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In This Issue:
The Final Chapter of the Internet Tutorial

276 84
22 37
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The Library Car
By Alan Wagner, Sr.

Welcome to the last installment of the Library Car's tutorial on the Internet. This month we will be hearing about Mr.Crispen's opinion of the future of the Internet. Just for the curious, I have included a lesson that contains some information about the distribution of the Roadmap series. You may find it interesting to see just where the folks who followed the series as it was produced were located.

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Date: Fri, 17 Mar 1995 00:28:42 -0600 (CST)
MAP27: THE FUTURE ...

"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about
things that matter." -- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

I am often asked what I think the Internet will be like in the future.
The best answer that I can give is, "I have no idea, but it sure does
sound neat."

I recently attended a conference that the International Space Camp
held for the U.S. state teachers of the year. At this conference, one of
the presenters -- an executive at BellSouth -- told the story of how
a famous person once predicted that the telephone would revolutionize
communication, and that every town would have *one* so that they could
keep in touch with the outside world.

I guess the moral of this story is that if you make predictions about
the future, you run a really good chance of looking silly when the
future actually arrives.

I do know that the Internet is the precursor to an "Information Superhighway" that is going to be based on high-speed, fiber optic cables and a combination TV/Computer/Fax/Telephone that will allow us to access a mountain of information in seconds with just a few simple commands (hopefully, by that time we will be able to forget all of those ftp commands!).

I do know that the Information Superhighway will change the way we look at entertainment, research, shopping, inter-personal communications and education.

I also know that there are some obstacles that must be overcome before the Information Superhighway can achieve its fullest potential. Fortunately, the problems that the Internet is facing today -- universal access, parental control over which information the children should have access to, censorship issues -- are all problems that have been dealt with before by the two most overworked, underpaid, and underappreciated groups in our society: classroom teachers and librarians.

There are a lot of things that we can learn from teachers and librarians. Hopefully, this time around we will actually listen to them :)

I am truly excited about the long-range plans for the Information Superhighway. The problem with long-range plans, however, is that long-range planners often loose sight of present needs.

The future of the Information Superhighway will indeed be incredible, but that future isn't here yet. Until that future *IS* here, we need to remember that the 80,000 people who join the Internet each month need to be trained to use TODAY'S technology.

That is what this workshop is all about.

Five weeks ago, I told you that

    ... Over the next few weeks I am going to show you around

the Internet, give you some basic commands that will help
you use the tools of the Internet more effectively, point
you in the direction of people who can help you if you ever
get lost, and even give you a glimpse of what the coming
Information Superhighway will actually look like.

How am I going to do all of this? Well, each one of these daily
lessons will give you a glimpse at one small part of the Internet.
We'll talk about particular tools and sites, showing you some traps
to avoid, and even showing you some basic commands that will help
you use the tools to your own advantage. In the end, I hope that
you will gain a better understanding of the individual parts and
pieces that, when put together, make up the Internet.

... Thank you for enrolling in the Roadmap workshop. I hope
you will have as much fun traveling the Internet as I am having
teaching it to you.

Thank you for joining me on this trip. I hope you have had fun, and
I wish you the best of luck as you continue your journeys around the
Internet.

> Patrick Douglas Crispen
> The University of Alabama
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ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Patrick Douglas Crispen is a 27 year-old senior at the University
of Alabama majoring in Economics through the College of Arts and
Sciences. (Yes, you heard right ... he's a student!).

Prior to attending the University, Crispen worked at the United States
Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama, as a Simulations Director and as
a founding staff member of the Space Academy Level II program.

Crispen got his Internet account during his first semester at
the University of Alabama in the Spring of 1992 so that he could
send e-mail to his father, an engineer at Boeing, asking him for money :)

· Crispen has been paying his way through school with student loans
and work-study jobs, and in the Spring of 1994 he accepted a position
working the overnight shift at the front desk of a University residence
hall. Using the computer at the front desk, Crispen taught himself
how to use the Internet in an attempt to keep himself awake.

In May of 1994, Crispen competed in his first Internet Hunt ...
and won. It was also at this point in time that Crispen started
working on an introductory Internet training presentation for
the National Association of College and University Residence Hall's
1994 National Conference at Northern Arizona University. This
presentation would eventually lead to the creation of the Roadmap
workshop.

Crispen's presentation at Northern Arizona University was the
only program out of 300 to receive a perfect score from the
participants (although the conference's programming staff
misplaced his scores until after the close of the conference).
In the months that have followed, Crispen has repeated this
this presentation for the University of Alabama's Computer
Center staff, the University's faculty, and the University's
Graduate Student Association.

During the summer of 1994, Crispen decided to expand his presentation
into a month-long Internet training workshop to be conducted over the
Internet. This workshop -- Roadmap for the Information Superhighway --
started accepting participants in July of 1994. By February of 1995,
word of mouth advertising for the workshop had been so successful
that over 80,000 people from 77 countries had enrolled in one of the
four Roadmap workshop distribution lists.

own a computer (Crispen wrote the entire Roadmap workshop using

the University of Alabama's public access computer labs).

According to Crispen, he wrote the workshop, "to give new users free
training on how to use the Internet, to give the University of Alabama
some positive publicity, and to ensure that I can get a *JOB* when
(and if) I graduate in 1995. The Career Center told me that the
most important part of a job search is 'networking.' So, I networked." :)

(Copies of Crispen's resume can be obtained by sending an e-mail letter
to LISTSERV@UA1VM.UA.EDU with the command GET CRISPEN TXT
F=MAIL in the body
of your e-mail letter) :)

Crispen is currently taking a one semester break to work full time
for the University of Alabama's Seebeck IBM mainframe computer center
so that he can pay off all of the parking tickets (8+) that the University
Alabama's Parking Services Division has given him for parking so close
to the computer center while he was writing this workshop :)

Date: Mon, 06 Mar 1995 20:04:37 -0600 (CST)
MAP-EXTRA: SUBSCRIPTION TOTALS

A few alert readers have reminded me that I never sent you a final
list of subscribers by country. For this I apologize.

Since I seem to have this uncanny ability to turn even the most
mundane task into a lesson and a humorous story, I don't see any
reason why this situation should be any different :)

First, the lesson:

Back in MAP06, James Milles told us that we can obtain a list of
all of the people who are subscribed to a particular LISTSERV list
by using the

REVIEW listname F=MAIL

command. James also told us that we could sort the subscrber list by
name or country by using the

        REVIEW listname BY NAME F=MAIL
        -- or --
        REVIEW listname BY COUNTRY F=MAIL

commands. That's simple enough.

Unfortunately, some lists -- this list included -- will not allow you
to review their subscription lists (I don't allow it because I don't
want some salesman stealing my subscription list so that he can spam
you with ads). What can you do?

Well, if a list has closed it's subscription list to review, you will
not be able to get a detailed list of its subscribers. You can still,
however, get a generalized list of its subscribers by adding one additional
word to your review command -- SHORT.

If you use the command

        REVIEW listname SHORT F=MAIL

replacing "listname" with the name of the list you want to review,
the LISTSERV will send you a copy of that list's header, along with
a total subscription count for that list. For example, if you
use the command

        REVIEW ROADMAP SHORT F=MAIL

you will recieve the following:

*
* ROADMAP WORKSHOP SUBSCRIPTION LIST

```
*
* REVIEW= OWNER          SUBSCRIPTION= OPEN
* SEND= EDITOR           NOTIFY= NO
* REPLY-TO= SENDER,IGNORE    FILES= NO
* VALIDATE= NO           STATS= NORMAL,OWNER
* AUTO-DELETE= YES,FULL-AUTO  NOTEBOOK=
YES,E,SEPARATE,OWNER
* MAIL-VIA= DISTRIBUTE      ACK= YES
* DEFAULT-OPTIONS= REPRO     CONFIDENTIAL= NO
* ERRORS-TO= CRISPEN@UA1VM.UA.EDU   EXIT= RM1
*
* OWNER= PCRISPE1@UA1VM.UA.EDU    (PATRICK DOUGLAS
CRISPEN)
* OWNER= CRISPEN@UA1VM.UA.EDU     (ROADMAP ERROR
PROCESSOR)
* EDITOR= PCRISPE1@UA1VM.UA.EDU   (PATRICK DOUGLAS
CRISPEN)
* EDITOR= CRISPEN@UA1VM.UA.EDU    (ROADMAP ERROR
PROCESSOR)
*
*
* Total number of "concealed" subscribers:      9
* Total number of users subscribed to the list:17307  (non-"concealed" only)
* Total number of local node users on the list:  14  (non-"concealed" only)
*
```

Gee ... that's thrilling.

But wait! This actually tells you a whole bunch of things about
the list. Look at the OWNER line. That's my e-mail address, and
the list of the Roadmap error processor.

If you ever need to find the e-mail address of a list's owner,
all you need to do is use the

    REVIEW listname SHORT F=MAIL

command! Neat, huh?

BTW, "concealed" subscribers are those subscribers who used the

SET listname CONCEAL

command to keep their names hidden when someone reviews the list
(gee, that's kind of moot, isn't it?).

Anyway, getting back to the whole point of this letter, you can
see a breakdown of subscribers by country by using the

REVIEW listname BY COUNTRY SHORT F=MAIL

command. That's a mouthfull, but a REVIEW ROADMAP BY COUNTRY
SHORT
F=MAIL command returns the following to you (and I edited out the
header because we've already seen it):

```
*
* Country        Subscribers
* -------        -----------
* Argentina          3
* Australia         331
* Austria            51
* Belgium            15
* Botswana            1
* Brazil             65
* Canada           1872
* Chile              1
* China              1
* Columbia            6
* Costa Rica          2
* Croatia             3
* Cyprus              1
* Czech Republic     32
* Denmark            30
```

* Ecuador   1
* Egypt   2
* Estonia   6
* Fiji   2
* Finland   34
* France   38
* Germany   153
* Great Britain   429
* Greece   6
* Hongkong   12
* Hungary   80
* Iceland   4
* India   6
* Ireland   29
* Israel   60
* Italy   38
* Japan   33
* Korea   2
* Latvia   5
* Lithuania   3
* Luxembourg   2
* Malaysia   42
* Mexico   12
* Mozambique   1
* Netherlands   102
* New Zealand   52
* Norway   33
* Phillipines   1
* Poland   13
* Portugal   12
* Romania   7
* Russia   1
* Saint Lucia   1
* Saudi-Arabia   16
* Singapore   17
* Slovakia   4
* Slovenia   1

* South Africa   64
* Soviet Union   4
* Spain   18
* Sweden   100
* Switzerland   36
* Taiwan   2
* Thailand   4
* Turkey   5
* Ukraine   1
* Uruguay   4
* USA   12861
* Venezuela   9
* ???   527
*
* Total number of "concealed" subscribers: 9
* Total number of users subscribed to the list:17309 (non-"concealed" only)
* Total number of countries represented: 65 (non-"concealed" only)
* Total number of local node users on the list: 14 (non-"concealed" only)
*

The total number of countries is not really exact. Our two friends in
Antarctica are counted in Australia's numbers, and I think I remember
reading something about how the people in Kenya are actually listed
in Norway's numbers (yeah ... that makes a LOT of sense).

I'm still not sure who those 527 people from country ??? are. I think
they must be zombies (or tax collectors).

So much for the lesson ... now for the funny story (and you can stop
reading here if you want) :)

An alert reader (whose name I can't for the life of me remember (sorry!))
sent me a story that I thought that our two friends in Antarctica might
enjoy. (I accidentally deleted the story, so I am doing this from memory).

It seems that the Faulkland islands are infested with tens of thousands
of penguins. These penguins pretty much waddle around the beaches all

day, looking for fun things to do.

Argentinian pilots have developed a little game that they play with the penguins. The pilots fly by the beaches, and all ten thousand penguins turn their heads in unison to watch the planes fly by. The planes then turn around, and again all ten thousand penguins turn their heads in unison and watch the planes fly back the other way. It's sort of like a slow-motion tennis match.

Then the pilots fly out to sea, turn around, and fly directly over the penguin colony. The penguins stretch their heads up, up, up ... and all ten thousand penguins gently fall on their backs :)

(You'd never catch a squirrel doing that!)

To unsubscribe from any Roadmap workshop, please send an e-mail letter to LISTSERV@UA1VM.UA.EDU which says UNSUB * in the body of your letter.

The address that sent this e-mail letter (CRISPEN@UA1VM.UA.EDU) is actually the address of an automated error processor. Please DO NOT reply to this e-mail letter as the error processor will consider your reply to be an error message and will delete your letter unread. To contact Patrick Crispen, please use my PCRISPE1@UA1VM.UA.EDU address.

```
 (\__/) .~   ~. ))
 /O O ./   .'        PATRICK DOUGLAS CRISPEN
{O__, \  {            PCRISPE1@UA1VM.UA.EDU
 / . .) \            THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA
 |-| '-'\  } ))
 .( _( )_.'
 '---.~___& Warning: squirrels.
```

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Well, that's it for this tutuorial. I sincerely hope you have enjoyed it and have been able to use the information. If you have read the lessons and done the exercises, you should have a working knowlege of how to get around on the Internet. With each passing day it seems more and more that just about every advertiser on TV has an Internet address in the small type on the bottom of the screen. Most are "www" sites. Some give their addresses as alternatives to a phone call or letter to order their services. The Internet is becoming truely a super highway into every aspect of our modern life. If you haven't tried it, what are you waiting for?

I still haven't decided what our next topic will be. I'd sure like to hear from a couple of you with ideas for a new topic. Until then happy computing and have fun surfing the "Net".