

# THE RICKETTS REVIEW

Terry & Nancy Ricketts

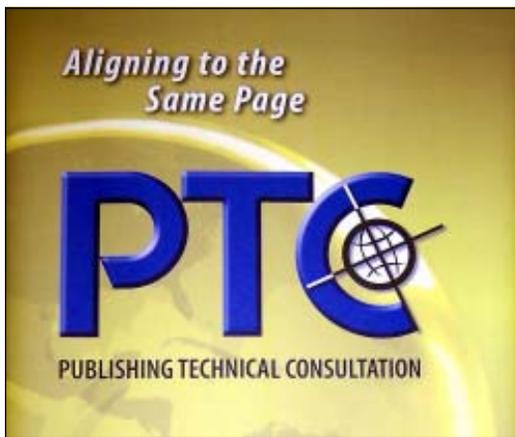
Wycliffe  
Partners in Bible Translation

Summer 2006

## Publishing Technical Consultation

Terry's department, International Publishing Services (IPub) cannot handle the load of printing all the translation projects that Wycliffe is involved in. So remote publishing centers have been established all over the world, and IPub has trained specialists to operate those centers. Over time these remote specialists begin to feel isolated and out of touch with what is happening elsewhere. In an attempt to solve this problem IPub, along with three other partners, hosted the first Publishing Technical Consultation (PTC) in Dallas last March. Field

"The content of some presentations at the consultation was mind-blowing, but the highlight for me was getting to know people and realizing how broad and deep our collective knowledge of publishing systems is. Each person, department, and entity brought their own strengths, tools, wisdom, and experience which contributed to an overwhelming sense of 'we' can do this very well as we work together as a community."



publishing personnel came from 18 different countries and from six other partner organizations.

Terry was responsible for setting up the network, providing printing services, checking incoming machines for viruses, saving presentations and other data, and finally producing a DVD for each participant to take home.

The theme for this PTC was "Aligning to the Same Page." The goals included building a global publishing community of remote experts, promoting publishing standards, and understanding what is happening at all our publishing centers. IPub had been working with United Bible Societies for many months to produce some new software that automates and speeds up the typesetting process. It was so popular that a large number of people decided to stay one night for a longer demonstration. This resulted in some of them staying an extra week to get further training so they could take the program home to tryout. One of our partners (Language Software Development) even provided an authentic Texas barbecue one evening from the back of a truck.

When the participants were asked for feedback there were lots of positive notes. The following quote from one participant sums up the feeling of everyone very well:



The welcoming presentation was made by the coordinator of IPub, Alan Conner.



Darrel Eppler, from IPub, gave an evening demo of the new publishing software that lasted several hours.



The evening Texas Barbeque was a big hit.

## Current Projects in International Publishing

### Local Typesetting Schedule:

Sanuma NT      Brazil      Aug.-Sept.

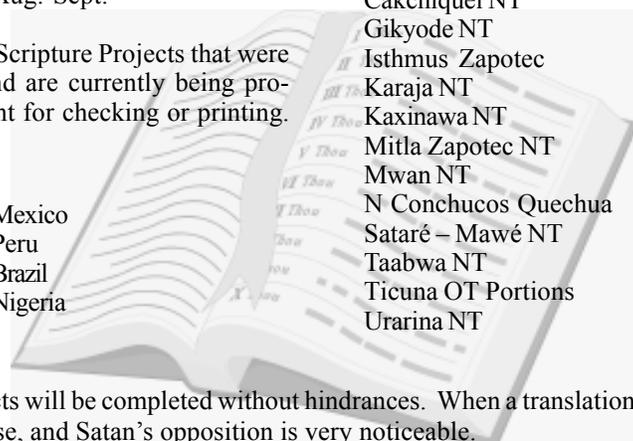
There are also a number of Scripture Projects that were typeset at remote centers and are currently being processed in Terry's department for checking or printing. Here is a list of them:

### Checking:

Coyutla, Totonac	Mexico
Kashinawa OT Portions	Peru
Kaxinawa OT Portions	Brazil
Lokaa NT	Nigeria

### Printing:

Cakchiquel NT	Guatemala
Gikyode NT	Ghana Reprint
Isthmus Zapotec	Mexico Reprint
Karaja NT	Brazil Reprint
Kaxinawa NT	Brazil
Mitla Zapotec NT	Mexico Revision
Mwan NT	Cote d'Ivoire
N Conchucos Quechua	Peru Reprint
Sataré – Mawé NT	Brazil Reprint
Taabwa NT	D.R.C.
Ticuna OT Portions	Peru
Urarina NT	Peru



Please pray that these projects will be completed without hindrances. When a translation nears completion the number of problems seem to increase, and Satan's opposition is very noticeable.

### The Stages of a Translation Project

*By George Cowan*

**First draft**—A preliminary, tentative translation that will be tested and improved. Revisions continue throughout successive drafts.

**Reviewer check**—Speakers of the target language read through the translation to make corrections and suggest improvements.

**Back translation**—Rendering a translation back into a language of wider use, usually in a word-by-word or phrase-by-phrase format. The back translation enables consultants who do not know the target language to evaluate the accuracy and adequacy of the translation.

**Consultant check**—A skilled and experienced advisor meets with the translation team to discuss the wording of the translation, verse by verse. The advisor may share how known problem passages have been handled by others and also give advice on broader and more general aspects of the program.

**Exegetical check**—Ensuring accuracy in the translation and faithfulness to the source text by comparing the translation to the original Greek or Hebrew.

**Consistency check**—Ensuring consistent translation of key biblical terms, important theological concepts, Bible names and parallel passages throughout the entire text. Reasons for necessary variations are clarified.

**Revision**—Changes made to the translation to improve accuracy and/or readability, making it more faithful to the original meaning and more natural in expression in the target language. Every translation goes through many revisions. Revisions require follow-through, entering corrections and further rechecking.

**Format and style check**—Ensuring supplemental material is prepared and checked—including a preface, footnotes, glossaries, maps, pictures, captions and introductions to the books. Verses and chapters are numbered, and spelling, punctuation and paragraphing are checked.

**Proofreading**—The long, intense and demanding task of checking all the details of an entire manuscript, including those listed under "Format and style check."

**Typesetting**—Once final decisions are made on the aesthetic presentation of the book (size and style of print, overall layout and design, etc.) the edition is ready for print.

### The need for Accuracy in Bible Translation

*"Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth." 2 Timothy 2:15*

In one English translation, John 20:2 says, "They have taken away the Lord and we don't know where they have laid him." In the Bontoc language of the Philippines, to show that someone has died, two changes are necessary. It needs to read like this: "They have taken away the Lord's body and we don't know where they have put it." Otherwise, it sounds like Jesus did not really die.

Translators and linguists need to use care when deciding on the written alphabet of a previously unwritten language. The Rotokas language in Papua New Guinea has 11 sounds needing symbols. The Xoo click language of South Africa has 127 sounds needing symbols. A good writing system makes it easier for people to learn to read.

Translators must understand the different styles used in a language. For example consider "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." *Genesis 1:1* If the wrong style is used, a wrong meaning can be conveyed. In English, if one says, "Once upon a time, God created the heavens and the earth," which implies that it is not true, but only a fairy tale. The Bible contains history, letters (epistles), songs and poetry. Translators need skill to master and use the appropriate language styles.

In Matthew 15:28, Jesus says, "Woman, you have great faith!" Which word would you choose for 'woman' in the Ziga language?

#### Ziga terms of address:

dahnuengx	single girl younger than oneself
daxceh	single girl older than oneself
mehsim	married woman under 30
mehbaj	married woman 30-50
mehlax	married woman 50-70
mehgeq	very old woman

A translation needs to sound natural. In English, one can say, "We went to my father Zeiba's field." But in the Mona language of Cote d'Ivoire, one needs to introduce a topic first, then comment on it. In order to sound natural in Mona, the sentence would read like this, "We went, and my father Zeiba, the place where his field is, we arrived there." Now it sounds natural in Mona.



During the PTC people who came in late did what was necessary to use their computers. The back row of chairs was a haven for them.



Brian and Julie O'Herin, formerly at UCSC and High Street Community Church, were in Texas for a wedding. They were able to spend some time with us touring the International Linguistics Center where they met.....many years ago....and see how the campus has changed.



Terry used his engineering skills and designed an efficient gate system for our alpaca pastures so it is easy to herd the animals, move them to a confined area for medical treatment or routine maintenance care with minimal effort. All the gates have latches that are animal proof and can be operated by a human using only one hand.



Our farm (Yellow Rose Fiber Farm) needed some yellow roses, so after dropping the alpaca girls off for re-breeding, we headed for The Antique Rose Emporium in Brenham, Texas. As their name implies, this business specializes in old roses, many propagated from cuttings taken from abandoned country homes or old cemeteries.



Terry drove his Mom, Jeanne Ricketts, to the DFW Airport for a special trip to the Netherlands to visit her grandson, who married a Dutch girl several years ago. She had a great time and many wonderful experiences on her big adventure.



This is our new metal storage shed for animal food and equipment. It's between the alpaca and goat pastures, making it convenient to measure out, load up and deliver food to the "customers" morning and evening.



Ride 'um, Cowgirl! Nancy realized a dream of riding on a camel at a local Renaissance Faire this Spring. It was a good thing the ride was short; it felt like being on a boat on a stormy sea. By the way, camels, llamas and alpacas are all in the Camelid family.



Which ones are our alpacas? Our two female alpacas went to their former home, Americana Alpacas, about four hours travel south of us to be re-bred. That's Colleen, the white alpaca on the far left. She surprised Terry by cooperating nicely when it came time to board the stock trailer for the ride back to Midlothian.



Is that a Texas turkey? No, it's a pair of Guinea fowl walking around the pastures eating grasshoppers and other crawly critters. A kind friend gifted us with three adult birds, which in turn presented us recently with 11 keets (Guinea chicks) that hatched after the moms shared a nest for 27 days in the shed which has become their hen house.



Boys will be boys and will decorate themselves with markers, given the chance. Thankfully, the markers are the washable kind. Quinn is now 2 years old; Corban is 7½. Their mom, Siv, takes great pictures and shares them by email with grateful grandparents.



John came to Texas for three weeks and helped us out (Thanks, John!) with lots of projects. This photo shows one of the two big shade shelters he built. The goats use this one a lot in the blisteringly hot summer we've experienced.

## Personal News

So much has happened since last we wrote you that it's difficult to know where to begin! Perhaps giving you information under general categories will get me past my writer's block.

### Farm Facilities

**Fences:** Terry and some local men built more fences in the alpaca pastures, dividing up the acres into four large, pie-shaped pastures. Our local Sam's Club had a heavy plastic cloth-covered portable shelter on sale, so we purchased one as an experiment to see how it holds up to the extremes of weather in our area. It is a shelter for our boy alpacas.

John cut a section of fencing out of the back yard fence and installed a new gate that leads more directly to the new feed shed. It saves lots and lots of steps and the slow process of opening and closing through four gates!

**Shade shelters:** As the weather has become hotter, large barn fans and kiddie wading pools have helped cool the alpacas. Terry, with John's help, built three 20' x 20' shade shelters; they are wood frames with a shade cloth covering. There is one shelter in the girl goat pasture, one in the boy alpaca pasture and one more for the girl alpaca pasture. We also planted, with the help of a jack hammer, five shade trees and surrounded them with fencing to protect them from animal nibbles; it will be several years before they provide significant shade.

**Water lines:** John, blessings be upon him, dug several trenches and laid in flexible plastic PEX pipe so that there are two new water spigots, one in the back yard that reaches all the pastures and another in the girl alpaca pasture. We need to put in several more lines, but will wait for cooler weather to make the work easier.

### Babies!

**Alpacas:** Star, our fawn boy, was born in December. When he was weaned a month ago, we purchased another male, Cloud, of nearly the same age to be his companion in the boys' pasture. They seem to be getting along well. Why buy a companion? Alpacas are herd animals and Star would have been very lonely on his own.

Another male cria was born on our farm in late April, with a little help from Terry as midwife and a telephone conference with our vet. Yaounde is the baby's name and he has such a sweet disposition!

Both of our female alpacas have been re-bred and are due to have their crias next April (11½ month pregnancy). We hope for some female crias!

**Angora goats:** Our two pregnant angora goats gave birth at the end of March. They each produced a very healthy

male kid. (four male animals out of four pregnancies. Is it the water?) The kids have been recently weaned and live with our angora buck in their own pasture. One of the kids has been sold and will go to his new home next month.

We added two more female angora goats to our herd just this week. They are three years old and both of them had twin kids this spring. Our herd could grow very fast next spring if they have twins again.

**Guinea fowl:** A surprise gift came to us—a Guinea cock and two hens. We scrambled to turn a little wood shed into a hen house in a matter of hours. The Guineas settled in and started laying eggs. When they got to about 20 eggs in their nest, the females sat on them. Both hens shared the sitting duty!

Mid-July 11 Guinea fowl babies called "keets" hatched out. They are with their parents, running around inside the hen house, learning all the fine points of being a Guinea fowl.

These fowl are good watch animals, making a **very** loud continuous call if they spot a strange person or animal on the property.



### Farming Skills

We continue to "learn as we go"; taking on new projects means learning new skills. For example, Nancy has taken on shearing the Angora goats. Yes, they look like poodles that have been through a blender, but there is at least slight improvement on each successive shearing. That's progress! The goats need to be shorn three times a year: March, July, and October.

In mid-July Nancy attended a weekend seminar in Arkansas on basic alpaca management and learned humane catching, safe haltering, painless toe nail trimming, as well as a lot of what **not** to do. Now the challenge will be to put all that good information into practice. Terry made it possible for Nancy to be away by taking over all the feeding and watering chores, with some much-appreciated help from a kind neighbor Monday morning when he had to get to work by 7:30am.

### Texas Weather

To say that our weather this summer has been "hot" would be an understatement. The thermometer at our house registered 109.9 degrees one afternoon recently. There have been 11 consecutive days over 100 degrees, and we are still expecting more.

The heat is hard on people, animals, and plants, too. When heat comes after seventeen months of drought, it feels intolerable, but we all endure.

## Praise for Answered Prayer

1. Praise God with us that we have had some rain, about six inches total since we wrote last.
2. Dave and Siv are close to a decision regarding their next ministry position.
3. John was so helpful to us during his visit. We thank God for him!
4. We are very thankful for continued good health over recent months.
5. All of our expected animals babies arrived safely.
6. Siv's sister, Courtney, had a healthy baby boy in mid-May.

## Prayer Requests

1. Please continue to pray with us for significant rain that will keep our pasture grass growing.
2. Terry's routine includes commuting in a car pool to work; pray for safety in travel.
3. Pray for wisdom for us in decision-making about farm projects. We want to use our limited resources—time, strength, and finances—well.
4. Sometime during the week of August 7 we expect 10 Japanese ESL students as working guests on the farm for a morning. They want to experience farm life by doing some small projects for us. We'd like them to experience Christian love too!
5. Nancy has the opportunity to go to the Philippines for 10 days in Oct.-Nov. to help with an SIL conference as a "girl Friday." She also will be able to see her god-daughter, Marissa, in Manila. Pray for safe travel and smooth arrangements. Also pray for Terry as he takes care of the animals for Nancy.
6. Terry will be traveling to N. Carolina for some training in Nov. after Nancy returns. Pray for safe travel and that he learns what he needs to know.
7. Pray for the New Testaments that are being processed in IPub now, and for the translator, Don Borgman, who is bringing the Sanuma New Testament from Brazil for typesetting in August.

**We have moved!**  
**Please note our new address below.**

## Nana & Papa's Brag Page



Corban is looking handsome in a tuxedo! He served as ringbearer at a lovely outdoor wedding in Santa Barbara. His dad was the presiding minister for the bride and groom.



Not a baby anymore! Quinn increases his vocabulary daily, loves to read books with Mommy, plays hard with Corban, and can't wait to go swimming with Daddy when he gets home from work.



Our farm's new web site. Check it out.

[WWW.YellowRoseFiberFarm.com](http://WWW.YellowRoseFiberFarm.com)

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