save** button located near the bottom of the screen. Then click on **View My Profile** at the top of the screen to see how your member profile will look to visitors to the Web site.



Editor's note: we welcome submissions for the newsletter. Please send all submission requests to Natalie Chubb at [nchubb@chubbtranslations.com](mailto:nchubb@chubbtranslations.com).