Abstracts

(We hope that full papers will be published in a future issue. Ed.)

**TypeSpec v.2: Typesetting font specimens**
William Adams

Stephen Moye’s plain **T**E**X** TypeSpec macros converted to work as a **B**T**P**X document class and organized into macros will be shown, including a number of new layouts. Additional ideas for specimen layouts will be solicited, and some will be constructed interactively during the presentation.

**B**T**P**X and the different bibliography styles
Federico Garcia

The myriad of different styles for bibliography and reference layouts can be, in the main, classified into three main families: the ‘label’ family, where references are denoted with a label, usually in [square brackets]; the ‘author-year’ family (Adorno, 1978); and the ‘footnote’ family. Although there are arguments for each of those families, the choice between them is, in the last analysis, decided by tradition: different disciplines have come to adopt different styles, and new generations of authors will naturally follow the uses of their predecessors (which are also enforced institutionally, for example with journal guidelines).

**B**T**P**X itself (with **B**in**P**X) is designed toward the label family. Some packages, like cite, provide extra functionality in that family. The other two families are reflected in the **I**S**P**X world by special packages. The author-year family is well illustrated by packages such as harvard, natbib, and a chicago. Footnote-style references are implemented by the package opcit. A basic description of these packages follows. I will spend relatively longer with opcit, which is comparatively recent (2002) and the one I know best.

**Creation of a PostScript Type 1 logo font with MetaType1**
Klaus Höppner

MetaType1 is a tool created by Bogusław Jackowski, Janusz Nowacki, and Piotr Strzalczyk for creation of PostScript Type 1 fonts. It uses MetaPost, *t*il*util*s and some **w**ax scripts to create a MetaPost font source with some special macros.

MetaPost was used to create the Latin Modern fonts, which are derived from Computer Modern fonts but include many additional characters, especially accented ones. It is part of most modern **T**E**X** distributions. Some original fonts, notably Iwona and Kurier, have also been created by the developers of MetaType1.

I came into touch with MetaPost when I wanted to convert an existing logo font from **M**ETAFONT to PostScript Type 1. Unfortunately there exists no tutorial or cookbook for using MetaType1. So I started to play with the example fonts supplied as part of MetaType1 and to read the comments in the source. This tutorial gives a simple example and the lessons I learned.

**Common macro pitfalls and how to avoid them**
Ned W. Hummel

In the process of learning **B**T**P**X there are a number of common pitfalls that many of us fall into at some point. Most of us encounter these pitfalls when writing macros for the first time. One of the great advantages of **B**T**P**X is the ability to logically markup our document. Unfortunately, a number of us tend not to apply that same logical markup philosophy when writing macros.

We will consider several examples and discuss ways to re-write them using a logical markup philosophy.

**A wayward wayfarer’s way to **T**E**X**
Stephen Moye

The amusing recollections of one particular humanities **T**E**X** user’s adventures in **T**E**X**Land.

**Fonts, typefaces, glyphs & sorts**
Steve Peter

This presentation focuses on the general characteristics and usages of typefaces, without specific reference to **T**E**X**. I will begin by covering the history of printing technologies and offering an overview of some useful classification schemes for typefaces. I then turn to a practical discussion of selecting the right typeface for the right job, with a nod toward using **T**E**X** to its fullest.

**Introduction to memoir**
Steve Peter

This presentation serves as a gentle introduction to Peter Wilson’s memoir class, an alternative to the standard **B**T**P**X classes. Memoir is quite flexible, and makes it easy to create beautiful book, article, and report designs, without having to search for, install, and load numerous third-party packages.

****T**E**X** and after dinner speaking**
Alan Wetmore

I will discuss a somewhat novel use for **T**E**X**, preparing an after dinner speech for a scientific conference. My experience some years ago required me to prepare, at quite short notice when a scheduled dignitary was forced to cancel, an entertaining diversion for the attendees of a conference banquet. Inspired by the then-current popularity of *Who wants to be a Millionaire?*, and *The Weakest Link*, I produced a domain-specific trivia “contest” based on some frenzied Internet sleuthing. Formatted using pdftex and pdftex I produced an attractive presentation for the audience. In the process I learned a little about various **T**E**X**’s presentation capabilities. Some examples will be given.