LINUX JOURNAL FAQ

4/23/94

This FAQ contains information about Linux Journal, the magazine covering the Linux Community. Topics covered are:

- general/history
- content
- subscriptions
- writing for LJ
- advertising in LJ
- Linux-related product releases
- consultant's directory
- distributors/retailers
- misc
- if all else fails ...

General/History

We see our mission as serving the Linux community while working to promote the use of Linux. Although most of our initial subscribers have come from the Internet we expect half of our future readers will find LJ as their initial source of information on Linux. This means that LJ can provide a way for people to find hardware, software and help in getting themselves going. We see this as a benefit to the Linux newsgroups by reducing "newbie" questions as well to our advertisers by providing them with a new way to reach potential new users.

The idea for producing Linux Journal arose in early 1993. In late February, 1994 we mailed our first issue. The magazine received a very positive response – both on the Internet and elsewhere. Issue #2 was mailed in mid-April.

The first two issues were produced by ACC Corp in Connecticut and by Linux Journal staff in Seattle. There were problems in producing the magazine between the two locations which has resulted in the need for a major change for Linux Journal.

SSC, publisher of Unix and C pocket references for over ten years, is taking over responsibility for magazine production and subscription fulfillment from ACC Corp. This moves these functions to Seattle where our advertising office is located and draws on SSC's experience in publishing to get the magazine out on time.

Phil Hughes takes over the position of publisher, having the overall responsibility for the complete publication. Phil's 11 years in publishing and 15 years of experience with Unix will be applied to ensure the quality of the publication as well as its promotion.

Michael K. Johnson assumes the role of editor. Already being active in the Linux community and a Linux Journal columnist, Michael became the logical choice. He founded the original "man project", which was the forerunner of the current "Linux Documentation Project", and maintains a few Linux packages, as well as the "Linux Kernel Hackers' Guide".

Because of production delays on what was to be the April issue at ACC Corp, it has become the April/May issue. Issue #3 will be the June/July issue to allow us to complete the transition and establish the necessary lead time for newsstand distribution. After that we will resume monthly publication. (Subscribers will still receive the number of issues they signed up for.)

One change will be on the cover of the magazine. Starting with issue #3 we will be going to a glossy cover to increase newsstand appeal and make the publication less susceptible to damage in the mail.

Content

Each issue of Linux Journal offers articles that appeal to newcomers as well as serious technical articles for long-time Unix users. Although LJ is Linux-specific, many of the articles are of interest to Unix users and other users of freely redistributable software.

Regular columns include:

- Interviews with prominent Linux personalities
- Linux Programming Tips by Michael Johnson
- What's GNU? by Arnold Robbins
- Cooking with Linux by Matt Welsh
- The Debian Distribution by Ian Murdock
- New Products
- Letters to the Editor
- Book and Product Reviews
- Linux Counter
- Linux Consultant's Directory

Features that have appeared in issues #1 and #2 include:

- Comparison of Linux, Windows NT and OS/2 by Bernie Thompson
- Onyx: a copylefted 4GL by Michael Kraehe
- Icmake: a new make tool by Frank Brokken and Karel Kubat
- Linux and Hams: what hams involved in Linux have to say
- Hints & Tips for Optimizing Linux Disk Usage by Jeff Tranter
- Linux Systems Administration by Mark Komarinski
- Linux Journal Survey Results
- Linux Around the World
- The Linux File System Standard by Daniel Quinlan
- Linux Distributions
- Wine Status

Advertisers include:

- Algorithms Corporation
- Amtec Engineering, Inc.
- Basmark
- Fintronic
- FYL
- InfoMagic
- Prime Time Freeware
- PromoX Systems
- Sequoia International, Inc.
- Signum Support
- SSC
- Trans-Ameritech
- Usenix
- Windsor Technologies
- Yggdrasil

Subscriptions

Subscriptions are available internationally through SSC directly. They are also available in specific regions through our international distributors. Magazines are mailed internationally through a "surface air lift" service which delivers the magazines quickly to the countries of destination where local mail will be handled by surface delivery.

Subscription rates are as follows:

$19/year U.S., $24/year Canada, $29/year Foreign

$34/2 years U.S., $44/2 years Canada, $49/2 years Foreign

Linux Journal, P.O. Box 85867, Seattle, WA 98145-1867
FAX: +1 206 527-2806, Phone: +1 206 527-3385
E-mail: subs@ssc.com

At this address we can accept payment by checks in U.S. funds drawn on a U.S. bank, American Express, Visa and MasterCard.

Writing for Linux Journal

Articles in Linux Journal need to cover the range from "how do I get started" to kernel hacking. We intend to try to strike a balance so the magazine will be accessible to the newcomer and yet continue to contain useful information to long-term Linux users.

Also, in order to legitimize Linux to many business unix users, we need to offer articles on commercial uses for Linux. They can be in the form of documenting a place/job where Linux is being used commercially, a technical article on the development of a commercial application or a review of a commercial product.

If you are considering writing for LJ or have a lead to a commercial use, contact our editor, Michael Johnson. He can be reached via e-mail at ljeditor@sunsite.unc.edu.

Advertising in LJ

Linux Journal is supported by a combination of subscription and advertising revenue. Rates are competitive for the number of readers we reach and our specific target audience matches the needs of those who have products targeted to the Linux market.

We currently only offer display advertising. Future plans include classified advertising and a card deck. If you are interested, request a media kit and rate card.

Our advertising manager is:

Joanne Wagner, Linux Journal, P.O. Box 85867, Seattle, WA 98145-1867
FAX: +1 206 526-0803, Phone: +1 206 524-8338
E-mail: joanne@fylz.com

Linux-related Product Releases

If you have a new product that you feel is of interest to the Linux community, send us a press release. We have a regular new products column and will publish information on the most relevant products.

We also have a review team and may be interested in reviewing specific products. If you would be willing to make a review copy of a product available, please let us know.

Send new product information to:

New Products, Linux Journal, P.O. Box 85867, Seattle, WA 98145-1867
FAX: +1 206 526-0803, Phone: +1 206 524-8338
E-mail: newprod@fylz.com

Consultant's Directory

We maintain a directory of consultants that work with Linux. The directory is published periodically in Linux Journal. Listings are currently free. To be listed, send your name, company, address, phone and e-mail and/or fax contact information along with a brief description of what you work on to:

Consultant Directory, Linux Journal, P.O. Box 85867, Seattle, WA 98145-1867

FAX: +1 206 526-0803, Phone: +1 206 524-8338
E-mail: joanne@fylz.com

Distributors/Retailers

We are in the process of setting up newsstand distribution of LJ. Computer Literacy Bookstores carry the magazine and we expect to get distribution to many other stores in the next few months.

If you are aware of a store that should carry LJ you can suggest they contact SSC at (206) 527-3385 about reselling or send us e-mail at subs@ssc.com with their contact information.

Misc

Q: Is LJ available Electronically?
A: Not yet. Once we have the paper copy under control we plan to work on this. It requires contract arrangements with both authors and advertisers before we can do it.

Q: Can information printed in LJ be reprinted?
A: Authors may use the material with the only restriction being that if they use it immediately they include the phrase "reprinted with permission of Linux Journal". Other people wishing to use material should contact LJ. Permission is generally granted except where restricted by author or other prior copyright.

If All Else Fails ...

If your question isn't answered here, send e-mail to ljeditor@sunsite.unc.edu. We will send a e-mail response and, if it is a common question we will add it to this FAQ. If you don't have e-mail, you can fax questions to (206) 526-0803 or call (206) 524-8338.