

## General Delivery

### From the President

Karl Berry

For the first time since becoming president in summer 2003, I am writing this column not for a past year, but the present year! Which is to say, *TUGboat* is now just about up to date; if things go well, it will be fully caught up by the end of the year. A happy state of affairs, for which thanks are due to Barbara Beeton, Mimi Burbank, Robin Laakso, the rest of the *TUGboat* staff, and of course all the authors.

Also, because this issue is being published on time, it inaugurates the new policy, as announced in the last issue and elsewhere, of having *TUGboat* articles available online only to members for a year after publication (after that they will be open to all). The *TUGboat* information page (on the back of the title page) describes the policy in more detail.

In other news so far this year, perhaps the most visible item is that the TUG CTAN node, <http://tug.ctan.org>, has a new interface and visual design—check it out. The upgrade was possible because of new hardware that TUG was able to provide; so thanks to every member reading this. Also, many thanks to TUG director Jim Hefferon, who has maintained the site since 1999, his institution, St. Michael's College in Vermont, for supporting Jim and providing the Internet connection, and of course the whole CTAN group for their continuing and amazing efforts.

The other technical news for TUG is that we upgraded the hardware for the [tug.org](http://tug.org) server; again, thanks to member support. We expect the new machine to suffice for several years (just as the last one did). Ongoing thanks there go to TUG vice-president and system administrator Kaja Christiansen and her institution, Århus University in Denmark, for hosting it.

On the TUG administrative side, we've established a small working group to focus efforts on reversing the decline in TUG membership. The group is working on several projects, such as increased publicity for  $\TeX$  and TUG additional membership categories, and additional benefits. If you have any suggestions, or would like to help in this effort, please email [tug-membership@tug.org](mailto:tug-membership@tug.org), and thanks.

One small initiative along those lines is that as of this year, we increased the number of member-

ships available to institutional members, from seven to eight, thus providing a small discount. In the past, memberships were a way for institutions to “donate” to TUG, but times have changed.

We do have one new institutional member so far this year, MacKichan Software, Inc. (<http://www.mackichan.com>)—thank you! As always, a complete list of institutional members can be found elsewhere in this issue, and online at <http://tug.org/instmem.html>.

The last item regards Y&Y, a  $\TeX$  vendor of long standing, which had early and excellent support for outline fonts on the Windows platform, among many other features. As some of you may already know, the business was regrettably closed in 2003. We were sorry to lose this significant part of the  $\TeX$  community.

However, Blenda Horn, the remaining principal of the company, has made a remarkably generous decision: to donate the Y&Y software to the scientific community. Thus, the product can continue, now as a volunteer effort. To that end, TUG will make the source files available under a free software license as soon as is practical.

*Thank you, Blenda!*

One additional note on this: Y&Y also distributed two font sets—Michael Spivak's MathTime (full math complement to Times Roman), and Bigelow & Holmes' Lucida. These fonts remain the property of their owners. You can obtain the MathTime fonts in various configurations through Personal  $\TeX$ , Inc. (<http://www.pctex.com>). For the Lucida fonts, TUG has negotiated the right to redistribute them with B&H, and we will make announcements when they are available.

As always, please don't hesitate to contact me or the entire board ([board@tug.org](mailto:board@tug.org)) with any issues or comments. Thanks for your support, and happy  $\TeX$ ing.

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