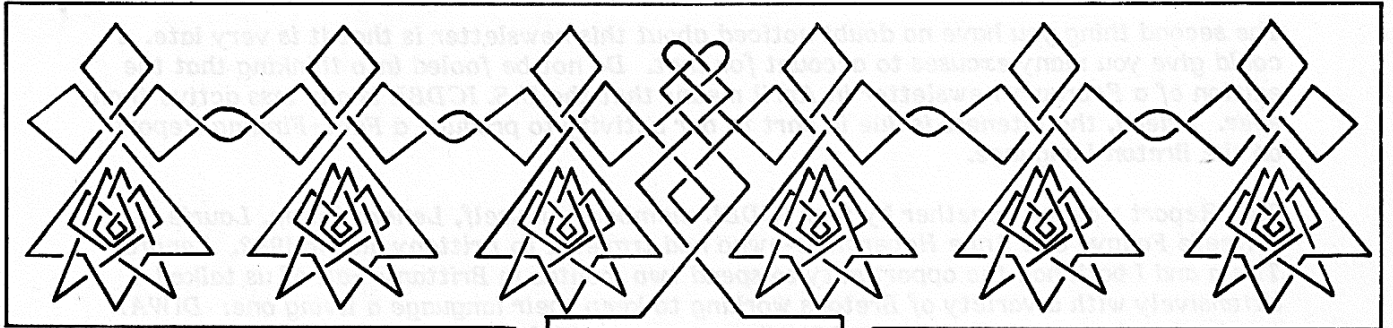


Kuzul Etreuroadel Evit Kendalc'h Ar Brezhoneg

International Committee for
the Defense of the Breton Language

U.S. BRANCH NEWSLETTER

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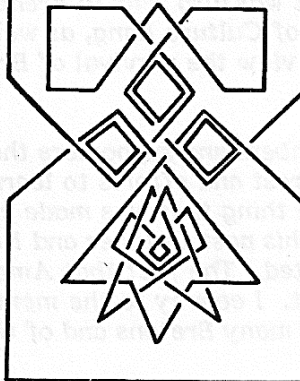
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See the back page for
information concerning
subscription and back
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and ideas are welcome
from all readers of this
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welcome and will be
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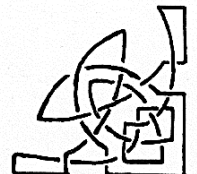
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EDITORIAL

Lois Kuter

*The first thing you should notice about this issue of the newsletter is the greatly improved front page. Although financial limitations still force us to use stencils and mimeograph reproduction for the bulk of the newsletter, the front page now lacks the desolate and somewhat stark quality of my earlier efforts. Credit for the front page artistry goes to **Herve Thomas**, a Breton from Plouay now living in the Roxborough area of Philadelphia.*

The second thing you have no doubt noticed about this newsletter is that it is very late. I could give you many excuses to account for that. Do not be fooled into thinking that the edition of a February newsletter in April means that the U.S. ICDBL is any less active than ever. Indeed, the lateness is due in part to our activity to produce a Fact-Finding Report on the Breton Language.

This Report was put together by four ICDBL members--myself, Lenora Timm, Laurie O'Keefe Fadave and Anne Habermehl--who had traveled to Brittany during 1982. Lenora Timm and I both had the opportunity to spend two months in Brittany--all of us talked extensively with a variety of Bretons working to keep their language a living one: DIWAN teachers and parents, students and teachers in correspondence courses and intensive courses as well as in classes offered through the public and private schools of Brittany, editors and writers of Breton language newspapers and magazines, and people active for many years in organizations to support Breton language and culture. Based on our experiences and information-gathering in Brittany, we felt it was time to produce a report that would accurately show where things stand today--especially in the schools and media.

The Fact-Finding Report is sent to you with this newsletter and has also been sent to United Nations Delegations and a dozen or so international level human rights organizations to bring their attention to the processes of extermination which continue to threaten the Breton language with extinction. The Report was also sent to French President Mitterrand, Minister of Education Savary, and Minister of Culture Lang, as well as to the French Consulates in the United States to show that we view the survival of Breton as an issue of international importance.

It should be obvious to ICDBL members and supporters that the future of Breton concerns more than just Bretons. Your interest and efforts to learn about Brittany and the Breton language shows your concern. One thing that was made clear to me during my trip to Brittany and stopover in Brussels this past October and November was that our activity to support Breton is very appreciated. The fact that Americans make an effort to be informed about Brittany is important. I convey to the members of the U.S. ICDBL and to our supporters the warm thanks of many Bretons and of the Executive Committee of the ICDBL in Brussels.

L. Kuter

In our newsletter we have tried to present some of the key organizations in Brittany fighting today for the Breton language. This issue will present just two organizations: AN DISTRO and SKOL AN EMSAV.

AN DISTRO

An Distro was founded in January 1982 at the initiative of two Celtic professors who are well known in both their university work and as outspoken public defenders of Breton: Per Denez of the Université de Haute Bretagne in Rennes, and Fanch Morvannou of the Université de Bretagne Occidentale in Brest. The aim of An Distro is to work for the return of young Breton teachers assigned to teaching posts outside of Brittany and to insure that those newly qualifying for a post are able to stay in Brittany.

Despite the need and demand for teachers of Breton in Brittany, native speaking and experienced Breton teachers often find themselves appointed to a teaching position far from Brittany where their training and qualifications to teach Breton are not needed. Through letters and pressure on Breton elected officials, An Distro works to end arbitrary exilement of such teachers who are needed in Breton schools and who desire to live in Brittany.

Despite kind words on the part of the French Ministry of Education, a centralized system of filling teaching posts throughout France without regard to teachers' special qualifications and needs for specific language skills in particular regions still sends teachers out of Brittany and only a handful who request transfer back to Brittany move any closer to using their valuable teaching skills for the Breton language.

Anyone desiring further information or wishing to write in support of an Distro is invited to contact them at the following address:

An Distro
2, rue Constant Lancien
29270 Carhaix

SKOL AN EMSAV

The following description of this organization is a rough translation from their own brochure (a Breton/French brochure):

"Skol an Emsav is first of all a local and everyday activity of its centers and members through the promotion of Breton, distribution of information about Breton problems (economic, social and political, as well as linguistic), development of a Breton consciousness, the use of the Breton language--the instrument of collective creativity of the Breton People.

"For 11 years Skol an Emsav has been at the forefront of combat for the language and culture of the Breton People:

- in organizing and participating in demonstrations at Guingamp, Morlaix, Rennes, Nantes...
- in being in on the origins of Diwan
- in demanding bank checks in Breton
- in taking part in the fight for a Breton licence (teaching degree)."

"Skol an Emsav continues its fight for the Breton language:

- for bilingual road signs
- for a place for Breton in administration
- for a Breton radio and television that is truly a public service
- to obtain a Breton C.A.P.E.S. and positions for Breton teachers in secondary schools, and for rotating teachers in primary schools so that Breton has its true place in the schools.
- for the integration of Diwan into the national education system."

"Skol an Emsav is also workshops and diverse courses where young people and newer Breton speakers come together in Breton to study means to work for ways that the Breton people can run their own lives. They improve their knowledge of Breton on Farms in the countryside or through group work to develop a way of life in the Breton language."

"Skol an Emsav also includes among its activities the edition of various publications:

- the Breton engagement book, published since 1974 with 5,000 copies printed each year (see more on this below -- L.K.)
- books for children, comic strips, a crossword puzzle book
- bumper stickers, posters and postcards and envelopes (to promote Breton)
- and, since 1980, Bremañ, a new magazine entirely in Breton which carries news of the Breton and other struggles."

"Since 1974 Skol an Emsav has organized, with other groups and local organizations, Gouel ar Brezhoneg (festival for the Breton language) to help in making better known creativity in the Breton language (songs, theater, music, literature, publications, games, sports), and to aid in the development of a cultural life in Breton."

"Skol an Emsav does not build walls between the different struggles of peoples and Breton workers to take charge of their own lives. It is thus an active participant in larger issues as well as everyday problems:

- against the militarization of Brittany
- against the anti-democratic implantation of nuclear power plants
- against the pollution and destruction of nature
- against repression, and for freedom of expression
- for the reattachment of the department Loire-Atlantique to the other four Breton departments."

"Skol an Emsav does not expect solutions from the outside, but from the Breton people themselves and from its own strength. Since February (1982) Skol an Emsav has undertaken a campaign for the Bretonnization of road signs. Skol an Emsav also sent out an appeal to boycott the 1982 Census in view of the fact that it in no way took into account Bretons' cultural needs."

"These are mere symbolic actions which must show our will to fight for true change in Brittany. We do not want to be a people on public welfare. It is the aim of Skol an Emsav to develop a taking-charge by the Breton people themselves in all domains possible."

"Skol an Emsav is an essential tool in the fight of the Breton people to take charge of its culture and through this, all its life which is now in a precarious situation. Through reinforcement--quantitative as well as qualitative--in regrouping those who want to wage an effective battle in solidarity instead of vainly fighting all alone, the Breton people will be able to repossess its culture, the key to freedom."

* * * * *

Thus Skol an Emsav presents itself. To add to this a bit, it is necessary to state that a major activity of Skol an Emsav has been the organization of Breton classes throughout Brittany. But Skol an Emsav stands out most in its fight for public use of Breton--particularly today in a fight for bilingual road signs. In December 1982 one hundred Skol an Emsav members and sympathizers deposited a load of torn-up road signs in front of the departmental government office in Quimper to show displeasure with the monolingual French sign system which remains obstinately in place. This action is just the latest (although the most daring in view of a long tradition of law-abiding protest methods), The re-Bretonnization of road signs is by no means a new request by Bretons. It has been an important part of Skol an Emsav activity since 1974. Previous to tearing out the road signs Skol an Emsav waged an ambitious campaign in February 1982 to "re-do" the signs marking the entrance to 60 or more towns in western Brittany through the use of self-adhesive letters placed over the old signs. Although a few "alternative" signs at the entrances to some cities have been put up (with city government support) the state has been obstinate in its refusal of bilingual signs--those put up are usually torn down within 24 hours. Skol an Emsav clearly states its intention to continue action for this small public token of recognition of the existence of Breton.

Bremañ

Meaning "today", this bi-monthly newspaper produced by Skol an Emsav certainly speaks of Brittany today. With approximately 20 large pages (12 x 18 inches) in Breton, this journal carries news of Skol an Emsav activities, but is certainly not limited to that. The pages are filled with news not only of Breton language activities and cultural events throughout Brittany, but also articles on contemporary political, economic and social issues in Brittany. But Bremañ does not stop there. Readers will learn of other peoples: Welsh, Irish, Basque, Estonian, Native Americans... A generous use of photographs and drawings help those of us who may balk at the prospect of working our way through 20 pages of words in a language we are only learning or don't know at all. The layout is interesting and complements the quality of the articles.

Subscription is 60 French francs per year (or more if you want to support their work rather than simply allow them to meet expenses by the skin of their teeth). Address all inquiries concerning Bremañ or Skol an Emsav to the following address:

Skol an Emsav
8 straed Hoche (8 rue Hoche)
3500 Roazon (Rennes)

Geiziataer 1983

I have on hand Breton language engagement calendars printed by Skol an Emsav. Approximately 4 x 6" in size these pocket calendars are perhaps better described as mini-almanachs entirely in Breton. With its over 200 pages one finds a well laid-out day-by-day listing (one week to two pages) with spacious room for notes. But this is just the beginning. Also included are: a guide to radio and television programs in Breton, names and addresses for Breton cultural organizations (including a description of Skol an Emsav), addresses for Breton language theater troupes, newspapers and magazines in Breton, workers unions, ecological groups... You can also find a chart of distances between towns, a map of Brittany with place names in Breton, a map of telephone area codes, a guide to mutations for the Breton language, and a list of postal codes for towns and villages of Brittany including both the French version and Breton names for virtually any place you could look for in Brittany. There is also an address book section and interspersed throughout are photographs of people and places in Brittany.

This is the most practical and interesting introduction to everyday Breton vocabulary one could hope to find. But the pocket calendar is more than simply a practical curiosity for Breton language learners or people interested in how to say the names of the days of the week in Breton. It is a witness to the fact that Breton is a living language-- a language for each day of the year.

If you would be interested in purchasing an engagement calendar, send a check (made out to Lois Kuter) to cover cost and postage. The calendar is a way that Skol an Emsav raises funds for their activities to teach and promote the Breton language. Your \$5 will not only purchase a gift for yourself, but is one small way of supporting Breton.

SOME FRANCO-AMERICAN SUPPORT FOR BRETON: A LETTER FROM THE UNION SAINT-JEAN-BAPTISTE

To inform others of the ICDBL we have often mailed complimentary copies of our newsletter to organizations or individuals. The letter reprinted below is from the Union Saint-Jean-Baptiste. This organization was founded as a "Fraternal Benevolent Insurance Society" with the motto: "La Culture Francaise Au Service de Dieu et de la Patrie". The Union funds a variety of philanthropic activities including aid to the handicapped and scholarships. In 1982-83 the Union gave a total of \$55,000 in scholarships for members (and close to \$300,000 in loans). The bi-monthly newsletter called l'Union is but one visible product of this large and active organization. The paper (in English and French) regularly includes news of the Union's activities, but also a page of geneological notes for Franco-Americans, articles on Franco-American history, family traditions, recipes and current events. Also included are several pages specifically for children which introduce them to the Franco-American cultural heritage and to the French language.



UNION SAINT-JEAN-BAPTISTE
1 Social Street • Woonsocket, R. I. 02895 • Tel. (401) 769-0520

Executive Offices

October 11, 1982

Mr. Lois Kuter
143 Plymouth Rd.
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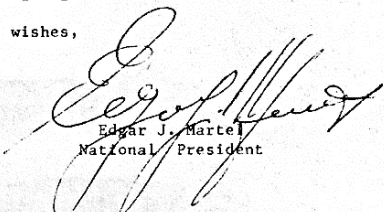
Dear Mr. Kuter:

Your recent newsletter making us aware of an "International Committee for the Defense of the Breton Language" amazed us, to say the least. We knew of course that there were in France many dialects such as "Provençal", "Algerian" etc. etc., and we even suspected that there were a few small isolated groups of autochthones in Brittany who were hard at work to preserve their ancestral tongue. But to come across an organized association with the framework and the goals represented by your Committee, that is quite something!

We certainly admire you for your ideals and your determination. It is our belief that the more languages any man speaks, the easier is his access to the minds of other people of different lineage. We, therefore, congratulate you and wish you unlimited success in your worthwhile endeavor.

We regret that we cannot send you any contribution because our own society, the Union Saint-Jean-Baptiste, is struggling to maintain a program of scholarships and student loans that is never sufficient to meet all the requests we receive. But we hope that somehow you will find the necessary finances to keep your good work going.

With all our sincere best wishes,


Edgar J. Martel
National President

EJM:jac

BOOK REVIEWS

Amy Varin

Traoñ an Dour. Anjela Duval. (Brest: Al Liamm), 1982. 38 French francs; available from Al Liamm, 2 Venelle Poulbriquen, 29200 Brest.

Review by Reun ar C'halan

This posthumous collection of Anjela Duval's poetry was put together by the editors with the most loving care. Each poem fits into its proper place within the overall pattern. The reader goes from the vision of a world full of beauty and magic to the sadness and despair brought about by its impending destruction. Generations of Breton peasants had made of their land a thing of beauty, a true work of art. The poet has no stronger wish than to bring the music of a thousand different notes, the croaking of the crow, the piping of the blackbird, the trill of the nightingale. She sees the Breton countryside as a sanctuary painstakingly erected along the centuries and senselessly desecrated by modern barbarians. The horses who formerly had the noble mission of working to feed mankind now have been replaced by metal monsters, and have become the toys of foreign tourists in tight pants or painted girls in mini-skirts. She sees her people exiled from their land, cut off from their past, deprived of their freedom, enslaved in the name of economic efficiency and reduced to kneel before their French masters and to beg for the most menial jobs. Her voice explodes in an angry shout:

My song is a song of fury
 Against the imperialist culture
 Come to break us, to devour us,
 To reduce us to the rank of slaves...
 My song is a song of pity
 For the peasants of my country.
 I shout my contempt
 For the betrayers of my country.
 The sacred land of our fathers,
 For those who turn into
 Respectful lackeys of the French. (p. 108)

No wonder that one of her most moving poems should be the "Elegy for a hero", the young freedom fighter Yann-Kel Kernalegenn. He was killed in the course of the protest bombing of a French army base established on land forcibly taken from a Breton farmer by the French government:

You gave your life, Mikael, for your land
 The great Archangel was your grandfather
 And on the day of his feast, your feast,
 You laid down your life for our land.
 I salute you, Mikael! Youth bright as flame.
 Bold patriot, committed unto death.
 --A death for nothing--says a newspaper.
 For nothing! Nothing? Is Brittany nothing?
 You gave your life, Mikael,
 For the worthiest goal:
 To keep your country from being nothing! (p. 131)

The reader will find in this collection some of the author's most popular poems: "Benono", "Dismantroù Breizh", "Karantez-Vro".

Du a Gwyn, Gwenn ha Du. Cerddi Cyfoes a Lydaw. Dewi Morris Jones and Mikael Madeg. (Black and White. White and Black. Contemporary Poems From Brittany). (Talybont, Wales: Y Lolfe), 1982. 128 pages.

Review by Reun ar C'halan

A Breton-Welsh anthology of contemporary Breton poetry. Thirty poems are represented, including in alphabetical order: Reun ar C'halan, Per Denez, Anjela Duval, Maodez Glanndour, Youenn Gwernig, Per Jakez Hélias, Roparz Hemon, Ronan Huon, Paol Keineg, Youenn Olier, and Yann-Ber Piriou. Biographical notes about each poet are given in Welsh at the end of the book.

NOTES ON RECENT BRETON PUBLICATIONS

Reun ar C'halan.

La Bretagne. Yann Brekilien (Paris: Les Editions d'Organization, 1982) 704 pages.

An ambitious work with contributions by fifteen major authorities in the field of Breton studies. Geography, history, language, literature, art, music, religion, folklore, natural resources, energy, and politics are considered. Of special interest: the section on the language of Brittany, by Léon Fleuriot, the section on literature by Yan Bouëssel du Bourg, the section on the present problems of Brittany by the now deceased Sten Kidna. (In French).

Tad-kozh Roperzh-Huon. (1822-1902) Anjela Duval. (Hor Yezh, 1982).
A moving biography of Anjela Duval's grandfather, who was a simple Breton farmer, and his family. (In Breton).

Youenn Gwernig. La Grande Tribu. (Paris: Grasset, 1982). 304 pages.

A novel by the Breton poet and singer. It relates the adventures of a young Breton in New York in an epic-comic vein. (In French). (A longer review is coming in our next newsletter).

Youenn Olier. Porzh an Ifern. (Rennes: Imbourc'h, 1982). 310 pages

A novel whose hero is deeply involved in the ideological problems of today. (In Breton).

Herve Herri. Evel-se e oamp. (Brest: Al Liamm, 1982). 222 pages.

A collection of short stories, largely autobiographical. Winner of the Xavier de Langlais Prize in Breton literature for 1981. (In Breton).

Breton language literature is regularly reviewed by Reun ar C'halan in the quarterly journal World Literature Today, published by the University of Oklahoma. This journal, formerly called Books Abroad, has as its goal "to promote international understanding by disseminating literary information." For those interested in contemporary literatures from peoples of "lesser used languages" this journal is highly recommended for its scholarly and well written articles as well as the extensive review and notes section. The review section includes pages devoted to: French, Spanish, Portuguese, Catalan, Romanian, German, English, Danish, Dutch, Faroese, Norwegian, Ukrainian, Macedonian, Serbian, Slovene, Estonian, Finnish, Hungarian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Greek, Basque, Breton, Irish, Welsh, Native American, African and West Indian languages, the Near East, China, Japan, Phillipines, New Zealand, Singapore...

Individual subscriptions for one year are \$18 (U.S.; \$32.50 for two years). Contact: Circulation Manager, University of Oklahoma Press, 1005 Asp Avenue, Norman, OK 73019.

BRETON CLASSES IN THE U.S.

The Irish Arts Center in New York City is currently offering a course in beginning Breton taught by Alexei Kondratiev. This is perhaps the only public Breton course offered in the U.S. at this time. We would be very pleased to hear of other courses (anything in the New Orleans area?), or from anyone who would be interested in teaching or taking Breton classes.

The Breton class at the Irish Arts Center is well underway now, but anyone interested in seeing more classes in the future there should contact them:

An Claidheamb Soluis
(Irish Arts Center)
553 W. 51st Street
New York, NY 10019

Telephone: (212) 757 3318 (between 1 and 5
weekdays)

The Center offers a variety of other workshops and classes in Irish language, music and dance, poetry, design and fine arts, as well as history and contemporary politics.

WANTED - A PEN-PAL IN BRETON

Is anyone interested in a pen-pal in Brittany? All correspondence must be in Breton--no English or French allowed. This is a great opportunity for anyone learning Breton who wants some practice.
Contact:

An Aotrou Penndu
12, rue Joachim du Bellay
22000 St. Brieuc

KORN AR BREZHONEG

Krennlavarioù Breizh

Reun ar C'halan

E krennlavarioù ur bobl e vez kavet danvez he c'hredennoù hag he boazioù. Soñjal a ran e vo kavet mat gant hon izili un tanvad eus furnez Vreizh. Gwelet e vo en hol lavarioù kozh ar pezh a blije gwechall d'ar Vretoned: an dud a dremene hep klemm, petra bennak ma veze diaes o labour. Gwelloc'h e veze kavet ar plac'h n'he doa ket damant d'he c'horf eget ar bennherez koant ha pinvidik na stage a-hed an deiz netra ouzh he bizied:

Da louarn kousket
Ne zeu tamm boued.

Labourit pa gousk an dibreder
Ho pezo ed leun ho solier.

Gwreg a labour he fenn izel
'Zo a bep tu dezhi un ael.

N'eo ket blev melen ha koantiri
Eo a laka ar pod da virviñ.

Mar teu pep stad digant Doue, ne veze ket kavet kalz a vad e doare tud 'zo:

Ar miliner, laer ar bleud,
A vo daonet betek e veud.

Ur c'hemener ned aio ket
Nep-tro en douar benniget.

Reizhenn manac'h a zo tennañ
Digant an holl hep reiñ netra.

Meur a yac'haer o deus louzoù
Hep kaout kalz a skiantoù.

Tamallet e veze war an dud a blije dezho en em veuliñ:

Dibaot ar yar na goll he vi
O kanañ re goude dozviñ.

N'eo ket gant an daboulin
E vez paket ar c'had.

Ne veze ket dalc'het stad eus an arc'hant, met gouzout a ouie an dud ne oa ket gwell blijus planedenn ar beorien:

Gwelloc'h karantez leiz an dorn
Eget aour melen leun ar forn.

Bezañ paour ned eo ket pec'hed
Gwell eo koulskoude tec'het.

Ur gozh votez bet er vouilhenn
Dre gaout madoù a gav perc'henn.

Alies e veze graet goap ouzh ar merc'hed hag an dimeziñ:

Penn ur vaouez a dro pa gar
Hag aliesoc'h eget al loar.

N'eo ket skiantus bras an hini
A ro d'un all kuzul da zimeziñ.

Evit reizhañ ar bleiz
Ez eo red hen dimeziñ.

Peurvuiañ e veze kavet skouerioù mat e skiant prenet al labourer-
douar, ar pesketaer, ha micherourien all:

Pa sav al loar a-barzh an noz
Hadi ho panez antronoz.

Da gala-goañv an ed hadet
Hag ivez ar frouezh dastumet.

Lestr na sent ket ouzh ar stur
Ouzh ar c'herreg a yelo sur.

Ha kement hag echuiñ, a-viskoazh em eus kavet fentus al lavar-mañ:

Pa ri ti to
To pa ri ti.

Talvezout a ra kement ha: "Kasit ho pezh labour da benn, keit
m'emaoc'h outi."

(Proverbs and traditional sayings generally give a good idea of what a people considers good and bad. The samples gathered here show that the Breton people respected hard work and despised laziness. Millers, tailors, monks, and healers were held in contempt: they made money without really working for it. Women and the institution of marriage were objects of fun. Money was not greatly respected, but its usefulness was recognized. Wine, women and songs brought disorder and ruin. Finally, lessons in practical wisdom were often drawn from the everyday life of farmers and fishermen.)

L. A. Timm, R. ar C'halan, L. Kuter

We continue in this newsletter a listing begun in Newsletter 4/5 (August-November 1982). In this past newsletter we included 10 pages of descriptions of Breton language textbooks, readers, reference grammars, and dictionaries. In this newsletter we include brief descriptions of correspondence courses and annual summer classes and intensive courses, and cassette recordings.

1. Correspondence Courses

Because of the lack of Breton in the schools in Brittany, correspondence courses are well developed and offered free of tuition (except for Skol Ober which has a minimal fee of 50 francs). Books and postage are the student's responsibility, of course. The following courses are available. As was evident in our review of texts and grammars, materials for learning Breton are geared to French speakers (which is perfectly normal). This can be a problem to Americans who want to learn Breton, but who may only have a foggy memory of a few high school classes, or no knowledge of French at all. We appear to "push" Skol Ober because they offer the option of learning Breton through English using the translation of Brezhoneg Buan Hag Aes. If you are interested in any of the courses listed below, addresses are provided.

Skol Ober
Gwaremm Leu'ven
Plufur
22310 Plestin-les-Grèves

Founded in 1932, Skol Ober offers the largest variety of correspondence courses for Breton learners, including three levels of Breton as well as courses to learn Welsh, Irish, Esperanto, and Breton history through the medium of Breton. The beginning level uses Brezhoneg Buan hag Aes (as well as other options) and those not knowing French can learn through the medium of English. (Contact L. Kuter for a brochure if you are interested).

Ar Skol dre Lizer
V. Seité
Ty Carré
29150 Châteaulin

Beginning level classes for Breton; founded in 1945.

Ar Skol dre Lizher Ar Falz
A. Deshayes
15 blvd. de Bretagne
29000 Quimper

Sponsored by Ar Falz; uses text by Fanch Morvannou (Le Breton Sans Peine, Assimil). For beginners.

Ar Skol Vrezoneg
A. Le Mercier
6 rue Beaumarchais
29200 Brest

Three levels of training: beginning uses two methods--one an audio-visual method through Breton. Option for Vannetais and courses for perfection of pronunciation in different dialects. Also, course specifically for preparation of the Celtic Studies diploma at the Université de Bretagne Occidentale.

Centre de Télé-Enseignement
Universitaire
Université de Haute-Bretagne
6, ave. Gaston-Berger
35000 Rennes

Correspondence courses supplemented by Saturday sessions at the Université de Haute Bretagne in Rennes.

Centre National d'Enseignement
par Correspondence
Centre Régionale de Documentation Pédagogique
92 rue Antrain
35003 Rennes

Courses for teachers interested in expanding the "regional dimension" of their classes. Courses for Breton and Gallo language and culture.

2. Annual Summer Camps and Intensive Courses

Like correspondence courses, summer camps and intensive courses supplement or make up for the limited (or non-existent) courses in the schools of Brittany. If you are lucky enough to have the opportunity to be in Brittany, you might consider enrolling in one of the following courses. Write well in advance for information. The courses fill up fast, but your participation would be most welcome.

Summer Camps:

Brezhoneg Yez Vew
Yann Kervern
24 rue Marceau
29200 Brest

Breton learning during summer stays on farms where Breton is the everyday native language.

Centre de Vacances Bretonnant
pour Enfants (KVBB)

Vacation camp for children who are not native speakers, sponsored by Skol Vreizh. (Sorry, most readers would not qualify for this camp).

Kamp Etre Keltiek ar
Vrezhonegerien (KEAV)

Total immersion camp held each year in different towns of Lower Brittany the second half of July to give learners the chance to study and practice Breton. No age limits; has taught over 5,000 students since its creation in 1948.

Intensive Courses:

Cours Intensif de l'Université
de Haute Bretagne
Service de Formation Continue
et de l'Education Permanente
Université de Haute Bretagne
6, ave. Gaston-Berger
35000 Rennes

One-week (10 days), 8 hours per day
"crash course" held since 1975 at the
end of June-early July for beginning
and intermediate levels.

Université Populaire Breton
d'Eté
c/o M. Floc'h
Institut Consulaire de
Formation Populaire
6, rue Kerguelen
56100 Lorient

One-week, 8 hours per day, intensive
course at the beginning of August
(usually just preceding the Festival
International des Cornemuses in
Lorient). All levels with an option
for the Vannetais dialect.

Evening and week-end courses are also held throughout Brittany for those unable to get Breton courses in the schools. These are held in town halls, school buildings, cultural or social centers, or youth clubs, and sponsored by Breton organizations such as Ar Falz and Skol an Emsav, or started at the initiative of individuals.

3. Cassette Recordings

In addition to the tapes that accompany many of the Breton textbooks described in our last newsletter, there are now available various cassette recordings of native Breton speakers talking spontaneously about a variety of topics. Not all are intended as pedagogical aids, but would nevertheless be helpful to learners in "getting an ear" for Breton.

Atelier Régional de Communica-
tion Orale de Bretagne
ARCOB
Rue du Morbihan
22110 Rostrenen

Federation of various "oral news-
papers" (kazetenn) and community-
based and operated oral collection
projects. Cassette recordings which
are distributed locally (often on a
monthly basis or bi-monthly basis)
include local news, stories, history,
interviews, songs, etc. Within this
federation are the following groups
who record in the specific dialect
of their area.

Kazetenn ar Vro Plinn
(Journal Parlé de Lanrivain)
Mairie de Lanrivain
22480 St. Nicolas-du-Pelem

The first of the kazetenn, begun in
1977 with aid by SIVOM, an economic
development group, and the Fonds
d'Intervention Culturelle (FIC) by
René Richard. This newspaper has
served as the model for the creation
of others, and has helped form a
community network.

Kazetenn ar Menez
Yann Le Meur
rue Jean-Marie Birrien
29119 Châteauneuf

Edited by Daspunerien Bro Dardoup
for the area of Huelgoat and
Châteauneuf-du-Faou.

Kazetonn Bro Dreger
Yves Troadec
Garde Mare Le Loc
22140 Pluzunet

Journal centered in the area of
Roche-Derrien.

Journal an Tri C'hanton
Mairie de Langonnet
56630 Langonnet

Centered in the area of Langonnet,
Gourin and Le Faouet.

With the expansion of local radio use (formerly excluded from legal private use), the "oral newspapers" have shifted more to organizations for the publication of occasional cassettes on specific topics. A decline in the "newspaper" idea by no means indicates that local collection activity and diffusion of materials back to communities in which they are collected has in any way diminished. The use of audio-visual as well as tape media for the promotion of the Breton language--especially on a local level by local residents themselves--is continuing to expand in quality and quantity due to the still limited place of Breton allowed (or financed) on radio and television in Brittany.

Cassette tapes which have been produced explicitly for classroom use or for isolated Breton learners also exist along side of the "oral collection projects" or tapes to accompany Breton texts or readers.

C'hwec'h kontadenn e brezhoneg
aes ha bew
Skol Vreizh
6 rue Longue
29210 Morlaix

Prepared by the dialect commission of Skol Vreizh, these "Six stories in simple and living Breton" were explicitly designed for pedagogical purposes. They are accompanied by a vocabulary and notes, and can be used by individuals already possessing some knowledge of the language. They are often used in high school classes.

Bezhin e Bro-Leon
Ar Falz
6, rue Longue
29210 Morlaix

Prepared by Ar Falz. Consists of a cassette tape on which is recorded interviews with eight Breton speakers from the Leon region, all speaking in their local vernacular about the occupation of sea-weed gathering. A booklet accompanies the cassette and both may be obtained from Ar Falz.

L. Kuter

In this newsletter we have only been able to introduce a small idea of the quantity and quality of Breton language publications. Breton has been used for many years in written poetry, novels, plays, essays, short stories, text books, and newspapers and magazines. Although first used over 40 years ago, a more recently developed medium has been the comic book--and by comic book we do not mean the Donald Duck-Spider Man variety with amazing hulk advertisements to transform weaklings into musclemen on the back cover.

Banden dresset (in Breton) or bandes dessinées (in French)--or b.d.'s for short--are geared towards adults and can be quite sophisticated and not at all "comic", as well as simple and entertaining. Because drawings convey a lot to supplement a written word, the b.d. is an interesting format to promote a language and make it more accessible to both learners and native speakers who have never had the opportunity to learn to read and write their language. Breton language as well as French language b.d.'s have been produced by various publishers in Brittany and have appealed to a wide variety of people--especially young people. Breton b.d.'s serve often to reinforce a link between written and spoken Breton--a link which has been weak due primarily to a lack of Breton in the schools.

The following list of publications is drawn from two recent articles which give a review of the Breton b.d. Both articles are highly recommended to anyone wanting more details on the b.d. in Brittany:

"Tintin, Spirou, Lucky Luke et Asterix parlent aussi Breton; Pour sortir le Breton de son ghetto!" Breizh 281 (October 1982).

"Breton Language Comics" Herri Leperlier. Carn 40 (Winter 1983).

Some titles and addresses for publishers:

Al Liamm (2 venelle Poulbriquen, 29200 Brest):

Fri Korloko, 1975. By Tudu (Tudual Huon)
Adventures of a biniou player called Fri Korloko, with commentary on life and problems of the early 70s.

Preder (Penn Menez, Plomelin, 29000 Quimper)

Asteriks e Breizh and Emgann ar pennou.
Translations of René Goscinny's Asteriks books. No introduction should be necessary (even for Americans) to this Gaul.

Skol an Emsav (8 rue Hoche, 35000 Rennes)

Ma Dalton, 1976, and Pare breudeur Dalton, 1977
Adventures of Lucky Luke and his three brothers (the Dalton brothers), cowboy bandits in the old American West.

Editions Depuis (30, rue Destree, 6001 Marcinelle, Belgium)

An Ankou, 1978

Translation by Loeiz Moulleg of the work of Fournier featuring the adventures of Spirou in the Arvez Mountains of Brittany where gangsters are trying to steal radioactive materials from the Brennelis nuclear power plant.

Editions Casterman (66, rue Bonaparte, 75006 Paris)

Ar 7 boullenn strink, 1979, and Prizonidi an heol.

Translations of classics by Hergé about Tintin, Milou and Captain Haddock.

Al Lanv (8, rue de l'Île de Batz, 29000 Quimper)

Kumanant Echu, Tudu, 1981.

A detective story set in a poor area of a big city.

Keit Vimp Beo (Oaled ar Re Yaouank, 29112 Briec-de-l'Odet)

An Takad glas etie ar c'houmoul

Translation from the work of Cosey; adventures of Jonathan, a wanderer in the Himalayas of Tibet. Beginning of a series.

An Enebour, Ar Sekred, An Original, Chinook

Translation from the work of Derib; adventures of a trapper, Buddy Longway and his Indian wife, Chinook, in the Great Lakes area--the old west and northern wilderness. Beginning books of a series.

The Breton b.d. is not restricted to book-length editions, but can be found regularly in Breton magazines and newspapers in French and Breton. Two of the best known (but only two) cartoonists in Brittany today are:

Malo Louarn: Author of "Le Candidat" which appeared in Breton in the monthly magazine Evid ar Brezhoneg in 1980-81. This has now been published in album form, but thus far only in French. Malo Louarn's cartoons appear regularly in a variety of Breton publications--especially Douar Breizh-République Breton and Bremañ.

Nono: Author of a series of full-page comic strips which appeared in Le Canard de Nantes à Brest from 1978-81 (and many things before that). Like Malo Louarn, Nono's commentaries on Breton life can be highly political and nothing is sacred. The Canard series has been published as a book ("Jours de Bretagne" edited by Diffusion Breizh, 29135 Spezet). Readers of this newsletter may know Nono from his lively illustrations of Brezhoneg Buan hag Aes.

Laurie O'Keefe Fadave

Sorry, no recipes for this issue, but some notes instead from Lois Kuter on two publications from Brittany about food and the kitchen.

First, a 22-page booklet published in 1981 by An Amzer called Geriou ar Gegin ("Words of the kitchen"). This booklet includes vocabulary lists of Breton words with French translations for: meals, utensils and cooking equipment, furniture, table settings, meal courses, vegetables, fish, meats, eggs, spices, sauces, patés, pastry and sweets, fruits, drinks and other things found in the kitchen (appliances). Also included are adjectives one would apply to food and verbs having to do with cooking and eating---everything necessary for a good conversation about food. The book is available from:

An Amzer
2 straed ar Richardiere
35100 Roazhon (Rennes).

The second publication is another excellent book by Skol Vreizh by Patrick Hervé called Ar Boued - pratiques alimentaires de Bretagne. (36 pages, in French, Edition Skol Vreizh, 1982). Like Patrick Hervé's book on traditional houses of Brittany, this book on food traditions is generously illustrated with old postcards and photographs, and written in an easy-to-read manner intended for use in Breton schools. Topic by topic Ar Boued presents: Cereals and flours; vegetables; meats; fish; salt, spices and sugar; bread; milk and its derivatives; drink; the kitchen place and utensils; cooking practices and principles; crêpes and galettes; the meal; conservation and storage of foods; and Breton gastronomy. Besides interesting photographs and maps, the text includes Breton sayings and proverbs about food and eating. Also included is a good bibliography for more in-depth reading. Like all Skol Vreizh publications, this one is of excellent quality---a well-researched introduction to the subject that would be of interest even to those without a good reading knowledge of French.

The book is available for 30 francs (not including postage) from Skol Vreizh at the following address:

Skol Vreizh
6, rue Longue
29210 Morlaix

(Please note that this is a new address for both Ar Falz and Skol Vreizh).

Readers are invited to send any recipes they would like to share, or requests for recipes they would like to see.

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NEWS OF CELTIC LANGUAGES AND ORGANIZATIONS

Anne Habermehl

On the Brythonic front, we have two weeks of Welsh-language instruction offered in the United States this summer. They are:

Welsh Heritage Week, July 17-24 at Keuka College on the shores of Keuka Lake in the New York State Finger Lakes. The Program includes two hours daily of Welsh-language instruction, plus lectures, films, singing, dancing, and other features of the Welsh-language-related culture including an eisteddfod, harp music and harp lessons, and a gymanfa ganu. For more details you can write me at 3925 North Main, Marion NY 14505, or call (315) 926-5318.

Cwrs Cymraeg, July 31-August 7 at Hamline University, St. Paul, Minnesota. This is an intensive Welsh-language course, with several hours of daily instruction, and a schedule of other activities planned. For details, John Kudlaty, 2160 Roblyn Ave., St. Paul, MN 55104. Telephone: (612) 644-8267.

In Cornish news, Peter O. Moyle, who has periodically issued Newodhow a Gescar Kernewek (News of the Cornish Diaspora) for some years, moved to Wales, and now to Cornwall. He is looking for someone to carry on publication of his little paper, as he feels that news of the Cornish in America should be published here, not in Cornwall. Peter's address is: Roseland, Ranjy 3, Trwollock Lane, Gorran, St. Austell, Cornwall PL 26 6NT, Great Britain.

On the Gaelic front, the Irish are very busy. An Irish-language radio program is broadcast in the New York City area each Monday night at 7:30 pm on WFUV (90.7) FM, with Dr. Séamus de Bláca giving short lessons in Irish. Dr. Blake, by the way, also offers Irish lessons by mail, and anyone interested can receive these by sending a self-addressed business envelope with a 38-cent stamp (for each lesson) to: Dr. Seamus Blake, Cumann na Gaeilge, Box 524, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, 445 West 59th Street, New York, NY 10019. Registration for Gaelic classes of Cumann na Gaeilge will be Friday, September 17 at the above address, and those interested can contact Dr. Blake for more information.

Brother C. B. Quinn sends a note that he has put together a book, Reading Irish, as an introduction for the classes he teaches at Iona College, New Rochelle, NY 10801. The book is intended for adults who wish to acquire a reading knowledge of the language, although "with a good teacher it could also be used as a text for conversation."

Another member, Morgan Hoover, Jr., tells me that he is selling Irish Gaelic lessons by mail for \$5 a lesson. For more information write: Murchadha O Cearnaigh, 5515 Westbard Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20816.

A Gaeltacht Weekend is scheduled for the last weekend of April in the Blue Mountain Lodge near Peekskill, NY. The program will include classes in Irish, group singing, dancing instruction, etc. Details are available from Ethel Brogan at: Derick Drive, Fishkill, NY 12524. Tel: (914) 897-5457.

A list of Irish-language courses available is published by the Keshcarrigan Bookshop, 90 W. Broadway, NY, NY 10007 in their bulletin, Book News.

We have three addresses in Scotland for this column:

Inner Keltia, a journal with articles on "all six Keltic countries," is published by: The Keltic Research Society, Caer Aldean, 8 Annandale Street, Edinburgh (Dun Eldeann) EH7 4An, Scotland (Alba). They promise 85-100 pages for a subscription price of \$5.

Maps of Scotland and Ireland in Scottish Gaelic can be purchased at: Pedersen's Highland Maps, 2525 Glenburn Drive, Inverness IV 4NE Scotland, Great Britain. Maps of the Isle of Man in Manx, and maps of Orkney in Old Norse are also offered.

An elementary course in Scottish Gaelic is available from: Alan D. Ainslie, The Manse, Friockheim, Arbroath, Scotland DD11 4SE. For \$15 you are sent airmail a cassette recording and booklet with 12 lessons in pronunciation and conversation for beginners.

Incidentally, there are a number of suppliers of Welsh lesson books, cassettes for learners, records of traditional Welsh singing, etc. scattered around the U.S. and Canada. Anyone interested in these materials can write me and I'll be happy to help you find what you want.

Does anyone out there have information on Cornish and Manx language classes, etc., in the U.S.? I would be happy to hear from you.

THE BRETON CONNECTION

Jennifer Parks

This column is for short notes and news from our readers--exchange of information, questions and requests for information, a note about your favorite projects, travel, etc.... anything you think may be of interest to readers, or anything readers might be able to help you with.

Please send any input to: Jennifer Parks
177 Ridgeland Avenue
Decatur, GA 30030

L. Kuter

The first annual conference of the ESCA was held Saturday, March 12, at Glassboro State College, hosted by the Division of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures. Twenty to twenty-five people attended the one-day conference despite snowy weather. The program included the following:

Gregory McNab (University of Rhode Island) "The Short Stories of Pádraic Breathnach"

Brother Charles B. Quinn (Iona College) "Recent Efforts at Standardization of Irish Spelling and Grammar"

Raymond J. Cormier (Temple University) "Characterization in the Táin Bó Cúailgne"

Nancy C. Dorian (Bryn Mawr College) "Interrogative Structures in a Dying Scottish Gaelic Dialect: A Partial Picture"

Lois Kuter, "Hep Brezhoneg, Breizh Ebet: the Persistence of the Breton Language"

Anne Habermehl "The Harp in Welsh Music, Past and Present"

John M. Jones (Glassboro State College) "The Welsh Language Underground Press"

Joseph P. Clancy (Marymount Manhattan College) "Gwenlynn Parry's Y Tŵr and the Poetry of Theatre"

Also featured was a round table discussion entitled "Celtica Today: Its Linguistic, Cultural, Literary, Religious, and Political Status" chaired by Gregory McNab with Nancy C. Dorian, Brother Charles B. Quinn, Raymond Cormier and Lois Kuter as panalists (and input on the part of all present).

Besides the opportunity to hear some excellent papers and to exchange ideas during the round-table, the conference offered an opportunity for Celticists of the eastern coast to meet each other more informally during a Celtic luncheon.

This first excellent conference as well as the existence of the ESCA can be credited to the hard work of Professor John M. Jones of Glassboro State College. Recognizing that the location of activities of the Celtic Studies Association of North America were located in California, Dr. Jones decided it was time to organize a group on the eastern coast to allow Celticists the chance to meet at least once a year. The ESCA now exists and has as its officers: Raymond J. Cormier as President, and John M. Jones as Secretary-Treasurer and newsletter editor.

ESCA (continued)

Anyone interested in joining the ESCA is invited to contact Dr. Jones at the following address:

Dr. John M. Jones
 Department of Foreign Languages
 and Literatures
 Glassboro State College
 Glassboro, NJ 08028

THE IONA FOUNDATION

(The following description is from the Iona Foundation).

The Iona Foundation of Philadelphia has been established as an American nonprofit educational corporation devoted to the retrieval of Gaelic language, history and culture among the descendants of Highland emigrants to North America.

Its American activities will focus on publishing the Columban Celtic Series in English--biography, poetry, history and music of the Gaels-- and in Canada it will hold conferences on Gaelic themes at Iona House, a century-old mansion at St. Columba's, Prince Edward Island, overlooking the Gulf of St. Lawrence. In 1983 and thereafter a summer school in Gaelic will be offered.

The Foundation's intention is to build up the library at Iona House systematically in the years ahead, in order to make it a leading North American Center for research on the Gaelic experience. Donations of used books on Scottish topics will be gratefully acknowledged.

The historic lines of force between the Canadian Maritime Provinces and the United States, weakened first by the American Revolution in 1776 and then by the Canadian Confederation in 1867, will be strengthened. The Foundation will maintain fraternal links with the numerous Scots Societies in both nations, and in Scotland. It will render valid service to the memory and achievement of our ancestors.

gu feum ar cànan saothair dha-rìribh
 our language requires serious effort

Volume 1 of the Columban Celtic series is available now: Measure of A Man, the biography of a Gaelic immigrant from rural Nova Scotia early in the century, raising a family to become Americans in the Gaelic tradition. ISBN 0-941638-00-6, \$5.95. Please order from Philadelphia and include \$1.00 for postage and handling. Allow six weeks for delivery.

Iona Foundation
 P.O. Box 29136
 Philadelphia, PA 19127

Iona House
 St. Columba's, Souris 2
 Prince Edward Island
 CANADA

The whisper within,
 the Gaelic soul
 waits undiscovered
 wants to speak,
 to sing.

SOCIETY OF INTER-CELTIC ARTS AND CULTURE AND KELTICA

The Society of Inter-Celtic Arts and Culture is a "non-profit, tax-exempt organization working to promote greater awareness and understanding of Celtic civilization as a whole, and to encourage inter-Celtic activities and co-operative endeavors throughout the world." Although it has an ambitious plan for projects to further this goal, the main product of the Society so far has been its excellent journal Keltica.

It has been a long wait since the first issue of the Winter of 1980-81, but the wait is worth it. The 110 pages of the 2nd issue (now out) include a wealth of articles, poetry, notes and reviews on the Celtic peoples and their diverse cultures. A small sample of articles in the second issue includes: Edward Sayle "The Manx in North America", Andrew MacKillop, "The EEC. Energy, and the Celtic Nations", Michael Allaby "The 80s and Beyond" (Cornwall), Mervyn Davey "Cornish Folk Song and dance", Maureen Murphy "Padraic Pearse: Schoolmaster to a nation", A.M. Cubbon "Manx Crosses", James Wilkie "The government of Scotland in light of the Scotland Act", Criostoir Donn "Church and State in Scotland before the Union", Laurence Davies "Dylan Thomas: Welsh poet?", Kevin Dixon Gilligan "A new Celtic hillfort in the land of the mound builders" (Illinois), Barry Fell "An Ancient calendar from Canada", and an interview with Dafydd Iwan.

And for Breton? -- an article by Reun ar C'halan: "The Breton struggle for national survival" which gives an excellent overview of the Breton movement and Breton history. Also included is a poem by Anjela Duval and an article on the adventures of the Facets Performance Ensemble in Brittany.

Subscription to Keltica is \$5.95 for one issue, \$10.95 for two and \$15.95 for three. For further information or subscription write:

Keltica
96 Marguerite Avenue
Waltham, MA 02154

THE U.S. CELTIC LEAGUE'S 10th ANNUAL PAN-CELTIC CONFERENCE

The U.S. Celtic League is holding its 10th annual conference this year at Marymount Manhattan College (East 71st Street between 2nd and 3rd Avenues).

On Saturday, April 30th, starting at 11 am there will be four speakers on different topics, including Alan Heusaff, the General Secretary of the Celtic League--a Breton who has lived in Ireland for many years. Saturday night will feature a concert and Sunday afternoon will be devoted to film and poetry with a ceili in the evening to close things out (participation is open to all). The final program is not yet set (at the time of this typing), but it is guaranteed to be an interesting one. Further information is available from the Celtic League:

U.S. Celtic League tel. (212) 231-1210
P.O. Box 322
Rego Park, NY 11374

CELTIC LEAGUE CONFERENCE (continued)

The U.S. ICDBL will be at the Conference with an information table (Saturday and perhaps also Sunday) so please drop by to see us. I would be delighted to meet ICDBL members or anyone interested in Breton language and Brittany.

L. Kuter

DEIZIADUR KELTIEK -- BLOAVEZH 51

In 1897 pieces of a bronze tablet with Gaulic inscriptions were found in Coligny, in the French department of Ain. Assembled together, the pieces seemed to make up a calendar which was based on both the sun and the moon. This calendar, given the name "Coligny calendar" is an ancient Celtic calendar probably destroyed by the Romans as part of the Celtic pagan civilization.

The Coligny calendar has been the object of continuing scholarly research. Recent work of considerable interest has been done in Brittany by Jean-Pierre Le Mat who has produced a poster-sized calendar for today (Bloavezh 51 covering a period from October 1982 to October 1983) based on his research of the Coligny calendar. Anyone interested in a copy of this calendar is invited to contact Jean-Pierre Le Mat (34 rue de la Fontaine Blanche, 29220 Landerneau). English is no problem for correspondence; Breton would also be fine. Please include an international money order for \$5 to cover reproduction expenses and postage for the calendar if you would like a copy.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the editor are most welcome. Please send them to the general editor (Lois Kuter) or to any of the column editors with an indication that you would like your letter printed in the newsletter.

So far we have had a limited number of people contributing to the newsletter. It is your newsletter. Do not be shy. If you have something to share, please let us hear from you. Corrections, criticisms, comments or additions to notes and articles are always welcome.

A NOTE ON READING THIS NEWSLETTER

In case you find some missing letters, you might be helped to fill in the gap by knowing that they are most likely to be an R, or on occasion an N. My typewriter does not seem willing to give these letters much of a tap--sorry for the uneven quality in print that this causes.

Lois Kuter

ICDBL ELECTIONS

Nominations are still open for U.S. Branch officers and members on the Board of Directors. If you would be interested in doing just a little more to support the ICDBL do not hesitate to nominate yourself. No special expertise is necessary. Business has been conducted quite successfully by mail, so residence in any particular part of the country is not a limitation.

We are also still looking for a shorter and more interesting name for the newsletter - preferably in Breton. Please send in any suggestions you may have as soon as possible. We will try to include a ballot with the next newsletter.

DIWAN

We have not included a report on Diwan in this issue, but will update you in the next newsletter on recent negotiations with the French government by Diwan for increased support and cooperation with the French educational system.

Your financial support for the Diwan Breton language schools and the cultural center Oaled Diwan is still needed. Please send contributions directly to:

Diwan
Oaled Diwan
29214 Treglonou
Brittany (France)

ALAN STIVELL IN THE U.S.

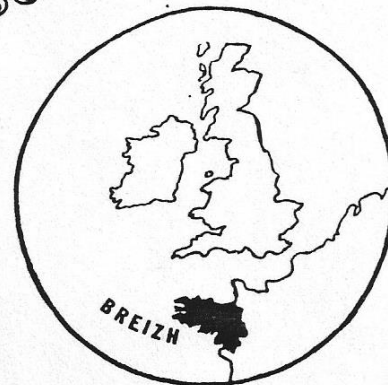
As some of you no doubt already know Alan Stivell is currently in the U.S. Unfortunately I have received no information concerning his tour in advance so I have no details to pass on to you. Watch for him on the West Coast at the end of April. I understand he will be performing in the Washington D.C. area in early May. The newspaper of Philadelphia reports a concert for him here at the Walnut Street Theater, on May 5 (Thursday), 8 p.m. Tickets are \$12 and \$10.

Sorry I cannot give any further details - watch for information in your area.

International Committee for the Defense of the Breton Language

KUZUL ETREVROADEL EVIT KENDALC'H AR BREZHONEG

U.S. BRANCH



Breton

Breton is a Celtic language. With Cornish and Welsh it makes up the Brittonic branch of Celtic languages; Irish Gaelic, Scottish Gaelic and Manx make up the Gaelic branch. The Celtic character of Breton is found both in its vocabulary and its structure. Breton is the everyday language of approximately 500,000 to 700,000 Bretons living primarily in western Brittany (Breizh Izel), but also dispersed in eastern Brittany (Breizh Uhel) and Breton emigrant communities throughout the world. Estimations for the language which include those who know it but do not regularly speak it would include approximately 1,200,000 persons. Due to Brittany's location in the highly centralized French state, where French nationalism has demanded cultural standardization, the Breton language is today threatened. School, military service, and the media in France have worked to make French speakers of Bretons and to turn Bretons against their own language and culture. Through the long and hard work of Bretons themselves, attitudes are changing in Brittany. Although at first the Breton linguistic and cultural revival was the work of a handful of intellectuals, today it has become the cause of a much wider population.

The ICDBL

The ICDBL was set up at the beginning of the 1975/76 school year to support the repeated demands of teachers and people of Brittany that their language be recognized at long last, taught, and accepted as a fact of daily life by French authorities and institutions. This Committee was set up and operates today on a volunteer basis primarily by non-Bretons who in this way show that, while the future of the Breton language may not directly concern them, they consider it to be a cause meriting their support. The ICDBL is concerned with the defense of cultural rights; it is non-political, and open to all regardless of race, religion, or heritage. Branches of the ICDBL have been established in Canada, France, Spain, the Netherlands, Belgium, Denmark, Norway, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, England, Wales, Ireland and Australia. The U.S. branch was officially incorporated as a not-for-profit organization on October 20, 1981.

The ICDBL - U.S. Branch

Officers:

President: Robin Brendan Mackey
Secretary-Treasurer: Lois Kuter

Board of Directors:

Laurie O Keefe Fadave
Christine Renee C. Forster
Rene Galand (Reun ar C'halan)
John S. Hennessey, Jr.
Dennis King
Lenora Timm

With the primary aim of promoting education in and about the Breton language, the U.S. ICDBL has initiated the following activities: a bibliography project, the development of classroom materials about Brittany and the Breton language for use in U.S. schools, and the development of information packages, work to make Breton books and journals better known and more accessible in the U.S., and the planning of festivals and concerts or conferences featuring the Breton language to benefit organizations in Brittany such as the DIWAN schools.

U.S. Branch Newsletter

Published quarterly (February, May, August, November), this 20-25 page newsletter is designed to inform people in the U.S. about the Breton language and the work of Bretons to support it. Regular features include:

- news of Breton language and cultural organizations
- a column in Breton
- short book reviews and bibliographical notes
- notes on Breton language learning materials
- news of other Celtic languages and organizations in the U.S.
- news of European and international groups to defend Breton and other national and regional languages
- a recipe column
- an information exchange column
- various notes and articles on ICDBL activities

The aim of the newsletter is to be both a source of and a source to information about the Breton language and culture.

Subscription to the U.S. Branch Newsletter for 1983, starting with the February issue (No. 6) is \$5 for the U.S. and Canada; \$6 overseas (surface mail); \$7 overseas (air-mail, printed matter). Note: Subscription to the newsletter is included in membership dues. Address all inquiries or subscription requests to the general editor:

Lois Kuter
143 Plymouth Road
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

Back issues of the newsletter are available as follows:

No. 1	\$1.00
No. 2	2.00
No. 3	2.00
No. 4/5	4.00

or all issues for \$7.00 (postage included).

Membership

Members of the U.S. ICDBL receive the newsletter automatically for the year of their membership. Two membership categories exist:

Voting members have the right to cast one vote for their membership on all issues brought to vote. Groups or several individuals may hold a membership in common. Dues are \$7.00 for 1983.

Non-voting members have no voting rights but are welcome and encouraged to be active in all branch activities. This category is primarily for those who would like to show support, but who do not want decision-making responsibilities. Dues are \$5.00 for 1983.

Those wishing to join the U.S. ICDBL are invited to contact the Branch secretary:

Lois Kuter
143 Plymouth Road
Plymouth Meeting, AP 19462

Persons living outside the U.S. are urged to join ICDBL branches existent in their location. The U.S. branch newsletter is available to non-members through subscription.

International Committee for
the Defense of the Breton Language

KUZUL ETREVROADEL EVIT KENDALC'H
AR BREZHONEG

U.S. BRANCH



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