

The Interpreter's Café 2011

July Newsletter



Hello everybody,

I hope you're having a great summer. We've been crossing paths at work, but getting together has been difficult with all of our busy schedules. Nobody was able to make it to the meeting this afternoon, so I'm including a few things that were planned for the Café. Of course, you missed the hand-picked berries, biscuits, and fresh coffee, but we can have those next time.



The history of International Translation Day
St Jerome's Day, as International Translation Day is celebrated on September 30. St. Jerome, the bible translator, has always been considered to be the patron saint of translators and interpreters throughout the world. For a long time, the days, weeks, and sometimes months around 9/30 have therefore been used by translators, interpreters, and their associations to celebrate the occasion. Ever since the FIT (International Federation of Translators) was established in 1953, St Jerome's Day celebrations have been encouraged and promoted by the FIT Council. It was not until 1991 that the Public Relations Committee of FIT launched the idea of an International Translation Day. The FIT Council joined forces with associations all over the world, and began observing International Translation Day to show their solidarity and to promote the translation profession in their own countries. International Translation Day is used for presenting awards and announcing activities for the following year. It was even suggested that the media be involved.

Our supervisor Maria has mentioned to all of us that there is a new contract being drafted, and that we will soon be able to charge a minimum of 2 hours or half/full days according to the assignments. This is exciting news. Maybe for our next meeting we'll already have the contracts and we can talk about them together.

In Family Court, I noticed that the term *servir* was automatically being understood as incarceration, so, for the English phrase "You must serve 25 hours of community service," I started using the Spanish phrase "*Se le ordena trabajar de voluntario/voluntaria 25 horas.*"

Now that it's summer, another term that keeps coming up, especially in JP Court, is "appropriate clothing." To me, this is something that should not be interpreted "*Ropa apropiada*," or "*inapropiada*," for that matter. Security personnel is allowed to refuse entrance if, for example, shorts are too short or if cleavage is too pronounced and interpreters have to explain this to the defendants. What phrases would you use?

I hope you can all make it next month. Stay cool. Nurture your body and soul.

