The U.S. Branch of the International Committee for the Defense of the Breton Language (U.S. ICDBL) was incorporated as a not-for-profit corporation on October 20, 1981.

Bro Nevez ("new country" in the Breton language) is the newsletter of the U.S. ICDBL. It is published quarterly: February, May, August and November. Contributions, letters to the Editor, and ideas are welcome from all readers and will be printed at the discretion of the Editors. Suggested deadlines for receipt of contributions for Bro Nevez are: January 20, April 20, July 20, and October 20.

Ideas expressed within this newsletter are those of the individual authors, and do not necessarily represent ICDBL philosophy or policy.

Membership in the U.S. Branch of the ICDBL includes subscription to Bro Nevez:

- Voting Membership: $18.00 (calendar year)
- Non-Voting Membership: $17.00

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- $20.00 overseas by surface mail
- $25.00 overseas by airmail (printed matter rate)

The U.S. ICDBL provides Bro Nevez on a complimentary basis to a number of language and cultural organizations in Brittany; in some instances we are also very happy to establish an exchange of publications.
A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Members and subscribers,

With this newsletter you will find a form to use in renewing your membership or subscription for 1994. I sincerely hope that you will choose to continue your support for the Breton language, and I take the opportunity to pass along thanks for your support in 1993 from the U.S. ICDBL President, Lenora A. Timm, and our Board of Directors, Reun ar C’halan, David Brule, Jim Kerr, Alexei Kondratiev, Greg Stump, and Amy Varin.

In 1993 we had 57 voting members and 21 non-voting members with an additional 29 subscribers to Bro Nevez. Your dues and subscription fees allow us to send over 50 copies of Bro Nevez on a complimentary basis to individuals and organizations in Brittany and Europe working for the Breton language. I know that our work is highly appreciated and will continue to be important as Bretons continue their work to give the Breton language a larger place in the schools, media and public life of Brittany.

With this issue we have published over 1,500 pages of Bro Nevez. In these issues we have presented over 335 Breton books, 50 Breton magazines, and 20 publishing houses. We have also introduced over 135 recordings from Brittany. This only begins to touch the surface of the rich musical, literary and scholarly life in Brittany, but it is not a bad introduction. I am now in the process of redoing the index which covered only up to the end of 1989, and this should help us in finding information from the pages of Bro Nevez to help meet the many requests for information I receive from all over the United States and Canada ... and sometimes from Brittany.

While we do not have a huge membership, and while financially we continue to barely break even each year, 1993 was a very strong year for the U.S. ICDBL. I am particularly proud of the show of support U.S. ICDBL members gave to the Diwan schools in sending contributions to help with the current financial crisis there.

Our role in showing international support for the Breton language and culture will continue to be an important one in 1994, so please rejoin us and bring along some friends.

Thanks!

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MEMBERSHIP LIST

I am long overdue in distributing a membership list to U.S. ICDBL Members. Work is now underway to get one done--made easier with the computer. If you do not want your name and address in this list, please let me know as soon as possible. Unless I hear from members I will assume you would find such a list useful or interesting, and I will plan to distribute it with the February 1994 newsletter.
DIWAN

The following article is a translation of one that appeared in Breizh e Pariz/Le Journal des Bretons no. 47, septembre/octobre 1993. Jean-Claude Segaud reports regularly in this magazine on the Diwan schools.

Diwan fundraising

As of the last information received, Diwan had collected over 2,000,000 francs to help them get out of the URSSAF "hole." A big thank you goes to the generous contributors! Never before has a Breton cultural initiative raised such a large sum in such a short amount of time. And it is important to point out that with its annual budget of nearly 20,000,000 francs Diwan is by far the largest Breton cultural enterprise in Brittany's history. Keep in mind that the financial audit found no anomalies and that the average cost for a Diwan student remains below that of other educational institutions. Keep in mind also that Diwan salaries are very stingy and that staff must work hard to balance a need for innovation, the growth of the schools and severe financial limits. Any supplemental assistance will be welcome. As for the URSSAF court proceedings, it is still too early to know the outcome, and numerous contacts have been made to insure as favorable an outcome as possible. Diwan has started to make up its social security payments.

And the new 1993 school year? 1,100 Diwan students!

Despite severe budgetary measures taken by Diwan, the new 1993 school year is marked by another increase -- an 18% increase over enrollments of 1992. The College of Relecq-Kerhuon (6th through 3rd levels = roughly the middle school level here in the U.S.) now has 119 students. Five new classes have opened: three in Baud, Landerneau and Lorient, and two in Nantes and St. Nazaire. But other openings, in Plabennec for example, had to be delayed, and the number of students per class for preschool and primary school classes has risen to 14.6 (it was 12 three years ago) which has been met by only a slight increase in the number of teaching and administrative personnel from 102 to 107--an increase of 4% over last year. Planning for a second College and a High School is still in progress, but with an objective of financial autonomy. As for the contract (with the State), a tendency seems to be towards the contract "association type loi Debré" in order to better preserve the pedagogical originality of Diwan.

PLANNING FOR BRETON TELEVISION

On October 26, the Cultural Council of Brittany (Conseil Culturel de Bretagne) held a press conference to present a study which provides the groundwork necessary to proceed in establishing a Breton television station.

For the first time, a serious technical study based on factual documentation puts a tool into the hands of elected officials and public decision makers in general which will enable them to effectively fight for a Breton television. Regulations, which can change, have been clearly described; under the current political conditions it is within these regulations that a Breton television must be created.

Participating in the press conference were members of the Cultural Council of Brittany: Per Denez (its President), Lena Louarn, Jean-Louis Latour (a member of the council's Bureau), Jean Normand (General Councilor for Ille et Vilaine), Loic Le Diguercher (president of ACAV--an audiovisual center of Brittany), and Patric Pelian who directed the study.
MORE BILINGUAL SIGNS IN BRITTANY

Little by little Brittany has acquired bilingual signs—not without some civil disobedience—and today municipal and departmental governments continue to go ahead with projects to make the Breton language more visible. New signs can be found along roadsides and at the entrance to towns, but also on and in an increasing number of public buildings.

With the support of the Cultural Institute of Brittany (Skol Uhel ar Vro) the city of Lorient has contracted a study of placenames in its area, and Mikael Briand has produced a study of some 600 pages. With this resource the city of Lorient is currently in the process of installing bilingual signs at cultural sites and has been collaborating with institutions such as the post office, hospitals, libraries, public transportation stops, and the tourist bureau to increase signs. Long overdue, the Inter-Celtic Festival of Lorient will also be using special bilingual signs to give more prominence to the Breton language.

Although the reproductions are not of the best quality, the pictures on this page will give some idea of new signs to be found in Lorient.
LOCAL BRETON GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR THE BRETON LANGUAGE

An organization called Evid Lezenn ar Yezou (ELY) has been promoting a statute for regional languages and cultures of France. In this work, they have been polling all the municipal councils in Brittany to see what locally elected government representatives think. Here is the latest press release from this organization in Breton and in an English translation from the French version provided.

**Eur Gouellen diazzezet-stard e-touez ar Vretoned**

Emañ E.L.Y. (Emgleo evid Lezenn ar Yezhou) o paouez sevel ar gont reiz, - hag evid an deiz-hirio, - euz ar Mennadou Tiez-Kenk bet kelou anezo a-du gand eul Lezenn evid ar Yezou ha o sevenadurio-rannvro. Surivadenn E.L.Y., kaset war-rao da heul al liez a zivizou bet moueziet gand or Huzulio Departmanchou h Rannvro a Vreiz, a zo an oberiantizou a be seurt, - Kelennadurez, strolladou sosialel, ekonomikel hag all.

Beteg-hen, setu m’eo bet digemeret gand E.L.Y. 519. Mennad bet moueziet gand Kuzulio Tiez-Kenk euz Breiz-Izel, - da lavared eo gand tost-tre da 90% euz ar 580 a Assembleou a-dizdez bet dilemet gand Bretoned al lodenn-ze a Breiz. Ha, war ar poent-se, e ranker merka chriann-skwer disoh-dreist departamant Penn-ar-Bed hag a gontor emañ 281 diwar e 283 a Kuzulio, kement ha lavared ar peuz-oll anezo hag o-deus embannet e houennont eur statud lezennel evid yezh o bro.

Fiziania a zo bremiañ ganELY ne jomo ket heb respont an tri-ugen bennag a Kuzulio Tiez-Kenk pa vo bet skrivet do’o Mered evid ma teufent da gloza talvoudegez-skwer ar voueziadeg roet lans dezi da heul goulenn or Huzulio-Meur. Hag e kred stourmerien ar brezoneg e hellont fiziozd a-hend-ail war ar Huzulio Tiez-Kenk a Breiz-Uhel, evid ma teufent da heul Kuzul-departamanou an Ill-ha-Gwilen hag al Liger-Atlantel (ha Keriou braz evel Roazon, Sant-Malo, Rezé, kouzl ha Sant-Breig, Ploemeur, Lamballe hag all), o ret da gleved goulennou ar Vro-Hallo evid gwiriou yez ha sevenadur o lodenn euz Breiz-Arvor. Gouezet on-eus eman "Breizh Gallisez" o vond da gas war-rao eur strivaden a-zoare war an tu-ze hag a ziskouvez anad youl Breiz a-bez e ve sevenet heh oll gwiriou sevenadurel.

**The Statut for Regional Languages and Cultures**

An aspiration clearly of the majority in Brittany

ELY, the Breton committee which is fighting for a statute for regional languages and cultures of France, has just added up new survey results in its campaign for votes in favor of the statute by Brittany’s municipalities. Taken on after multiple resolutions were adopted along these lines by the General Council and Region of Brittany, and placed under the patronage of some 550 university, cultural, economic, and social leaders, the campaign by E.L.Y. ("Evid Lezenn ar Yezou" = "For a law for languages") has received up to now (mid-September) 519 votes from our Municipal Councils in Lower Brittany, the zone where Breton is traditionally found (Finistère and the western parts of Côtes d’Armor and Morbihan). This is more than 89% of the 580 Assemblies elected in this part of our region. Especially notable is the performance in Finistere where 281 of its 283 Municipal Councils expressed a favorable vote.

ELY recognizes that in response to a new approach to their Mayors a good number of the municipal assemblies which have not pronounced themselves in favor of the statute up to now would give their support to an aspiration that so clearly reflects the general opinion of our compatriots. Additionally, ELY knows it can count on the support of numerous councils in Upper Brittany which, concerned about the defence and promotion of Gallo and its culture which are also precious riches of the Breton patrimony, have already given 107 votes following those of the departmental assemblies of Loire-Atlantique and Ille-et-Vilaine as well as a number of important cities such as Saint-Brieuc, Saint-Malo, Rennes, Rezé, etc., a unanimity of votes given across various interests. ELY has learned of action to be taken by "Breizh Gallisez" in this direction and congratulates this organization for its initiative.

**Breakdown of votes by department (as of mid-September)**

**Lower Brittany (west of a line running through Plouha-Caurel-Theix-Sarezeau):**
- Finistère: 281 communes out of 283, or 99.29% in favor
- Côtes d’Armor: 137 communes out of 172, or 79.65%
- Morbihan: 101 communes out of 125, or 80.8%

Total Lower Brittany 519 out of 580 or 89.48%

In Upper Brittany, 107 votes in favor have been collected.

For more information: Evid Lezenn ar Yezou
40 bis rue de la Republique
29200 Brest
NEW RECORDINGS FROM BRITTANY

Reviewed by Lois Kuter


This new recording combines a noted Breton harper, Dominic Bouchaud with an oboe player, Cyrille Colas. Both have been recognized by musical conservatories for their mastery of these instruments and their classical music training will be evident in this recording. Those who have grown to love the wilder sound of the bombarde will find the use of oboe in arrangements of Breton melodies pretty, but missing something, no matter how accomplished the performer. No one can question the quality of Bouchard’s or Colas’ performances, but be aware that the arrangements here are classical in style. Personally, I found all the arrangements very pleasant, but I was bored by the second time through the CD. This is purely a matter of personal taste--those who have enjoyed recent albums by the Chieftains will, to the contrary, find this a delightful recording. And those who enjoy harp and a more classical style of sound will also find this very much to their liking.

While I did not find much variety to the overall style of performance on this CD by the harp-oboe duo (which sometimes added a third Celtic harp by Florence Jamain), there is quite a bit of variety in the traditional melodies and compositions performed. The CD includes arrangements of traditional melodies (religious and secular songs) from Brittany, and arrangements of melodies from the traditions of Ireland, Wales, Spain, Brazil, and Peru. As seems to be the case for all those who practice Celtic harp, compositions by Turlough O’Carolan are included, but Bouchaud and Colas also include two compositions by Breton composer Jef Le Penven (1919-1967), an adagio by Benedetto Marcello (1686-1739), and several contemporary composers, including a 12-minute composition called "Algues" by Bernard Andres.


The introduction on this new CD reads: "Michel Tonnerre’s music is a classic in its genre. If you spend any time at the ports around Brittany you are sure to hear Tonnerre’s music thundering from more than one rowdy bar..." And, indeed, Michel Tonnerre’s name is well known in Brittany for the many fine songs about maritime life he has written over many years (made known by the group Djiboudjep and sung my many others). If you have spent time in Brittany or listened to groups from Brittany who do maritime music, it is certain that you will have heard something by Michel Tonnerre.

From the Island of Groix, (directly south of Lorient), he is certainly no stranger to Brittany’s maritime traditions. "Ti-Beudeff", which gives its name to the title of the CD, is a combination bar/grocery store similar to those found in most small villages of Brittany where you drop in to pick up cigarettes, bread, or a bar of soap, and eventually meet the entire population of the village for a quick chat conversation over a glass of wine or cup of coffee. On the island of Groix, Ti Beudeff is where generations of fishermen have gathered and still do.

Those who will enjoy this new CD by Michel Tonnerre are those who have spent some time on the coast of Brittany (or any coast where there is a maritime history) who can picture the vivid scenes and people of his songs. There is nothing about this recording that will make it instantly appealing to those who have no feel for or experience of maritime life (of Brittany or anywhere else). Michel Tonnerre’s style is somewhat typical of French pop music--more chanting and recitation than actual singing. His low, gravelly voice carries little melody, and on some songs he seems to bellow relentlessly at you. But it is a voice that has a great deal of character--as do his songs. A number of musicians accompany the songs, with harmonica and accordion, acoustic and electric guitars, keyboard and percussion, with a driving rock rhythm or gentler swing.
New Recordings - continued


Attention dancers! This is a recording designed for you. And the notes are in both French and English (with a touch more information in the French version, but a well-translated English version). There is no substitute for having a good teacher actually show you how to do Breton dances, and then using your skills in the many opportunities in Brittany for dancing (the fest noz or fest deiz, is a dance held at night or daytime afternoons literally everywhere in Brittany most weekends of the year). But, those who have some rudimentary skills or who are part of a folk dance club in the U.S. where Breton dances are sometimes done will find this CD very valuable. Those who like the paired playing of biniou koz and bombarde will also like this recording.

For dancers, the accompanying booklet includes a brief (too brief) history of dance in Brittany as well as instructions and some diagrams to help you actually try doing the dances. While verbal instructions and pictures have never much helped me, this will be very helpful information to those used to this style of instruction and to those who might have learned the dances and just need some reminders (like music notation can help musicians recall a tune). The 10 recordings are from 4 to 7 minutes—a good time to actually enjoy doing each dance (although shorter than one might find them done at dances in Brittany). Those in the U.S. who have unwittingly been dancing to groups who arrange traditional dances (sometimes with rhythmic freedom) will find it a joy to dance to music actually performed for dancers.

Jean Baron and Christian Anneix have been piping and bombarding (can one say that?) for 20 years and have many many trophies to show for their years of experience. Now one is more likely to find them on juries to judge piping contests, but they certify can be heard at festivals, festou noz and concerts in Brittany. Their years of experience means that they have gained competence in a performing a range of dances from both their home area of eastern Brittany and western Brittany. Dances on this CD include hanter dro (Vannetais), kost ar c’hoat, ronde/baleu/ronde/riquegnée (Louéac), derobée (Guingamp), dans plin (St. Nicolas du Pelem, Sainte Trophine), ronds or tours (Vilaine area), gavottes and dans tro’lleur (Pourlet area), Ronds and bals paludiers (Guérande), kas abarh (Lorient and Carnac area), en-avant deux (Rennes area).

Whether you want to improve dancing skills or simply like the piping of Brittany, this is a highly recommended CD. Note that this duo has recorded an earlier collection of dances: Danses de Bretagne (Keltia Musique KMCD 07, 1988) which is still available and complements this new CD with different dances.


What happens when you put Bretons and Belgians together who have a passion for Irish music? You get a marvelous recording like “Blue Room” which gives a new swing and energy to familiar and newly composed Irish tunes. This band has been around since 1987 and has had a changing lineup. The current foursome works extremely well. Raquel Gigot is of Belgian-Spanish family and brings accordion--both chromatic and diatonic--to the group. She’s familiar with a number of styles--French “musette”, Eastern European, Scandinavian and Scottish and Irish--and her experience and skill is evident in this recording. Fiddler Rudy Velghe, also from Belgium has explored the Flemish tradition of his country and for many years has played in sessions with Irish musicians (forming a duo at one time with whistle player and uilleann piper Thomas Keenan). But he has also explored blue grass, jazz and Balkan music and plays the Scandinavian Nyckelharpa, a complicated keyed fiddle with twelve harmonic strings. Breton Gwenaël Micault has traveled throughout Europe as a keyboard player and arranger. He is an important part of this quartet and uses the keyboard to its full capacity. Last but not least is a name that has appeared frequently in these pages: Soig Sibeol (see the review in the August issue of Bro Nevez for his latest CD, Diger). He brings experience from work in the Breton groups Gwerz, Komog, Den, Pennou Skoulm and Kemia. A world traveler, he has also tried his hand at Irish and other European traditional styles over the years.
New Recordings - continued

While Orion can express the high energy of an Irish reel, their jigs and reels move with an elegance rather than will a relentless pounding all too common among musicians who seem to pursue reels as a race to the finish. Orion's dance tunes make you feel like dancing, not just stomping your feet. Melody is the key to this recording. They allow the listener to discover that jigs and reels actually have a very beautiful melody which need not be obscured by a pounding rhythm. It is the slower melodies that I found particularly striking on this CD—my favorite being the super-slow reel composed by Rudy Velgher called "Wailing Reel" which leads off the CD. Of the twelve pieces on the CD, six are compositions by the group and all are exceptional. But they also do exceptional things with other compositions—like those of Turlough O’Carolan. If you are ready to scream at the thought of hearing another pretty but dreary O'Carolan tune, then Orion's arrangements of this composer's works will be an ear-opening experience for you. Included in three cuts of the CD are "Mrs. Maxwell," "Captain O’Kane," "Squire Parsons," "James Betagh," and "O'Carolan's Jig for O'Connor"). They bring this composer into the 20th century—finally!!—with some very interesting arrangements including the use of Nyckelharpa and a baroque string quartet.

Orion's arrangement and composition of Irish tunes breathes new life into them but they also apply their talents to Swedish, Bulgarian and Rumanian dance tunes on two of the CD cuts. There is an undeniable strength to the international experience of the band and the cast of characters brought in to assist here and there: the Halvenalf String Quartet, Youenn Le Bihan (renowned bombarde player of Brittany), Johnny McDonagh (percussionist with De Danann and Arcady), Celine Thooff (former singer/founder of Zap Mama, a Belgo-Zairean band, now performing jazz, blues and Afro styles in Belgium), Mike Butcher (the sound technician from Wales).

If you have become a bit jaded after hearing too much mediocre Irish music, you will find this a very refreshing and enjoyable CD. It will restore your faith in the richness of the Irish musical heritage and the ability of good musicians to reinterpret and add new compositions worthy of that heritage.

BOOKS

Reviewed and noted by Lois Kuter


Dastum has published, or co-published, some remarkable scholarly studies of traditional Breton song and this study to be released this November promises to be a classic. The advance notice to follow—in Breton and then translated from French—gives a good idea of what to expect.

E-touez an holl ganaouennou bet dalc'het betek ennomp gant hengoun ar bobl e chom "Gousperou ar Raned" unan eus ar re souzhusañ. Gouez d'an holl eo bet kinniget iveau gant Kervarker e stumm "Ar Rannoù", pezh kentañ e v/Barzaz-Breiz adalek embannadur 1845, ha dielennet gantañ evel ur gentel gozh ha prizius-kenañ o tisplegañ gouziegezh an Drouized. Daoust d'an dielennadur-mañ da vezañ bet taget ha kinniget da c'houda meur a reoù all e chom c'hooazh teñval e ster, ha dibar e stumm e-keñver holl pezhiou all hol lennegsez hengounel.

Ar studiadenn-mañ a zo bet kroget evit un ch'ounsrid mestroniez keltiek ha ledannaet dre ret da sentiñ ouzh ezhommou un danvez ken pinividik. Al lov'r-mañ hiziv a zo tost da 600 pajenn ennañ, 16 x 24 cm, bet skriwet e brezhoneg, troet e gallezh hag embannet en div yezh gant Dastum (gant skoazell Skol-Uhel ar Vro), rakgeriet gant Yann-Fañch Kemener.
Unan eus al lourioù brasañ da-geñver ur ganaouenn hengounel an hini eo. El levr e vo kinniget ga genteañ darn varañ ar stumnuò bet kavet e-touez dornskrioc-dastum ar c’hanived diwezhanañ, levrioù bet embannet gant un nebed enklaskerien, ha war an enrolladurioù, war bladennoù pe diembann, ar pezh a ra un daou-ugen stumm bennak. D’o heul e vo tu da lenn un diellennadur ledan eus arouezioù ar ganaouenn, eus he sonerezh hag he gwerzaouriezh, eus he asteennidezh hag he treustummadur, hag un taol-lagad war an doareouenn da gompren anezhi.


Of all the pieces conserved until our day through the oral tradition from the depths of the Breton oral heritage, "The Vespers of the Frogs" is one of the most remarkable songs. It was made famous by the version published in the 1845 edition of Barzaz-Breiz, in which it made up the first song with the title "The Series." La Villemarqué presented it as a pedagogical dialogue dating back to druidic practices. Despite the controversies brought up by this interpretation and despite all the others given it, this song has nevertheless remained unique in both its form and still-enigmatic content.

Starting as the subject of a Celtic Studies thesis, the research by Jean-Jacques Boldron rapidly expanded from the university study to become an exploration of all the questions posed by such rich material. The result is a work of nearly 600 pages (16 x 24 cm) written in Breton and translated into French and edited in a bilingual format by Dastum, with aid from the Cultural Institute of Brittany, and with a preface written by Yann-Fañch Kemener.

This book presents one of the most exhaustive studies ever done of a traditional Breton song. One finds first a critical evaluation of the 40 versions of the song found so far in collector's manuscripts of the last century, in collections published by various folklorists since the middle of the 19th century, and, of course, from recordings available on LP or unreleased. Next the study presents and analyzes the themes of the song, its poetic and musical structure, and its geographical distribution. And finally a critical inventory of different interpretations of the song up to the present is provided.

From Nantes, born in 1960 in a family originally from the Breton border with Anjou, the author has a D.E.A. in Modern Literature. He is a certified teacher of Breton and Modern Literature and teaches in Redon and Rennes.

**NEW BRETON DICTIONARIES**

Breton learners are blessed with a number of dictionaries—each with a particular strength. Fifteen different dictionaries and a dozen more specialized lexicographies and dictionaries on specific subjects are noted in the U.S. ICDBL Guide to Learning Materials for the Breton Language which was first published together in 1983, but there is a number of new publications need to be noted since the last revision of that guide in 1991. Lois Kuter


This is a basic pocket dictionary with a pleasant size (4-1/4 x 5-3/4; 3/4" thick). The print is easy on the eyes and words pop out to the eye on each page. Each entry includes pronunciation (international phonetic norms), indications for type of word (adverb, preposition, etc.) or masculine/feminine indication for nouns, and the French/Breton equivalent. In some cases a definition is given for the word as it is used in a short phrase.
The dictionary is intended to include the basic vocabulary for contemporary users. It incorporates the vocabulary from Roparz Hemon's Brezhoneg Eeuñ and Fransez Kerella's Geriôù Diazez ar Brezhoneg, with the addition of vocabulary commonly found in learning manuals for Breton today. There are 5,000 entries in the Breton-French part and 5,000 in the French-Breton section. The dictionary is intended especially for learners establishing a basic vocabulary, as well as for native speakers never taught to read Breton who are learning to read it. As a learner (who seems to be perpetually at the beginner level) I have tested this dictionary and find it very nice for quickly looking up Breton words. Although, I sometimes then need to find my French-English dictionary to look up a French word, the fact that this dictionary includes a basic, core vocabulary means that those with a reasonably good knowledge of French will be comfortable.

The "reference" section of the dictionary is also very helpful for learners, including a guide to how to locate words which are subject to mutations (a change in the first letter of the word dependent on use in a sentence). Also included in the condensed grammatical guide is a guide to basic pronunciation for Breton, keys to mutations and a chart of how letters change, markings for plurals, adjectives, principal prefixes and suffixes, the article, numbers and numbering, verbs and conjugation charts for regular and five irregular verbs, and prepositions with charts showing how various ones are conjugated.


When Raymond Delaporte (Remon ar Porzh) died three years ago he had dug into a project requiring another lifetime, the publication of a Breton-English dictionary (See Bro Nevez 37, February 1991). The first volume of this massive and very welcome work was published in 1986 and covered the letters A-B. The second volume appeared in 1989 and covered CH-C'H-D. Using notes left behind, Mouladurioù Hor Yezh has now published the third volume which covers E-F-G.

For English speakers passing through French to learn Breton has always been a major obstacle--a less than effective way to learn Breton even for those who are fluent in French. The work of Raymond Delaporte is thus invaluable in helping learners get directly to Breton. These dictionaries open doors to a new world and I know I am among other learners who would encourage the publishers to continue, if possible, to achieve Mr. Delaporte's work.


First published by Cork University Press in 1979 this new edition of Raymond Delaporte's Breton-English dictionary is a classic--an essential tool for any English speaker trying to learn Breton.


Just as those wishing to learn Breton must pass through French to get there, those wishing to learn Welsh must go through English. For Breton speakers this is a very indirect route and this dictionary allows them to go directly to Welsh from Breton. For And for Welsh speakers learning Breton, this dictionary would also be a very useful tool. Rhisiart Hincks is a professor at the University of Wales in Aberystwyth. 194 pages of this elementary dictionary include some 10,500 word entries and an additional 60 pages include pronunciation, orthography, and verb and preposition conjugations.
Dictionaries - continued


This is a fascinating listing of 5,000 of the most commonly found family names in Brittany—the preface to which begins with the words “with hesitation…” This is in deed a study that one would embark upon with a great deal of hesitation given the complexity of tracing name changes and variations over time. Gwennole Le Menn is well suited to the challenge. A researcher for Celtic Studies with the C.N.R.S. (national research institution of France) he is known in Brittany for regular radio broadcasts on word origins. He published a guide to Breton family names in 1982 (Noms de famille bretons—1,700 noms et variantes) which is now out of print and published a very popular guide to first-names (Grand choix de prénoms bretons) which has been regularly reprinted since 1971.

Like his previous work, this most recent guide to names is a scholarly study written for the general public. It includes some fascinating information with a simple presentation to names which requires only a careful reading of the introductory section to unlock very interesting details. Depending on print style names indicate a Breton origin or non-Breton origin and the entries also indicate the earliest date that form of the name was printed somewhere. Also noted is the department of Brittany where the commune can be found with the most occurrences of the name and the level of frequency in that department, in Brittany as a whole and in France is also noted. For example in looking up the name Le Gall (a name of several U.S. ICDBL members) one would find that it is linguistically of Breton origin, meaning “stranger, French” or someone who does not know the Breton language, and that it was found in written form as early as the year 1239. It is most concentrated in Finistere, and it ranks first in Brittany as the most frequently held name and ranks 150 in France by the number of people who have this name. Within the entry for “Gall” one would also find other variants (Legall, Le Gal, Le Gallic, etc. and their frequencies and distribution.

This book is obviously interesting for those who find their names in it, but it is also an interesting study of Breton names in general. Some interesting statistics emerge: of some 75,000 to 80,000 different names one finds in Brittany, nearly half are found in only one commune. Of some 1,500 communes in Brittany, only 566 names can be found in 100 or more of them, and an additional 1,458 names are known in 50 or more.

Here are the top ten names in terms of the number of individuals with the name:

1 - Le Gall  
2 - Le Roux  
3 - Thomas  
4 - Le Goff  
5 - Martin  
6 - Guillou  
7 - Hamon  
8 - Tanguy  
9 - Simon  
10 - Morvan

In terms of the distribution (the number of communes where the name can be found) the order is different for top ten in terms of how widely distributed the name is:

1 - Martin (found in 909 communes of 1500 in Brittany)  
2 - Thomas (874)  
3 - Simon (778)  
4 - Hamon (775)  
5 - Lucas (750) (12th in terms of no. of people with name)  
6 - Herve (746) (11th in terms of no. of people)  
7 - Gautier (686) (13th in terms of no. of people)  
8 - Le Roux (662)  
9 - Briand (655) (17th in terms of no. of people)  
10 - Richard (641) (20th in terms of no. of people)

Although Le Menn notes that there are still great gaps in researching the history of family names to be filled, the number of interesting studies of Breton family names as well as place names is growing, and some of the best places to continue study in a bibliography included in this book.
POCKET CALENDAR IN BRETON: Agenda 1994

Thirteen cultural associations in Brittany have gotten together to publish a pocket calendar for 1994 in Breton—a project formally undertaken yearly by Skol an Emsav. Besides a weekly calendar spanning two pages this pocket reference will include: a distance chart (in kilometers) between cities of Brittany; instructions on how to properly make out a check in the Breton language; a table of mutations for Breton (the changes in the initial letter of a word that makes it so difficult to learn Breton); directories of addresses for Breton sports, theater, music, publishing, and other cultural organizations; a list of radios and times for programs in Breton or about Brittany; a list of Celtic Circles and bagads; addresses for information in other Celtic countries and for minority languages in France; and calendars for the full year of 1995 and 1994. In a separate booklet (which fits with the calendar) is an address book with a list of the 1500 communes of Brittany with their zip code and the Breton language form of the name. The organizations coediting this pocket calendar are: Diffusion Breizh, Edica, Ikon, Skol an Emsav, An Here, Kendalc’h, Skol-Uhel ar Vro, A.C.A.V., Emgilev an Oriant, Ensavadur Breizh, Ijin, KEAV, and Egin.

This will be sold in any book store in Brittany that stocks Breton material and is also available through Skol Uhel ar Vro for 48 francs (plus postage) (About $10). If a number of U.S. ICDBL members are interested, a joint order would make sense. Please let me know.

IN THE PRESS

I receive a number of magazines and newsletters in exchange for Bro Nevez. The following summaries give an idea of the wealth of information available from Brittany. Anyone interested in more details about particular articles or about subscriptions, please contact me. L.K.

Kanvedenn
No. 6, Summer 1993
4-page newsletter in French of the Organisation des Bretons de l’Exterieur in the Caribbean. Reports in this issue include the political climate in France, the O.B.E., the imprisonment of a Breton speaker in Pakistan (borrowed from Bro Nevez), Bretons in Quebec and short notes on events in Brittany.

Ar Soner
No. 324, April-July 1993
23-page magazine of Bodadeg ar Sonerien which focuses on events for the bagads and pipers in Brittany. A large space is given to contest results and B.A.S. events, but this issue also includes several profiles of bagads, tune transcriptions, and a number of record reviews and notes.

Musique bretonne
No. 125, September-October 1993
24-page magazine produced by Dastum. This issue includes an interview with the Frères Morvan, the second part of a series on fiddlers in Trégor (including very interesting old photographs), an interview with Jacky Molard on the new record label Gwez Plodenn, continuation of the series on musical instruments on postage stamps, record reviews, short notes, a listing of magazine contents (which inspired this one here), and notes on musical events in Brittany.

Ar Men
No. 54, October 1993
73-page bi-monthly magazine notable for its beautiful photographs and excellent content. Major articles include 16th century "Lantern houses" in Morlaix, birds of Brittany’s coasts, a 17th century text describing the Isle of Skye, Breton composer Paul Le Flem, and the usual book and record reviews and notes on art and cultural events.
In the Press - continued

**Keleier Sevenadurel Ar Vro/**
**Actualités Culturelles de Bretagne**
no. 8, September 1993
16-page newsletter of Skol Uhel ar Vro which is always a very rich source of information on Brittany's cultural events. This issue includes 4 pages on the Order of the Ermine awards, the cinema festival of Douarnenez, the July 1993 International Celtic Congress, a festival for traditional sports (FestiVal), harper Myrdhin in Lithuania, an exposition on European education, and the usual number of short notes on events and new publications.

**Bretagne des livres**
No. 12, November 1993
20-page magazine also by Skol Uhel ar Vro focused on publishing in Brittany. This issue includes results of a survey of readers on the magazine's content, a report on a visit to the Welsh Eisteddfod, a review of book fairs in Brittany, other summer literary events, and a number of short notes. I find an annotated bibliography of new books in each issue particularly useful and interesting.

**Breizh e Pariz**
**Le Journal des Bretons**
No. 47, September-October 1993
24-page magazine focused on the Breton community of Paris. This issue reports on an economic forum of Breton and Quebec business leaders, a conference by O.B.E. on Breton culture and economic issues, a column by writer Charles Le Quintrec, Brittany's maritime development, the role of the Maison de la Bretagne in Paris, a continuing series about Breton and Celtic wrestling, and numerous short book and record reviews, notes on cultural activity, etc.

**Evit ar Brezhoneg**
no. 250, September-November 1993
11-page magazine in Breton with notes and/or subtitles for Breton learners. This issue features an interview with Andrey Roparzh, founder of a translation association, another Ilig Daveg adventure, and a note on police films from Scotland called "Taggart" to appear on television.

**Bremañ**
no. 145, October 1993
20-page magazine entirely in Breton which serves as an excellent source of information on political, social and economic, as well as cultural happenings and issues in Brittany. This issue includes short articles on the link between the Breton movement and economic issues, the situation of Breton in the schools, the twinning of Sant-Brieg and Aberystwyth, the Order of the Ermine honors, a conference of minority language speakers on economic issues, an interview with a nationalist leader from Asturias, Spain, the Celtomania festival in Nantes, and numerous short news items on Europe and the world.

**L'Avenir de la Bretagne**
no. 378, September-October 1993
15-page magazine of P.O.B.L. focused on political and economic issues in Brittany with a strong nationalist emphasis. Articles in this issue include the representation of "regions" in Europe, new economic models for France, human rights and the regionalization of Europe, an interview with an architect in Côtes d'Armor, the Irish Gaeltacht, the state of the Breton language, and the usual notes and book reviews.

**Gwenn ha Du**
No. 99, October-November 1993
270 page magazine with an unapologetic nationalist approach. This issue includes a very interesting biographical article in memory of recently deceased Alan al Louarn, and another on Pierre Le Pennec of the 16th century. Also of interest is a text from September 1532, L'Edit du Plessis-Mace. A number of short notes and book reviews are also very useful and informative.
In the Press - continued

Other magazines

Old Quimper Review
Vol. 4, no. 2, October 1993
8-page magazine focused on the faience tradition; geared toward collectors, but usually includes very interesting articles on the history of this craft. This issue includes an article about salt in Brittany and faience salt-shakers. Also included is an eyewitness sketch of two pardons (Saint-Jean-du-Doigt and Sainte-Anne-d’Auray) by Ellin Kelly, a Bro Nevez subscriber and occasional contributor.

Keltic Fringe
Vol. 8, no. 3, Autumn 1993
16-page magazine focusing on Celtic literature (ancient and modern). This issue includes several articles on Dylan Thomas’ Under Milk Wood, early Celts and attitudes about war, reminiscences of an Irish great-grandmother, the Keltic new year, and various short book reviews and notes on history and contemporary events in the Celtic countries.

Carn
no. 83, Winter 1983/94
24-page quarterly magazine of the Celtic League, primarily in English, but also all the Celtic languages (with summaries in English). Includes a wealth of short articles not duplicated anywhere else on current political events and economic, social, environmental and cultural issues in the Celtic countries. Articles related to Brittany in this issue include a report on the Breton language festival, Diwan’s fundraising efforts, new books and literary prizes, and cultural tourism and Celtic solidarity.

Contact Bulletin
Vol. 10, no. 2, Autumn 1993
8-page magazine of the European Bureau for Lesser Used Languages. This issue includes articles on the new Welsh language bill, Korrika 1993 (a race to raise funds for Basque language activities), a report of Welsh speakers on a visit to Brittany, a rock band called Tutti Futti who sing in a variety of languages, and a Occitan/Catalan/Esperanto dictionary, as well as a number of notes on new publications and events and conferences related to European minority languages.

PRINT

As readers have no doubt noticed, most of this newsletter has been of a “different” print—generated by the laser printer I have available at my workplace instead of the typewriter I have been using for past issues, which is what you are reading right now. I would appreciate feedback from readers who find any of the typefaces I have used difficult to read—too small?, a difficult style? Let me know which print style you prefer by referring to pages in this issue if you have a strong preference. Reducing print size allows us to squeeze more information onto fewer pages (which saves some money in printing and especially postage), but if reading Bro Nevez becomes a chore then we are not saving anything.
CULTURES AND LANGUAGES WITHOUT FRONTIERS

The following "form letter" was received this October inviting us to attend a November conference to create a network to support European languages and cultures. The material which follows explains it best, so I have reprinted it here.

Journées "Cultures et langues sans frontières"
Maison des Cultures de Pays
1, rue de la Vau St-Jacques
B.P. 03
79201 Parthenay Cedex

Parthenay, October 18, 1993

Dear Friends,

In October 1992, at the initiative of several organizations for the protection and promotion of minority cultures and languages in Europe a meeting was held in Brittany. Its aim was to create a Europe-wide network entitled "Cultures et langues sans frontières" - Cultures and Languages Without Frontiers - bringing together individuals and groups to promote the cultures and languages of the countries and/or regions of Europe.

A draft constitution was adopted by those present at that meeting. (A partial reprint follows - LK).

In addition there was a proposal that the inaugural General Meeting of this network should take place November 12, 13, 14, 1993, at Parthenay (in Poitou, France). The mayor of Poitou is a Euro-MP, and the dates would coincide with the opening of the Maison des Cultures de Pays (the center for traditional culture), an excellent resource for regional culture.

Knowing the quality of your work and your commitment to cultural diversity, we would be very glad if you could be involved in this event. We have placed details before the European Commission, telling them that you have been invited. I hope you don't mind.

To help prepare for this meeting, and in the hope that you will be interested, we would be most grateful if you could complete the attached reply form.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Jany Rouger,
Director of the Maison des Cultures de Pays

DRAFT CONSTITUTION FOR CULTURES ET LANGUES SANS FRONTIERES
(drawn up on 4 October 1992 at Berrien, Brittany, France)

Clause 1
In the belief that cultural and linguistic diversity is essential to the future of humanity, the organization "Cultures et langues sans frontières" (Cultures and Languages Without Frontiers) has been founded. This association is in the form of an alliance of groups and individuals who are working, across national borders, to protect and promote national and/or regional cultures and languages.

Clause 2
Its registered office shall be at...
Clause 3
Its objectives are:

* to create links and develop solidarity between the cultures and languages of the regions and/or countries of Europe, at a moment when the European Community is being formed. This concerns both those languages and cultures which are already recognized and taught in schools, and those which are not, so as to eliminate discrimination and claim equal rights in the institutions of Europe and with UNESCO,
* to extend the concept of protecting and promoting languages to all the other constituent parts of culture,
* to co-ordinate the action undertaken by those who are protecting culture and language, in all their diversity and without exception,
* to strengthen cross-boundary links, meetings and exchanges, and the interchange of ideas and to stimulate mutual understanding of different cultures, a source of creativity, fraternity and peace,
* to stimulate the circulation and exchange of teaching materials and cultural publications,
* to join in a mutual dialogue on the links which exist between the natural environment and the cultural environment, between cultural identity and economic and social vigor, between rural and urban surroundings,

so as to be instrumental in creating a Europe which respects cultural democracy.

Clause 4
The membership of the association Culture and Languages Without Frontiers is open to groups and individuals:

* Groups may be societies, combinations of societies, local, regional, inter-regional or national federations, which subscribe to the association’s principles. In particular those concerned with languages and/or any specific component of culture - food, lifestyle, art and architecture, sport, literature and written, oral or audio-visual expression, music and dance, relationship with nature, crafts and skills, etc.
* Individuals who wish to support the movement and contribute their talents to it.

Clause 5
The association shall undertake:

- to hold periodic meetings and conferences,
- to organize symposiums and exchanges,
- to publish newsletters, brochures, books, records, films and videos, in collaboration with other agencies,
- to organize festivals and exhibitions,
- to organize training at all levels, and specifically Universities of the Countries and Regions of Europe,
- to train teachers and development workers.

Clause 6
The assets of the association shall consist of:

- subscriptions from members, to be determined by the General Meeting,
- grants from any source
- profits from events and publications
- donations and miscellaneous income.

Clauses 7 through 12 outline the structure of leadership, meetings, dissolution, etc.—available upon request. LK

U.S. ICDBL SUPPORT/PARTICIPATION?

The Board of Directors of the U.S. ICDBL will be discussing what role we might be able to play, if any, in supporting this initiative. This will be based on further information we are able to gather and any comments we receive from members of the U.S. ICDBL. Your thoughts would be very welcome.
# Programme complet

**11 - 14 novembre 1993**

## Jeudi 11 novembre

**10 h 00**
**OUVERTURE DES EXPOSITIONS** : 
(presentées jusqu'au 14 inclus, accès gratuit.)
- Nicole MORIN et Marianne GATINEAU, peintres s'inspirant de leur culture régionale.
- Présentation des activités des divers membres des réseaux européen, national et régional, répartis sur l'ensemble des bâtiments de la Maison des Cultures de Pays et de la Maison du Tourisme.
- Accueil des délégations (échanges culturels - comités de jumelage de Parthenay).

**21 h 00**
**SPECTACLE** :
- Fantaisie musicale « Je suis Polevin, mais je me soligne », avec Jany Rouger et Pascal Guérin ; à la Maison des Cultures de Pays. **Entrée : 40 F**

## Vendredi 12 novembre

**10 h 00**
**ACCUEIL** des participants au colloque.
- Visite de Parthenay et des alentours (Musées et lieux associatifs).

**10 h 15**
**RENCONTRES SCOLAIRES** :
- Activités de valorisation des cultures de pays avec les enfants des écoles et collèges de la région.
- Spectacle jeune public « Drigail et ramasse bourié », avec Dominique GAUVRET et Olivier GAUTIER, suivi d'un bal pour enfants.

**21 h 00**
**SPECTACLES** :
- Veillée musicale pour les invités européens à la MCP. **GRATUIT**
- Spectacle « Pougue-Hérisson » (pour la dernière fois dans la région), avec Yannick JAULIN ; au Palais des Congrès. **Entrée : 50 F**

## Samedi 13 novembre

**COLLOQUE : Démocratie culturelle et citoyenneté européenne.**
(accès au colloque gratuit)

**9 h 00**
- **Introduction** du thème, par Mme FERRERI CASALS (Présidente de l'Intergroupe « Langues et Cultures régionales » au Parlement Européen) et Michel GAUTIER (Président de DPLP) ;

**10 h 00**
- Ateliers thématiques (États des lieux des minorités linguistiques et culturelles en Europe) :
  - Reconnaissance institutionnelle des langues ;
  - BD, cinéma d'animation ;
  - Théâtre ;
  - Enseignement ;
  - Arts de la parole ;
  - Médias et minorités ;
  - Musiques et danse ;
  - Arts plastiques.

**12 h 00**
- Apéritif-concert (groupes régionaux) et repas ;

**14 h 00**
- Interventions en plénière :
  - Michel BASSAND, sociologue suisse, auteur de « Culture et régions d'Europe » ;
  - Alain VIAULT, chercheur au CNRS ;
  - Protection des langues : le miroir espagnol ;
  - Un Représentant du Bureau Européen pour les langues les moins répandues ;
  - Jean-Pierre RAFFARIN, député européen, président du Conseil Régional Poitou-Charentes (sous réserve) ;
  - Max SIMÉONI, député européen.
  - Michel HERVE, député européen, maire de Parthenay.

**17 h 00**
**INAUGURATION OFFICIELLE** :
- Visite de la Maison des Cultures de Pays et du Musée. Discours.
- Présentation d'extraits de spectacles (musique et danse).
- Vin d'honneur musical et buffet des régions.

**21 h 00**
**SPECTACLE** :
- avec Bernarda BIDAUDE et Michèle BOUHET, conteuses ; à la MCP. **Entrée : 50 F**

**22 h 30**
**GRAND BAL** multi-régional ; à la MCP. **GRATUIT**

## Dimanche 14 novembre

**FORUM ET PORTE OUVERTES**
(accès gratuit)

**9 h 00**
**FORUM EUROPÉEN** :
- Synthèse des ateliers du samedi matin.
- Experiences ou actions-phares (présentées par leurs acteurs de façon vivante et rapide).
- Assemblée Générale constitutive de « Cultures et langues sans frontières ». Débat autour du concept de démocratie culturelle.
- Apéritif-concert et repas.

**14 h 30**
**PORTE OUVERTES » À LA MCP** :
- Forum régional : présentation au public de spectacles ou extraits de spectacles du réseau MÉTIVE et d'ateliers d'enfants (musique, danse théâtre...), en divers lieux de la MCP.
- Invitations faites à tous les membres des autres réseaux à se produire.
- Expositions (cf programme du 11 novembre)

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**MÉTIVE - Culture et langue poitévines-saintongeaises**
Centre de Musiques et danses traditionnelles en Région Poitou-Charentes et Vendée
Maison des Cultures de Pays
1, rue de la Vau-Saint-Jacques
B.P. 03 - 79201 Parthenay Cedex
Tél : 49 68 90 70
THE MAP OF BRITTANY - "BRITTANY" = five, not four, departments

In our last issue of Bro Nevez (no. 47, August 1993) we included information sent to us by Ensavadur Breizh, an organization working on promoting a cultural tourism which allows visitors to discover the Breton language, culture, economy and natural environment (among other work). With the information which was prepared by Infos Bretagne Services was a map to situate the location of Ensavadur Breizh (p. 49). The map was chosen by the printer who seems to need a lesson on Breton history. While the map was not intended to present all of Brittany, its borders imply that Loire-Atlantique is not part of Brittany. A letter exchange between Jean Cévaër, President of the Comité pour l'Unite Administrative de la Bretagne, and Patrick Merien, President of Ensavadur Breizh, clarifies that this was in no way the intent of that organization and that the map has been corrected.

While all this may seem like a small matter to some readers, the representation of Brittany on maps of any kind is a very sensitive issue, as the following document will illustrate. The report which follows describes how France has redrawn the borders of "Brittany," which is justified by the creation of a new history and identity for Bretons of the department of Loire-Atlantique. Beware the official French version of Brittany which has been depicted frequently in maps found in tourist literature.

"Brittany - the everyday ethnocide in Western Europe"
prepared by the Comité pour l'Unite Administrative de la Bretagne

Brittany, as a nation, has existed since September 851, after the Treaty of Angiers between the Breton Duke Erispoe and the Frank king Charles the Bald. From that time on the borders of Brittany would remain the same, with minor modifications, through six centuries. By the 15th century they were definitely set which is a situation unique in Europe.

These borders were confirmed in January 1499 when the Duchess Ann of Brittany married the king of France Louis the XIllh. They were again officially recognized in August 1532 when the Duchy of Brittany and the kingdom of France signed a Treaty of Union. In January 1790 when the province of Brittany was divided in five departments the external limits of the departments were faithful to the limits of the Duchy.

Yet, but its decree of June the 30th 1941, the pro-Nazi regime of Vichy separated the department of Loire-Inférieur (now Loire-Atlantique) from the other Breton departments. This was to punish the Bretons who in June 1940 in London made up nearly one-third of General De Gaulle's "Free French."

After the war succeeding regimes were only too happy to maintain this Vichy inheritance. Through a number of decrees and then laws the Jacobin bureaucracy in Paris gerrymandered the country to prevent any attempt at a rebirth of the former provinces on the successful model of West Germany's lander.

In this respect, France is the only country in Western Europe where "regions" do not coincide with historical provinces, and there fore do not have the legitimacy of geography, history, culture or even economy. In Western Europe, "administrative Brittany" has the unique feature of being the only "region" separated from its historical capital city, which is Nantes, placed by the Jacobin technocracy in a totally absurd contrivance, the so-called "Countries of the Loire", of which three of five departments are not even alongside the river! When this contraption was put together one of the great French geographers called it "an inept administrative gadget!"

As a result, in over twenty years, more than one billion francs of tax-payers money have been spent to promote this "region," to give it a flag, a palace, an orchestra, etc. Books about its "geography," its "history," and its "culture" have been written and are being used in schools. The obvious objective, in Loire-Atlantique, is to wipe out every trace of our past, of our history, of our culture, of our traditions and of the Breton language which, for centuries, has been spoken by more than a quarter of the Bretons of Loire-Atlantique.

Obviously, the Bretons have been protesting this partition of their country ever since the 30th of June 1941--the first one being the then mayor of Nantes, G. Rondeau, who was dismissed by Marshall Petain shortly afterwards.

In spite of continuing protests for more than 50 years from the general public as well as from elected officials, the Jacobin state is adamant and continues through its local stooges its efforts at "historical and cultural purification" in the department of Loire-Atlantique, the school children being obviously the prime targets. They are taught a falsified history, an ersatz culture and are deprived of their very roots.

A state which cannot even guarantee their future is robbing them of their past!
The Institut Franco-Américain of Rennes

I am happy to announce that we have just begun an exchange of newsletters with the Institut Franco-Américain in Rennes. The institute is the only surviving binational center in France, and was founded as an extension of the Marshal Plan in 1961 by the American Embassy and the Rennes City Hall.

A major activity of the Institute is the organization of English classes--at all levels, for children and adults, students and businessmen. The institute also has an important library collection for use by its members, including 500 reference works and 5,000 volumes that can be borrowed (almost half of which is literature and literary analysis, with about 24% of the collection in the field of social sciences, and 9% on the arts. Additionally the library has a strong pedagogical section for those studying English. Also in the collection are tourist brochures and guides for the various U.S. states, and last but not least, a collection of some 50 magazines--which will now include Bro Nevez.

Beside being an important resource for English learners and those interested in reading about the U.S., the Institute hosts a number of events to bring America to Brittany: photography and art exhibits by Americans or about America, lectures and conferences on a variety of topics from Native Americans to the role of Armand de la Rouerie in the American Revolution, theater workshops, films and video showings, and music (jazz by Stephanie Crawford hosted in November as part of a city-wide jazz festival).

The Institut Franco-Américan is also involved in student exchanges between Rennes and Rochester, New York (Rennes’ sister-city). And the Institute helps find host families for students who will be studying in Rennes (currently they are seeking families for students from Beloit College, Wisconsin). The Institute can provide translations (for a fee) and can administer official tests for English proficiency. And every month a group called “Cercle de patchwork americain” meets--can we assume this is a group that learns to make quilts?

A busy place indeed!

If you travel to Rennes, the address is:

Institut Franco-Américain
7, quai Chateaubriand
B.P. 2599
35059 Rennes
Tel. 99.79.20.57 / Fax. 99.79.30.09

If any U.S. ICDBL member would be interested in a copy of the Institute’s bi-monthly newsletter (1-2 pages), please send a self-addressed stamped envelope.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Lois:

In his recent review of my book, The Appointed Hour, I was surprised to read Jay Callahan’s comment that I do not “seem to have any familiarity with the Breton language, or even to acknowledge its existence (sic).” On a quick glance through the book, I counted 77 pages in the body of the text on which Breton terms or phrases appear, including 15 proverbs and one long prayer collected during conversations with Breton speakers. I hope this sets the record straight.

Sincerely yours,

Ellen Badone

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INTER-CELTIC FESTIVALS IN THE U.S.

We are very far from the major inter-Celtic festivals to be found in Europe, but there seems to be a growing interest in the U.S. in the inclusion of all the Celts in what used to be merely "Irish" or "Scottish" festivals.

OATLANDS CELTIC FESTIVAL

Barnaby Productions is pleased to announce the call for participants for the 1994 Celtic Festival at Oatlands.

To be held June 18 and 19, 1994, at Oatlands Plantation in historic Leesburg Virginia, we will be drawing audiences from the sizeable dedicated Celtic following in the middle East Coast areas.

We are looking for high quality entertainers, exhibitors, craftsmen, artists, and vendors, with products emphasizing the Celts of Brittany, Cornwall, Galicia, Ireland, Isle of Man, Scotland, and Wales, presenting their history, arts, and contributions to the Americas in the present as well as the past. Participants from the Old Worlds as well as the New Worlds are encouraged to apply.

All applications will be juried by a panel of judges experienced in historic, Celtic, music, and arts presentations.

For more information, or for an application, please write to:

Barnaby Productions
attention: Bernard Argent
9611 Pebble Weight Court
Burke, Virginia 22015 U.S.A.

Telephone: 703-451-7020

CELTIC FESTIVAL WEEKEND AT MURPHY'S LANDING, Shakopee, Minnesota

The first Celtic Festival Weekend was held this September, and although I have not had news of how it went, the information sent to me announcing it seems particularly interesting. The following are some excerpts from that information which presents the festival weekend and its events.

Proposal for a Pan-Celtic Gathering in Minnesota

Rationale: Currently the Macalester College Scottish Country Fair provides a significant gathering for the Scottish community. This event flies scant attention to other Celtic groups and is not likely to be expanded. The size of the Scots and Irish community in the Twin Cities suggests the need for another type of event. No events have ever been held here to celebrate the larger Gaelic language rooted communities. there seems to be great potential for such an event.

Events: Our present vision is for events and activities that are "non-competitive" in the sanctioned sense, and that would involve attending public. While the event would principally be out of doors there are a variety of foul weather indoor spaces available at Murphy's Landing. The opportunities for country dancing, in its many Celtic varieties are outstanding at this site and would be a major crowd draw. The rich array of music in the Celtic world (pipes, drums, harps, fiddles, song, etc.) provides another exciting opportunity. Non-competitive heavy athletics could be designed to involve the public. Wouldn't a true Gaelic "mod" be exciting?

From an introductory letter:

The Celtic Festival Weekend will be both educational and entertaining. One of the ways we will entertain is to conduct a cultural talent contest, a combination mod/eisteddfod/féis, in which individuals and groups will compete in any of several areas of performance:
Poetry recitation - English or a Celtic language. Should deal with topics of Celtic interest.

Original poem - A poem in English on a topic of Celtic interest written specifically for the contest. no longer than 100 lines.

Storytelling - solo oral presentation of a story (in English) on a topic of Celtic interest. Time limit, 15 minutes. No props or notes.

Solo voice - A solo piece in English or a Celtic language, a capella or with your provided accompaniment. Should be a Celtic song or on a topic of Celtic interest.

Group singing - a group presentation, in English or a Celtic language, of a Celtic song or one on a topic of Celtic interest. A capella or accompanied.

Instrumental - a solo or group presentation of Celtic tune on instruments only. You must provide any amplification necessary.

Workshops and demonstrations on all aspects of Celtic culture will be offered. Ideas for the workshops include: Celtic language (by nation), Celtic history, travel tips, clothing/costuming, genealogy, folklore, storytelling, King Arthur.

As noted in the last issue of Bro Nevez the organizers of this Festival know of no Bretons in their area and would love to have representation of the Breton culture.

Contact: Roderick MacRae
1210 West 22nd St.
Minneapolis, MN 55064
Tel. 612-377-0130

The deadline for the next issue of Bro Nevez is January 15, 1994.

I would be delighted to receive news of Celtic events, and even more delighted to hear your ideas for future topics to be included in Bro Nevez. Don't be shy!
CATALOGS: Coop Breizh/Diffusion Breizh

On the pages which follow you will find a relatively new catalog of recordings distributed by Coop Breizh. While it was not possible to reproduce the color of the original, the information should be useful to those interested in ordering recordings. A price list is also reproduced, but this does not include the cost of postage. It is best to write in advance to verify costs.

Please note that the catalog which follows includes only some of the recordings currently available in Brittany, and that it is focused in particular on the Arfolk and Escalibur labels. See the last issue of Bro Nevez (no. 47) for recordings distributed by Dastum and see Bro Nevez 40 (November 1991) for recordings under the label of Keltia Musique—another major label which has encouraged an English-speaking market.

And for those looking for books, Coop Breizh also distributes hundreds of books.
BAGAD DE LANN BIHOUE

Ensemble cornemuses, bombardes, batterie
Durée : 32:06 AAD
CD 701 = DB 5
MC 701 = DB 3

JEAN-CLAUDE JEGAT LOUIS YHUEL

Musique sacrée - Marches, mélodies, danses de Bretagne
Durée : 67:36 AAD
CD 305-306 = DB 5x2
MC 105 = DB 5
MC 106 = DB 5

JEAN-PIERRE LE CAM YANN GOAS - DIDER QUINIO RAYNOU ROU GILLES POLLAND DANIEL TANNEAU

Sextet. Musique bretonne à danser
Durée : 38:30 AAD
CD 308 = DB 8
MC 108 = DB 3

BAGAD BLEUMIX KEVRENN BREST ET SAINT MARK BAGAD KEMPER KEVRENN REINES COUPLES DE SONNEURS

Ensembles cornemuses, bombardes, batterie, duo de bombardes
Durée : 31:49 AAD
CD 312 = DB 8
MC 112 = DB 3

CHRISTOPHE CARON LOUIS YHUEL

Collantes bretons vannetais
Durée : 54:09 AAD
CD 418 = DB 5x2
MC 218 = DB 7

JEAN-YVES BARDOL CHRISTOPHE CARON PASCAL COURTEL YANN DOUR YYES LE BLANC

Musique et chants à danser en Bretagne galière
Durée : 49'14 AAD
CD 419 = DB 8
MC 219 = DB 8

OLIVIER LE STRAT

Musique bretonne Ensemble avec accordéon
Durée : 73:62 AAD
CD 396-398 = DB 5
MC 196 = DB 2
MC 198 = DB 2

ALAIN LE HEGARAT ALAIN TROVEL

Thèmes traditionnels bretons, landais et corses
Durée : 32:49 AAD
CD 420 = DB 8

FRANCIS LE PIPEC

Musique populaire en Bretagne galière
Durée : 66:51 AAD
CD 397-401 = DB 5
MC 197 = DB 3
MC 201 = DB 3

BAGAD DE LANN BIHOUE

Ensemble cornemuses, bombardes, batterie, + orgue + accordéon + gaita
Durée : 50:55 AAD
CD 421 = DB 12
MC 221 = DB 6
CHANTS DE MARINS

**SELECTION DE L'ANTHOLOGIE DES CHANSONS DE MER VOL 1 A 5**

Chants de marins
Livret avec textes
Durée : 69'10

SCM 014 = DB 13

CHANTEURS d'ENVERGURE

**CHRISTIAN DESNOS ARNAUD MAISONNEUVE ERIK MARCHAND THIERRY MOREAU**

Quartet, Chante de marins
Livret avec textes
Durée : 44'16

SCM 016 = DB 13

CHANTS DE MARINS TRADITIONNELLES

**SELECTION DE L'ANTHOLOGIE DES CHANSONS DE MER VOL 1 A 5**

Chants de marins
Livret avec textes
Durée : 69'28

SCM 017 = DB 13

CHANTS DES MARINS NANTAIS

**ANTHOLOGIE DES CHANSONS DE MER NOUVELLE SERIE VOL 1**

Chants de marins
Livret avec textes
Durée : 66'41

SCM 018 = DB 13

LES MUSIQUES DE LA FÊTE

**ALBATROZ - BOYS OF THE LOUGH - CHERISH THE LADIES - ETHIO - URELEET SQUADRA - TKJESKE WINDSTRAKE**

Enregistrement des concerts donnés du 11 au 16 juillet à Brest et Douarnenez
Durée : 73'27

SCM 023 = DB 12

LIVRES

**LE CHANT DE MARIN**

Format 21 x 25 cm - 96 pages
Version brochée : rel 4167 = 120 F
Version reliée : rel 4168 = 160 F

**CAHIERS DE CHANSONS DE MARIN**

Format 22 x 27 cm - 92 pages
rel 3724 = 100 F

**DIVERS ARTISTES**

**KARIM AMOUR, LAURENT BRAUD, STEPHANIE BRAND, OLIVIER CAUDEL, DOMINIQUE SAVARD, ALFRED HÉRAULT, JEAN-MARC LOCUTAU, YUAN FEI**

Musique à danser en Polon - Chantais - Vairée
Durée : 48'22

CDUP 68 = DB 13

DOMINIQUE BOULMER, JEANNE MARE, COME, BERNARD GARETI DENIS LEVRAUX
avec THIERRY ROBIN et PATRICE GRUPPALE

Chansons de marins de Loire
Durée : 62'22

CDUP 69 = DB 13

**PATTERN EVER**

Auteur, compositeur, Interprète, Livret avec textes
Durée : 63'47

LOR 01 PE = DB 13

LUCIEN GOURONG

Enregistrement public
Durée : 13'41

MAUD 220260 = DB 16

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EUGÈNE DUMITRANĂ, JACQUES EON, JEAN-PAUL FERREC, LUCKY NABLOT, SAM LATOUCHE
Chants de marins. Textes de Gilles Cuell et Sam Latouche
Durée : 43'00
GCSL 007 = DB 13

PIERRE MENORET
Auteur, compositeur, interprète.
Livret avec textes
Durée : 43'44
PM 013 = DB 14

FREDERIC, JEAN-CIARLES GUICHEN, GAEL NIGOL, DAVID PASQUET, STEPHANE DEVITO
Quintet. Musique à danser de Bretagne.
Enregistrement en public
Durée : 46'58
STSC 01 = DB 5 x 2
STSK 01 = DB 9

GUY EMILY, PHILIPPE DI FAOSTINO, PATRICE LAMBERT, PATRICE LANGLOIS, JEAN GUILIVIC, JEAN-LOUIS LE VALLEGANT
Sextet. Musique pietonne
Durée : 55'38
ZAP 02 CD = DB 13
ZAP 02 K7 = DB 9

DIVERS ARTISTES ET GROUPES
Chantent la ville de Brest.
Livret avec textes
Durée : 67'49
PL 9110 CD = DB 14
PLK 9110 = DB 12

LES PLUS BEAUX CHANTS DE MARINS

JEAN-MICHEL DEUGNON PHILIPPE VANDEN
Chants de marins
Durée : 62'09
PL 8913 CD = DB 12
PLK 8913 = DB 7

Éditions Pluriel

GILLES SERVAT
Auteur, compositeur, interprète. Arrangements par Michel Davy
Durée : 47'22
SERC 44007 = DB 13

MAD IN SERENITE
Disques Irlandais
(Extrait du catalogue)

THE CHIEFTAINS
L'un des 14 albums disponibles
Durée : 44'45
CC 16 CD = DB 14

SHAUN DAVEY LIAM O'FLYNN
Orchestre sous la direction de Noel Kelemen
Durée : 40'52
T ARA CD 3006 = DB 14

WOLFE TONES
Greatest hits
Durée : 56'25
ARCD 002 = DB 14

EDITIONS PLURIEL
(Extrait du catalogue)

CHŒURS - SOLISTES
ENSEMBLE BICHLA KEVERN BREST SANT MARK
Musique de CHRISTIAN DESBOURGES
Musique du spectacle Ar Biañion Vras. Célébrion Ar Vro Bigan
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Le livret = prix public 30 F

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