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(U//~~FOUO~~) 4 February 2010 CLArion

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1. New Language Conversation Hours
2. Upcoming Area Events
3. We Will ALWAYS Have a Job
4. Presidential Language Trivia
5. English is a Foreign Language Too
6. Friday Fun Fillers (But Its Thursday)

[REDACTED]

(C//REL)

[REDACTED] CLArion Editor

(U//~~FOUO~~) 1. New Language Conversation Hours:

(U//~~FOUO~~)

(b) (3) - P.L. 86-36

Vietnamese Conversation Group

Meets every Monday at 1200/Ops 1 cafeteria, left side

Korean Conversation Group

Meets every Tuesday at 1300-1400 [REDACTED]

(Except no meeting on Tuesday, 16 Feb 2010)

(U//~~FOUO~~) Please find the most recent Conversation Groups schedule in the link below. [REDACTED]

email [REDACTED] to receive a text version of the schedule.

(U//~~FOUO~~) Conversation Groups are sponsored by the Crypto-Linguistic Association (CLA), and participation in these activities is considered to be work-related, thus attendees are not required to take leave if they have supervisor approval. For more information about attending or starting a conversation group, visit the CLA website by entering "go cla" in your web browser or contact the CLA Conversation Group Coordinator [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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**For information on how to obtain language training credits for conversation groups, contact your group leader or [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

(U) 2. Upcoming Area Events

(~~C//REL~~) (Item courtesy of [REDACTED])

Here are some upcoming events that you may want to put on your calendars:

1. World Artists Experiences and the International Division of Maryland's Office of the Secretary of State will be having a free international film festival from 8 Feb. to 12 Mar. at five different locations throughout MD (the closest being the MD Hall for Creative Arts, 801 Chase St., Annapolis). The following five films will be screened at all five locations (starting at 7 p.m.):

The Island (Russia), 11 Feb. at MD Hall

My Dear Enemy (Korea), 18 Feb. at MD Hall

Son of the Bride (Argentina), 25 Feb. at MD Hall

Decemberheat (Estonia), 4 Mar. at MD Hall

Dance of the Maidens (Nigeria), 11 Mar. at MD Hall

For more details, including other dates & locations, go to www.worldartists.org

2. Back by popular demand: Alash, Throat Singing of Tuva. This group, from the tiny Republic of Tuva (located between Mongolia & Russia), has mastered a remarkable technique for singing multiple pitches at the same time. If you missed them last year, here's your chance (again) to hear music like nothing that you've ever heard before, performed in traditional Tuvan dress with authentic Tuvan instruments. The concert is free, and it will be performed at four locations in MD. Here is the closest venue:

Chesapeake Arts Center, 194 Hammonds Lane, Brooklyn Park, MD; 7 p.m.; Tuesday, 9 Mar.

For more details & other locations, go to www.worldartists.org and/or www.alashensemble.com

(U) 3. We Will ALWAYS Have a Job

(U) (Editor's Note: This is a continuation of a Spanish language machine translation of Hurricane Katrina with the actual translation to follow--if you remember, I gave you the first part earlier (21 January CLArion) . By the way, I do not know what machine translation system this came from or even if the Agency uses it (I hope not) . At any rate, It is pretty clear that "We will ALWAYS have jobs."

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(U) MACHINE GENERATED:

(U) The Katrina hurricane formed on the Bahamas the 23 of August of 2005, and crossed southern Florida like moderate hurricane of category 1, causing some deaths and flooding there before consolidating quickly in the gulf of Mexico. The storm was debilitated before making its second sighting of earth like storm of category 3 in the morning of Monday 29 of August in suroriental Luisiana.

(U) ACTUAL TEXT:

(U) Hurricane Katrina formed over the Bahamas on August 23, 2005, and crossed southern Florida as a moderate Category I hurricane, causing some deaths and flooding there before strengthening rapidly in the Gulf of Mexico. The storm weakened before making its second landfall as a category 3 storm on the morning of Monday, August 29 in southeast Louisiana.

(U) 4. Presidential Language Trivia

(U) Barack Obama (44th President, 2009-) speaks "passable" what ?

(U)

A. Bahasa

B. Javanese

C. Sundanese

D. Timorese

E. Tetum

(U) As always, the answer and details are at the end.

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(U) 5. English is a Foreign Language Too

(U//~~FOUO~~) (Editor's note: My apologies in advance to anyone who might be offended.

(U)

My favorite misuses of English:

-- "This apple is very competent " (meant to say it was a good apple --I heard this one from a Chinese studying English in Taiwan)

-- "Please follow me very tightly " (meant to say follow me closely --I heard this one from a U.N. tour guide)

-- "I am a working alcoholic " (meant to say "workaholic --I heard this from a DLI Chinese instructor)

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SEEN:

--on a menu in a Swiss restaurant: "Our wines leave you nothing to hope for."

--on the menu of a Polish hotel: "Salad a firm's own make; limpid red beet soup with cheesy dumplings in the form of a finger; roasted duck let loose; beef rashers beaten up in the country people's fashion."

--from the Soviet Weekly: "There will be a Moscow Exhibition of Arts by 150,000 Soviet Republic painters and sculptors. These were executed over the past two years."

--in a Rome laundry: "Ladies, leave your clothes here and spend the afternoon having a good time."

--in a Bangkok temple: "It is forbidden to enter a woman even a foreigner if dressed as a man."

(U) 6. Friday Fun Fillers (But Its Thursday)

(U)

--Noah Webster, the dictionary guy, learned 26 languages (to varying degrees I suppose) to write and perfect his dictionaries.

--Mei Lan, a U.S. born (Atlanta) panda is returning to China and needs a volunteer tutor to teach her basic Chinese (a true story). Here are the qualifications:

-----minimum bachelors degree

-----no history of infectious diseases

-----good command of both English and Chinese (especially Sichuanese --Mei Lan will reside in Sichuan Province)

In case you are wondering, she will learn things such as "come out of your cage" and/or "roll over . "

--Fulani, spoken along the entire Sahel from Mauritania to Sudan, has 25 classes of nouns.

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(U) Presidential Language Trivia

(U) Barack Obama (44th President, 2009-) speaks "passable" what ?

(U)

ANSWER A. Bahasa

B. Javanese

C. Sundanese

D. Timorese

E. Tetum

(U) DETAILS: Bahasa is essentially Indonesian, the main language of Indonesia and learned while he lived there.

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