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A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

264 N. Whisman Rd, #27  
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November 1, 1994

Dear Lisp Friends:

I am very pleased to announce that with the next "real" issue of Lisp Pointers, Ken Anderson of BBN will begin a column on performance and benchmarking issues in Lisp, to be called "Perfoming Lisp". Ken will begin the series with two commonly asked questions, and their answers:

Is Lisp slow?

[The answer is no; Lisp can be as fast as C---even faster.]

If Lisp is so fast, then why is my application so slow?

[Stay tuned . . . and watch this space in the next issue!]

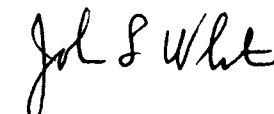
In this volume of Lisp Pointers (for 1994), we will also be reprinting the proceedings of the 1994 ACM Conference on Lisp and Functional Programming; and somewhat after that we also expect to reprint the proceedings of the Lisp Users and Vendor's Conference, which was held in Berkeley CA, in August.

Yet, as ever, we still need your contributions and comments. Think of a short paper describing some technical accomplishment you have done; think of a tutorial on some Lisp topic that newcomers find opaque; think of news tidbits, announcements of workshops, etc.

Now, given the change in status of my former employer (Lucid, Inc., went from a thriving, bustling company of about 75 employees to . . . well, need I say more?), I suggest that you direct your hardcopy US Mail to my home address, as listed above (in Mountain View), and that you send any email to me through the ACM "mail drop" account at "jonl@acm.org".

Yes, Lucid Lisp was a profitable product, but Lucid Inc. was involved in other ventures, which seem to have gone the way of most startup ventures. Do not fear for "Lucid Lisp"---I'm quite sure that it will be take over by competent, sympathetic hands; it was, after all, a tremendous Common Lisp, and a profitable, commercial success. [I wish I could tell you today how it is all being worked out, but until the ink is dry on the paper, my lips are sealed. So stay tuned to these spaces for further announcements.]

Sympathetically yours,



JonL White