

REGIONAL PERSPECTIVES

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[Editor's Note: This regular column will be dedicated to news and perspectives from the several IALL Regional Organizations. For a complete list of regional groups and leaders, see the page following the Table of Contents.]

Regional Organizations: What They Are

For a number of years New England has had an active regional organization of language laboratory directors, NERALLD. An IALL initiative at the summer 1989 meeting at M.I.T. was to encourage the establishment of similar regional organizations. The purpose of these groups is to foster better communication among our colleagues and to bring the opportunities for participation closer to home. Each organization is independent of IALL, although IALL encourages and provides support through its biannual meetings and through *The IALL Journal*. Kathleen Ford, director of the Language Lab at UCLA, is IALL's Regional Groups Coordinator. She can provide information and assistance to those wishing to form their own local organizations. You can contact her at 190 Powell Street, Los Angeles, California, 90024. Her phone is (213) 206-8855.

Currently there are eight major regional groups: North West (AK, WA, OR, MT, ID, WY, BC, Alberta), South West (CA, NV, UT, AZ, HI), Midwest (ND, SD, NE, KS, MN, IA, MO, WI, IL, OH, MI, IN), South Central (NM, CO, TX, OK, AR, LA), New England (ME, VT, NH, MA, CT, RI), North East (NY, NJ, PA), Mid-Atlantic (NC, TN, KY, VI, WV, MD, DC),

and South East (MS, AL, SC, GA, FL). Others are also forming, including (we hope) several international organizations. If you are interested in organizing such a group, or simply want to know how to become involved, contact Kathleen.

Why join yet another organization? For one thing, the IALL meetings come around only every other year, while regional groups meet at least annually. This, coupled with the fact that such meetings generally will be closer to where you live, makes participation easier and more timely (you all know what it's like trying to get travel money!) Several of the organizations also have their own newsletters which provide timely and informal information.

The editors of *The IALL Journal* will include in this column items of interest from the regional newsletters, including news, notes, and articles.

Shortwave, anyone?

[From the NERALLD Newsletter, Winter 1990]

You can easily add foreign language audio to your laboratory by purchasing a good shortwave radio of by tuning in to the audio sub-carriers on several domestic and international satellites. Consult the *World Radio/TV Handbook* (available at most chain bookstores for \$19.95) for reviews on major manufacturers (Sony, Grundig, Kenwood, Sangean, Yaesu, ICOM). You can spend from \$100-\$600 for a good receiver plus an antenna. Get some advice from your local ham radio buffs! The

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Radio Database International (available from International Broadcasting Services, Ltd., P.O. Box 300, Penn's Park, Pennsylvania, 18943) is a comprehensive guide to shortwave broadcasting schedules.

Check *Orbit Magazine's* monthly bookmark for the latest foreign language satellite radio guide. Most programs are in French and Spanish, but Sagamore Radio (F3, 16, 6.2) offers multilingual service and the Greek network (G1, 15, 7.335) are popular here (at Bowdoin College). In addition, Chinese service is available (check *Orbit* for the latest satellite, transponder, and frequency). BBC and CBC Radio news can be found as well.

SCOLA Consortia

For those who do not know, SCOLA is an organization in Nebraska (Creighton University) that distributes foreign language news broadcasts via satellite. The service is quite expensive, but SCOLA is permitting IALL regional groups to form consortia in order to negotiate better pricing.

Two regional groups organizing such consortia are NERALLD and MWALL. For information on the New England Group (New England SCOLA Associates), contact Marta Lipski (Brandeis University) at (617) 736-3561 (Bitnet: LIPSKI@BRANDLOG). Interested members in the Mid-West region should contact Ronald Balko (Concordia College) at (218) 299-3262.