Editorial Comments

Barbara Beeton

New TUGboat submission and posting policies

Effective with the first issue of volume 26 (2005), there will be two changes in TUGboat policies for article submission and posting.

First, submissions to TUGboat will assume that the author agrees to posting of the submitted article on the TUG web site when the issue in which it appears is posted, subject to two restrictions:

- If the author specifically states that the article may not be posted, and provides the reason, this will be honored.
- If an article appeared previously in another publication, permission to post on the TUG web site will be requested from the editor(s) of that publication as well as from the author before posting.

Second, open posting of a published TUGboat issue will be deferred up to one year from the mailing date of that issue. However, immediate on-line access will be provided to members; the mechanism has not yet been implemented, but will be in place by the time the first issue of volume 26 is distributed, and members will be notified in due time.

Justin Howes, 1963–2005

We report with sadness the death on March 1, 2005, of Justin Howes, the typographer who developed the font, Founders Caslon, that was used to typeset the Euro\TeX{} 2003 proceedings, TUGboat 24(3).

Howes, who was born April 4, 1963, was devoted to typographic history, and actively sought to preserve the artifacts and archives of British typefounding. Thanks largely to him, the holdings of Stephenson, Blake Ltd, of Sheffield, the last major firm of this kind, were saved for posterity by the Type Museum in 1996; these included materials dating back to the Moxon era of the 17th century. For the past two years, Howes worked part time as curator of this collection.

He became attracted to the potential of the computer to aid in the preservation of type designs. Unlike many other digitized versions of old faces, Howes’ rendering of Caslon was not only true to the original, but was implemented in several distinct design sizes.

Howes was about to embark on a six-month visit to the Plantin-Moretus Museum in Antwerp, Belgium, where he had looked forward to casting letters and working with their 16th and 17th century materials.

He died at his desk of a heart attack, aged 41.

An extensive obituary from the London Times can be found on-line at http://www.timesonline.co.uk/article/0,,60-1505298,2,00.html, from which much of the information in the present note is abstracted. Additional information about his work can be found at http://www.microsoft.com/typography/links/news.aspx?NID=4665.

John Seybold, 1916–2004

John Seybold, the father of computer typesetting, died on March 14, 2004, in Haverford, Pennsylvania.

Seybold became involved with publishing after World War II, during the era in which offset printing was beginning to replace the metal technologies. In 1963, he was introduced to an early implementation of computer hyphenation, in conjunction with paper tape control of an early phototypesetter. He became convinced that computers could do more than just hyphenation, and founded the Rocappi company (Research on Computer Applications in the Printing and Publishing Industries) to develop a system that could tackle the entire process of editing, manipulating and formatting text to produce “commercial quality” published materials.

In 1970, after selling Rocappi, Seybold undertook consulting, and in September 1971, he and his son Jonathan launched The Seybold Report, a newsletter that became the most reliable source of information on the computer publishing industry.

\TeX{} was the subject of an extensive article in The Seybold Report, and Seybold organized a small gathering at Stanford in 1983 to investigate META-
FONT, a gathering which I was privileged to attend. One whimsical product of this experiment was the letter “Knu”, a compound of an uppercase “K” and lowercase “n”; the resulting glyph, sadly, appears to have been lost.

A brief biography and other memorabilia can be found on-line at http://www.johnwseybold.com/bio.htm.

Word Hyphenation by Computer
Frank Liang’s Stanford Ph.D. dissertation has, with Frank’s permission, been scanned and posted on-line for unlimited distribution. This work presents the hyphenation algorithm that is standard in \TeX, and has been adapted for use with numerous languages. The dissertation was scanned by Petr Sojka and his colleagues (to whom many thanks), and can be obtained via links on the page http://tug.org/docs/liang/.

Error in TUGboat 24:2 Zapfino article
The article “There is no end: Omega and Zapfino” by William Adams has in the upper right-hand corner of most right-hand pages a series of figures intended to be viewed by flipping the pages, spelling out the name of the font in an animation. Unfortunately, owing to a lapse in communication with the printer, the figures were cropped incorrectly, and the effect is not what was intended.

The article as posted on line has the correct, uncropped figures. Look for it via the issue contents: http://www.tug.org/TUGboat/Contents/contents24-2.html.

Historic \TeX\ distributions
Ulrik Vieth has installed a collection of historic \TeX\ distributions dating from 1983 on ftp://ftp.tug.org/historic/macros/latex-saildart. This collection includes \TeX\ 2.0 for \TeX\ 1.0 (released on 11 December 1983) and some even earlier versions. The material is based on archive tapes from Stanford’s SAIL system.

Ulrik has long been interested in \TeX\ history and is responsible for other collections as well. If you know of, or have, any material that isn’t included in the historical archives on the TUG machine, but should be, let us know, and we will help you to connect with Ulrik.

The \TeX\ Companion, 2nd edition
The second edition of The \TeX\ Companion contains numerous examples illustrating the many packages described in the book. These examples are significantly revised from those that appeared in the first edition. The revised examples can be found at CTAN in info/examples/tlc2. Some errors have already been found. These too are at CTAN, and also available at http://www.latex-project.org/guides/tlc2.err.

Addison-Wesley and the authors have started a bug contest—any mistake found and reported is a gain for all. A prize will be awarded every half year for 6 periods, in May and October, through May 2007. The eligible person who finds the largest number of bugs during each period will have free choice of any single computing book (no boxed sets or multiple volume offers) on the AW Professional web site, http://www.awprofessional.com. A person can receive at most one prize, ever; errors found by any of the authors do not count.

Start reading, and good luck.

techexplorer available once again
The techexplorer Hypermedia Browser, originally created by IBM, has been acquired and is now available from Integre Technical Publishing Co. as licensed, sponsored freeware. For details, see http://www.integretechpub.com/techexplorer/.

Central European Diacritics:

\textit{TYPO} Magazine
\textit{TYPO} Magazine is a bimonthly, full-color magazine published in both Czech and English on topics related to typography, graphic design and visual communication. The September 2004 issue contains an interesting article on the design of central European diacritics.

Back issues are posted on line at http://www.magtypo.cz/; the cited issue is No. 10.

Extra time?
Proofread for Project Gutenberg
The goal of Project Gutenberg is to make available, in electronic form, books that are out of copyright (published before 1924) in different languages. Proofreading and correction are accomplished by volunteers. More than 15,000 e-books have been made available to date.

If you have some free time, and wish to aid this effort, you can find information at http://www.pgdp.net.

\diamond Barbara Beeton
American Mathematical Society
201 Charles Street
Providence, RI 02904 USA
bnb@ams.org