
Notice regarding 1997 T_EX Users Group election

[This notice was sent by email on 5 April 1997 to all TUG members for whom TUG has email addresses. If anyone reading this notice here did not receive a copy by email, please let TUG know by sending a message to tug@mail.tug.org including your correct, preferred email address. We intend to use email more frequently in the future to communicate with TUG members, and need your help to keep the records up to date.]

The 1997 election for the T_EX Users Group Board of Directors has now ended. Since there were fewer nominated candidates than vacant positions, in accordance with the Election Procedures, the candidates who did submit nomination papers are declared elected. No ballots will be circulated. The open positions, as announced, were President and six members of the Board of Directors.

The following individuals will be taking positions on the Board of Directors for 4-year terms ending in 2001:

Donna Burnette
Mimi Jett
Patricia Monohon
Arthur Ogawa
Petr Sojka

Their statements of candidacy are published in this issue of *TUGboat*.

Four Board members whose terms were due to end in 1998 had agreed that they would be willing for their terms to be extended to 1999 to accommodate a change in the election schedule from annually to every two years (see the election announcement, *TUGboat* 17#3, p.240). Had there been a ballot, their names would have been listed there for confirmation by the membership. However, in the absence of a ballot, it is proposed that, in accordance with the Bylaws (Article VII, Section 10), the incoming President confirm the extension of their terms. These Board members are:

Barbara Beeton
Karl Berry
Judy Johnson
Jiří Zlatuška

There is no candidate for TUG President. This poses a problem. Although the Bylaws and Election Procedures provide for the filling of vacant Board positions by appointment, no provision exists for the absence of a candidate for President. There is not sufficient time left before the annual meeting in July to solicit additional candidates and circulate ballots.

In order to ensure that the necessary decisions are arrived at in a democratic manner, and that the incoming Board has some say in the matters which will affect them most directly, Michel Goossens, the outgoing President, has appointed the new members to the Board

for a temporary period effective immediately, to expire when their regular term begins.

It is proposed that individuals wishing to present themselves as candidates for President do so in the following manner, with the election be held during the annual TUG business meeting which will take place during the TUG annual meeting in San Francisco (July 28–August 1).

Any TUG member in good standing who will be present at the annual business meeting may submit a valid nomination form and supporting statement (see the announcement in *TUGboat* 17#3 or on TUG's Web site <http://www.tug.org/nomination-form.ps> no later than Monday, July 28 (the first day of the meeting), and be prepared to present his/her program at the business meeting, (currently scheduled for Thursday, July 31).

All TUG members are reminded that except for certain transactions such as personnel matters, which legally are privileged, Board meetings are open to members as observers. The Board meeting is scheduled to be held on Saturday and Sunday, July 26-27, at a location to be determined; details will be posted at the main meeting site and on the TUG Web pages when available. Candidates for President are encouraged to attend.

Nomination forms and supporting documentation should be submitted to the Elections Committee by one of two methods: (1) by July 15, sent to the address below rather than to the address given in the *TUGboat* announcement, or (2) July 26–28, brought to the meeting and delivered in person to one of the undersigned committee members. If sending forms by mail or fax, please confirm this to the Committee at the email address below; electronic copies of candidates' statements may also be sent to this address any time before the meeting.

In order for this business to be transacted legally, at least 50 TUG members must be present to form a quorum (Bylaws, Article III, Section 6). It is therefore very important for members to attend this meeting, in order to help define the future of our organization.

For the Elections Committee
Sebastian Rahtz, Barbara Beeton

Address for submission of nominations for TUG President:

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General Delivery

From the President

Michel Goossens

The 1997 Elections are now behind us and it is a real pleasure to congratulate Donna Burnette, Mimi Jett, Patricia Monohon, Arthur Ogawa, and Petr Sojka, who will serve as TUG Board members until Summer 2001. I extend my best wishes to Barbara Beeton, Karl Berry, Judy Johnson, and Jiří Zlatuška, whose terms were extended until Summer 1999. Together they will form the New Board, who will formally take over from the current Board at our Annual Meeting in the Summer. However, to prepare for the changeover and to have a democratic decision base which is as large as possible, I have appointed the incoming members to the Board with immediate effect. I am sure that together we shall be better able to reach the necessary urgent decisions which need to be taken to make TUG serve its membership and the \TeX users better.

On the other hand, we had no candidate for TUG President, and as explained in the previous article, we are proposing an *ad hoc* procedure to extend the nomination period and elect a candidate at our Annual Meeting in July. I sincerely hope that one or more good candidates will step forward to take up the Office of TUG President. TUG really needs somebody who can motivate her or his collaborators in an efficient, enthusiastic yet professional way, and can act as a stimulus to guarantee that the Board acts as a united Team to address the problems at hand.

It is with great regret that I have to announce that Mimi Burbank, who has served on the TUG Board for many years, most recently as TUG's Treasurer, resigned from the Board for personal reasons. As well, she will not be assuming the function of Office Manager as proposed in the previous issue of *TUGboat*. I am pleased that Mimi will continue to work on *TUGboat*, since as *TUGboat* Production Manager she is an extremely valuable member of the *TUGboat* Production Team.

To cope with ongoing financial business I have appointed Mimi Jett as interim Treasurer until the new Executive Committee is elected in July at TUG'97. At the same time Art Ogawa became TUG's acting "Office Manager" and Art accepted gracefully to take over a major part of the Office duties. A more definite proposal about the new form the TUG Office will take will be announced soon.

By the time you read this it will be early May, and I apologise for the delay with which you receive this issue. We are doing everything possible to get the next issue of *TUGboat* to you in June. If everything works out as planned, we hope to be able to offer you a (very useful) surprise with that issue.

And last but not least, do not forget TUG'97; i.e., *your* Annual Meeting in July in San Francisco. We look forward to a huge turnout. We count on your presence!

◇ Michel Goossens
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Editorial Comments

Barbara Beeton

Update to PStricks

Users of PStricks will know that for some years there has been a 'beta' release of the package, with significant extra facilities. The author, Timothy van Zandt, has had little time to work on the package recently, but he has now agreed to an interim release of PStricks (PStricks 97) which merges in all the beta material with the main package, and corrects known bugs. This release has been coordinated by Denis Girou and Sebastian Rahtz.

This release has been installed on CTAN in `graphics/pstricks`; the old release has been moved to `oldstuff/pstricks`.

At the same time, there is a new mailing list for users of PStricks, moderated by Denis Girou. If you want to subscribe, send a message saying

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subscribe
to
pstricks-request@mail.tug.org
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Quote out of context — Colophon

"Prices for complete sets of *Colophon* have been advertised at upward of \$10,000, and single specimens of the rarest ... have been listed at several thousand dollars." A rare journal? Some special editions? No, the word omitted from the previous sentence is "species", and the *Colophon* it describes is a slow-moving, wingless stag beetle, whose thirteen species are restricted to the mountaintops of the former Cape Province of South Africa. These rare beetles were given provincial legal protection in 1992, but an attempt to list them on the worldwide roster

of endangered species failed, and commercial insect dealers continue to collect and sell them. South African authorities plan to petition again for listing of *Colophon* in a category that offers limited international protection.

Webster's *New International Dictionary*, second edition, defines colophon as

1. Finishing touch. *Obs.*
2. An inscription placed at the end of a book or manuscript, often containing facts relative to its production, as the scribe's, illuminator's, or printer's name, the place and date of publication, etc.; as, from title page to *colophon*.
3. *Print.* An emblem, usually a device assumed by the publishing house, placed on the title page, shelfback, etc.

Colophon was also an ancient city of Ionia.

However, until I read the book *An Inordinate Fondness for Beetles*¹, I had never become acquainted with the six-legged variety. This book is quite wonderful, with stunning photographs and excellent, informative text. I picked it up to look at the pictures, and became engrossed in the story it had to tell. Recommended, even for the timid.

◇ Barbara Beeton
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**Erratum: Amsterdam, 13 March 1996 —
 Knuth meets NTG members,
 TUGboat 17 (no. 4), pp. 342–355**

Barbara Beeton

As often happens, when taking shortcuts, something may go wrong. In this case it appears on page 351 of *TUGboat* 17(4), where in the right column you will find the words *MetaPost* instead of the math symbol \mp . This of course is due to a redefinition of `\mp` without paying attention. We apologize.

¹ Arthur V. Evans, Director of the Insect Zoo, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, and Charles L. Bellamy, Senior Curator, Coleoptera, Transvaal Museum, Pretoria, South Africa; photography by Lisa Charles Watson, technical advisor Henry Galiano, and illustrations by Patricia Wynne. A Peter N. Nevrumont Book, Henry Holt and Company, New York, 1996. ISBN 3751-9