

THE ATA CONFERENCE in Albuquerque last month was attended by 515 participants from all over the country--including nine from the greater Seattle area--and also included a number of translators and speakers from Canada, Japan and Mexico, as well as a few individuals from Latin America and Europe.

The next Conference, as some of you know, will take place in Seattle next year October, and it is hoped that the event will make the ATA visible to those practicing translators and interpreters in the area who don't know it exists, as well as to the international business community here.

Although there is no local ATA group here, there are 27 members in the greater Seattle area and a total of 37 in the State. If these numbers grow during 1988, we might well be able to start a local or regional group here after the conference. For the time being, members who are interested in a future association can keep in touch through this "informal newsletter" if they wish.

At the Conference--12 to 16 October 1988--there will be lectures and workshops in many areas of translation and interpretation, as well as an exhibit room with hardware, software, dictionaries and other translation-related exhibits. There will also be an opportunity for companies to interview translators. If any of you have suggestions as to potential speakers for the conference or individuals in international-type companies or organizations who should receive information about the conference, please call the number below. All suggestions will be forwarded collectively to the ATA convention coordinator.

THE ATA ACCREDITATION EXAM will be given in Seattle in February 1988 (as well as during the Conference in October)

Date and time: FEBRUARY 20, 1988 from 12:30 to 4:00 p.m.

Location: University of Washington. Balmer Hall #309 (tentative)

The language pairs are: French, German, Italian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish into or from English; and from Japanese into English.

The testing fee of \$50 must be paid in advance. Please note that only ATA members are eligible to take the test. If you know of non-members who might be interested, please give us their names. For further information on the test, or on how to obtain a practice test (\$7.50), call 361-0369 (Willy) or 527-0994 (Laura).

The next "informal newsletter" (early February) will include an updated list of Washington State members and their languages, if known. Since we are operating without funds, however, you are requested to send one dollar to the address below (if you wish to remain on the mailing list), to take care of postage and printing for the next three or four newsletters. At the same time, please note the language pair(s) in which you normally work.

Notices and (short) articles of interest to the readers may be sent to the address below by Jan. 20, 1988 for inclusion in the next newsletter.

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