

The Timeline of Perl and its Culture

v3.0_0505

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It's the Magic that counts.

-- Larry Wall on Perl's apparent ugliness

1960s

1960

Ted Nelson invents hypertext, known as the [Project Xanadu](#). ([Fast forward](#) to 1999.)

1964

The concept of pipes connecting processes is suggested by Doug McIlroy at Bell Labs. See <http://cm.bell-labs.com/cm/cs/who/dmr/mdmpipe.html>. In Perl the same concept is seen in the default variable \$_.

1968

Bolt Beranek and Newman, Inc. (BBN) awarded Packet Switch contract to build Interface Message Processors (IMPs). [\[HIT\]](#)

US Senator Edward Kennedy sends a congratulatory telegram to BBN for its million-dollar ARPA contract to build the "Interfaith" Message Processor, and thanking them for their ecumenical efforts. [\[HIT\]](#)

[Douglas Engelbart](#) invents the mouse while working at Xerox [PARC](#).

1969

Unix is like a toll road on which you have to stop every 50 feet to pay another nickel.

But hey! You only feel 5 cents poorer each time.

-- Larry Wall in 1992Aug13.192357.15731@netlabs.com

UNIX is [born](#) at Bell Labs. It was not until well into 1970 that Brian Kernighan suggested the name `Unix,' in a somewhat treacherous pun on `Multics,' the operating system we know today was born.

First Request for Comment (RFC): "[Host Software](#)" by Steve Crocker (7 April) [\[HIT\]](#)

1970s

1972

Ray Tomlinson (BBN) modifies email program for ARPANET where it becomes a quick hit. The @ sign was chosen from the punctuation keys on Tomlinson's Model 33 Teletype for its "at" meaning. (March) [\[HIT\]](#)

The programming language C is born at the Bell Labs. (*[The Development of The C Language](#)*) by Dennis M. Ritchie). C is one of Perl's ancestors, learn for example how the && and ++ operators were born. Perl is also implemented using C.

1973

grep is introduced by Ken Thompson as a ingenious componentization: the builtin regular expressions and commands of the ed (the standard editor) are separated into an external utility: Global REgular expression Print. [\[EHU\]](#)

1975

[Atari](#) introduces the first home video games. Who could forget Pong, Space Invaders or Missile Command?

1976

Steven Jobs and Steven Wozniak found [Apple](#) Computer. (1 April)

1977

The computer language awk is designed by Alfred V. Aho, Peter J. Weinberger, and Brian W. Kernighan. awk is one of Perl's ancestors.

1978

BTL (Bell Telephone Labs) releases UNIX V7 which diverges into the commercial (System V) and academic (BSD, Berkeley Software Distribution) branches.

A shell by Stephen Bourne, simply known as the 'sh', is released. sh is one Perl's ancestors.

1979

On April 12, Kevin MacKenzie emails the MsgGroup a suggestion of adding some emotion back into the dry text medium of email, such as :-) for indicating a sentence was tongue-in-cheek. Though flamed by many at the time, [emoticons](#) became widely used. [\[HIT\]](#)

USENET established using UUCP between Duke and UNC by Tom Truscott, Jim Ellis, and Steve Bellovin. All original groups were under net.* hierarchy.

1980s

1981

Eric Allman develops [Sendmail](#) which will become the most widely used MTA on the internet.

RFC 801: [NCTP/TCP Transition Plan](#) which will increase the number of possible hosts from 256 to over one billion.

1982

DCA and ARPA establish the Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) and Internet Protocol (IP), as the protocol suite, commonly known as TCP/IP, for ARPANET.

Sun Microsystems is incorporated with 4 employees.

1983

Desktop workstations come into being, many with Berkeley UNIX (4.2 BSD) which includes IP networking software.

1984

The [GNU Project](#) is started to develop a free UNIX-like operating system. The [Gnu Manifesto](#), written by [Richard Stallman](#), sets the stage for the coming [OpenSource](#) revolution.

During the third quarter of the Super Bowl, Apple airs the famous Ridley Scott [commercial](#) depicting an Orwellian IBM World saved by the [Macintosh](#). The Macintosh featured a zippy 8MHz 68000 Motorola chip, a 9" black and white built-in monitor, 128k of RAM and sold for \$2,495. (22 January)

[Domain Name System \(DNS\)](#), originally called JEEVES and later BIND, is developed by Paul Mockapetris, later to be maintained by Paul Vixie.

[The first version of the X Window System](#) is developed jointly by MIT Project Athena and Digital Equipment Corporation. (19 June)

NFS is first introduced.

1985

[Whole Earth 'Lectronic Link \(WELL\)](#) started.

awk gets a facelift (introducing user-defined functions, multiple input streams, and computed regular expressions), the new version is called nawk. [GNU awk manual]

RFC 968: ['Twas the Night Before Start-up](#). [\[HIT\]](#)

Larry Wall creates [rn](#). The RN news reader was developed to minimize the amount of time the user was kept waiting for news

articles to be displayed. It did this by using cache techniques. RN was also developed to minimize the use of computer resources when running on computers with limited memory capabilities at the sacrifice of some speed. Its maintenance was passed to Stan Barber in 1987 when Perl took more of Larry's time.

O'Reilly and Associates moves from technical writing to book publishing; the first `Nutshell' books.

1986

Network News Transfer Protocol ([NNTP](#)) designed to enhance Usenet news performance over TCP/IP.

Microsoft introduces Windows to the world. (March)

1987

[UUNET](#) is founded with Usenix funds to provide commercial UUCP and Usenet access. Originally an experiment by Rick Adams and Mike O'Dell

*Hmm, doubtful. The source code generally wasn't there
when I needed it.*

-- Larry Wall when asked if he learned Perl from the perl source

[Perl 1.000](#) is [unleashed](#) upon the world. Some People take Perl's Birthday seriously. [Behold](#) as Randal sings Happy Birthday to Larry's answering machine. The description from the original man page sums up this new language well. (18 December)

NAME

perl | Practical Extraction and Report Language

SYNOPSIS

perl [options] filename args

DESCRIPTION

Perl is an interpreted language optimized for scanning arbitrary text files, extracting information from those text files, and printing reports based on that information. It's also a good language for many system management tasks. The language is intended to be practical (easy to use, efficient, complete) rather than beautiful (tiny, elegant, minimal). It combines (in the author's opinion, anyway) some of the best features of C, sed, awk, and sh, so people familiar with those languages should have little difficulty with it. (Language historians will also note some vestiges of csh, Pascal, and even BASIC|PLUS.) Expression syntax corresponds quite closely to C expression syntax. If you have a problem that would ordinarily use sed or awk or sh, but it exceeds their capabilities or must run a little faster, and you don't want to write the silly thing in C, then perl may be for you. There are also translators to turn your sed and awk scripts into perl scripts. OK, enough hype.

1988

Internet Relay Chat (IRC) developed by Jarkko Oikarinen. Later [#perl](#) (read as *pound perl*) would appear on [EFNet](#), forming an essential part of Perl Culture. (January)

In the MIT X Conference the Xlib reference drafts by O'Reilly and Associates raise [considerable interest](#) and ORA really gets started in publishing business. (January)

I won't mention any names, because I don't want to get sun4's into trouble... :-)
 -- Larry Wall in 11333@jpl-devvax.JPL.NASA.GOV

Sun releases the SPARCstation 1.

Tcl tends to get ported to weird places like routers.
 -- Larry Wall in 199710071721.KAA19014@wall.org

John Ousterhout writes Tcl or "Tool Command Language".

[Perl 2.000](#) released. (5 June) Some of the enhancements from Perl1 included:

- New regexp routines derived from Henry Spencer's.
 - Support for `/(foo|bar)/`.
 - Support for `/(foo)*/` and `/(foo)+/`.
 - `\s` for whitespace, `\S` for non-, `\d` for digit, `\D` nondigit
- Local variables in blocks, subroutines and evals.
- Recursive subroutine calls are now supported.
- Array values may now be interpolated into lists: `unlink 'foo', 'bar', @trashcan, 'tmp'`;
- File globbing.
- Use of `<>` in array contexts returns the whole file or glob list.
- New iterator for normal arrays, `foreach`, that allows both read and write.
- Ability to open pipe to a forked off script for secure pipes in setuid scripts.
- File inclusion via `do 'foo.pl'`;
- More file tests, including `-t` to see if, for instance, `stdin` is a terminal. File tests now behave in a more correct manner. You can do file tests on filehandles as well as filenames. The special filetests `-T` and `-B` test a file to see if it's text or binary.
- An eof can now be used on each file of the `<>` input for such purposes as resetting the line numbers or appending to each file of an inplace edit.
- Assignments can now function as lvalues, so you can say things like `($HOST = $host) =~ tr/a-z/A-Z/;`
`($obj = $src) =~ s/\.c$/\.o/;`
- You can now do certain file operations with a variable which holds the name of a filehandle, e.g.
`open(++$incl,$includefilename); $foo = <$incl>;`
- Warnings are now available (with `-w`) on use of uninitialized variables and on identifiers that are mentioned only once, and on reference to various undefined things.
- There is now a `wait` operator.
- There is now a `sort` operator.
- The manual is now not lying when it says that perl is generally faster than sed. I hope.

*Randal can write one-liners again. Everyone is happy, and peace spreads
over the whole Earth.*

-- Larry Wall in <199705101952.MAA00756@wall.org>

Randal Schwartz creates the legendary [Just Another Perl Hacker](#) .sig. Below is a post from comp.lang.perl.misc where he explains how it was created.

```
Newsgroups: comp.lang.perl.misc
Subject: Re: Who is Just another Perl hacker?
From: merlyn@stonehenge.com (Randal L. Schwartz)
Message-ID: <M1HFPVH2JQ.FSF@HALFDOME.HOLDIT.COM>
```

```
>>>> "Juho" == Juho Cederstrom writes:
```

```
Juho> But when do I become Just another Perl hacker? Who are they? I've read
Juho> the FAQ, but it doesn't answer my question. If I replace my email
Juho> signature with JAPH, do I break some kind of law?
Juho> Or is Just another Perl Hacker a person who just hacks Perl?
```

Well, this ol' JAPH thing started back in 88-ish when I was posting to a bunch of different newsgroups, and would sign each message somewhat individualized above the "-- " cut. For a while, it was stuff like:

```
Randal L. "Some Clever Phrase Here" Schwartz
```

and I'd change the phrase to fit. I got bored with retyping my name repeatedly, so I start using:

```
Just another <SUBJECT> hacker,
```

in each news group, changing <SUBJECT> as appropriate. When I started posting to the Perl newsgroup frequently, I just repeatedly typed:

```
Just another Perl hacker,
```

and that got boring, so I stepped it up to Perl code:

```
print "Just another Perl hacker,"
```

but again, that lacked the ability to soak up my then-spare-time, so I started making them a bit more clever, like:

```
print join " ", reverse split ' ', "hacker, Perl another Just"
```

and that started a trend of me constantly trying to outdo myself in each posting. The one that decoded morse code was probably one of my favorites, as was the "old macdonald" one that is now immortalized in Jeffrey's "Mastering Regular Expressions" (from O'Reilly). A few others got into the act... notably one Mr. Larry Wall who wrote code to pick a random article of mine out of his news spool, run the code, but print "Not " in front of it!

I have a little less spare time these days, so the JAPH signoffs have been pretty plain <SIGH>. But I occasionally sneak something in that relates to what I'm answering.

So, in answer to your question, feel free to declare yourself a JAPH, but most of us around here agree that I'm JAPH # 0. :)

```
print "Just another Perl hacker,"
```

Robert Tappan Morris infects the net with the infamous [worm](#). (3 November)

Johan Vromans releases the first Perl Reference Card which would later prove to be the earliest published incidence of the word Perl. Johan has created a very nice [timeline](#) of the Perl Reference.(December)

1989

Tom Christiansen presents the first public Perl tutorial at the Baltimore Usenix.

[Perl 3.000](#) is released and is distributed by Larry for the first time under the terms of the [GNU Public License](#). A few of the new features: (18 Oct)

- Perl can now handle binary data correctly and has functions to `pack` and `unpack` binary structures into arrays or lists. You can now do arbitrary `ioctl` functions.
- You can now pass things to subroutines by reference.
- Debugger enhancements.
- An array or associative array may now appear in a `local ()` list.
- Array values may now be interpolated into strings.
- Subroutine names are now distinguished by prefixing with `&`. You can call subroutines without using `do`, and without passing any argument list at all.
- You can use the new `-u` switch to cause perl to dump core so that you can run `undump` and produce a binary executable image. Alternately you can use the `"dump"` operator after initializing any variables and such.
- You can now chop lists.
- Perl now uses `/bin/csh` to do filename globbing, if available. This means that filenames with spaces or other strangenesses work right.
- New functions: `mkdir` and `rmdir`, `getppid`, `getpgrp` and `setpgrp`, `getpriority` and `setpriority`, `chroot`, `ioctl` and `fcntl`, `flock`, `readlink`, `lstat`, `rindex`, `pack` and `unpack`, `read`, `warn`, `dbmopen` and `dbmclose`, `dump`, `reverse`, `defined`, `undef`.

Steve Jobs introduces the NeXT to the academic community for a mere \$6,500. Its main strengths are built-in ethernet, a Mach OS and TeX.

1990s

1990

[Python](#) invented by Guido van Rossum at CWI in Amsterdam.

Convex becomes the first major computer vendor to include Perl as part of its standard operating system distribution.

I know it's weird, but it does make it easier to write poetry in perl. :-)

-- Larry Wall in 7865@jpl-devvax.JPL.NASA.GOV

Larry writes the world's first Perl Poem inspired by Randals JAPH signatures: (March)

```
print STDOUT q
```

```
Just another Perl Hacker,
unless $spring
```

April Fool's "Black Perl" forgery (p. 553 of the [Blue Camel](#)). (1 April)

```
BEFOREHAND: close door, each window & exit; wait until time.
    open spellbook, study, read (scan, select, tell us);
write it, print the hex while each watches,
    reverse its length, write again;
    kill spiders, pop them, chop, split, kill them.
        unlink arms, shift, wait & listen (listening, wait),
sort the flock (then, warn the "goats" & kill the "sheep");
    kill them, dump qualms, shift moralities,
    values aside, each one;
        die sheep! die to reverse the system
        you accept (reject, respect);
next step,
    kill the next sacrifice, each sacrifice,
    wait, redo ritual until "all the spirits are pleased";
    do it ("as they say").
do it(*everyone***must***participate***in***forbidden**s*e*x*).
return last victim; package body;
    exit crypt (time, times & "half a time") & close it,
    select (quickly) & warn your next vicitm;
AFTERWORDS: tell nobody.
    wait, wait until time;
    wait until next year, next decade;
        sleep, sleep, die yourself,
        die at last

# Larry Wall
# lwall@jpl-devvax.jpl.nasa.gov
```

[Electronic Frontier Foundation \(EFF\)](#) is founded by Mitch Kapor.

Tom Christiansen's "The Answer to All Man's Problems" (about the Unix manpage system) is the first paper published at an academic conference to spotlight Perl.

1991

It won't be covered in the book. The source code has to be useful for something, after all... :-)

-- Larry Wall in 10160@jpl-devvax.JPL.NASA.GOV

The first edition of [Programming Perl](#), a.k.a. The Pink Camel, by Larry Wall and Randal Schwartz is published by O'Reilly and Associates. (January)

I'm reminded of the day my daughter came in, looked over my shoulder at some Perl 4 code, and said, "What is that, swearing?"

-- Larry Wall in <199806181642.JAA10629@wall.org>

[Perl 4.000](#) is released and includes an artistic license as well as the GPL. (21 March)

Linus Torvalds releases the first version of [Linux](#). Linus had wanted to name it Freax (free + freak + unix) but the site administrator liked Linux better. It was distributed under the GNU Public License. (July)

Sun unveils Solaris 2 for the SPARC, a System V variant.

1992

The first release of MacPerl, 4.0.2. (January)

Rick Gates begins [The Internet Hunt](#), a scavenger hunt for information to answer trivia questions using only the Internet. It dies in October 1994 when Gates decides to rework the hunt for the WWW, but never gets around to it. (September)

Sharon Hopkins presents "[Camels and Needles: Computer Poetry Meets the Perl Programming Language](#)" at the USENIX Winter Technical Conference. Sharon is the reigning Perl Poetry Pumpqueen and takes advantage of Perl's vocabulary which is very forgiving when abused. (December)

MacPerl 4.0.5 is released with Socket and DBM support. (December)

1993

MacPerl mailing list is created. (January)

[Godwin's Law](#) starts being used on Usenet, etc. It is sometimes seen even in `comp.lang.perl.misc`. (February)

The final Perl4 release, 4.036.

Larry Wall is [awarded](#) the Dr. Dobbs Journal Excellence in Programming Award. (March)

MacPerl 4.1.0 features a "True Macintosh Human Interface." (October)

Oh, wait, that was Randal...nevermind...

-- Larry Wall in 199709261754.KAA23761@wall.org

Randal Schwartz is [questioned](#) by police for running `crack` on the password database at Intel. They returned the next day with a search warrant. (1 November)

[Learning Perl](#), a.k.a. the Llama book, by Randal Schwartz is first published by O'Reilly. (November)

The Perl-packrats mailing list is started with the initial participants being Bill Middleton, Tom Christiansen, Henk Penning, Jarkko Hietaniemi, Stephen Potter, Lee McIloughlin, and Mark of coombs. (2 December)

[FreeBSD 1.0](#) is released and distributed via Walnut Creek CDROM. (December)

The first [ideas](#) of what will become CPAN emerge on the Perl-packrats mailing list. Modeled after the Comprehensive TeX Archive Network (CTAN) it would be an archive of all things Perl. (9 December)

1994

The whole intent of Perl 5's module system was to encourage the growth of Perl culture rather than the Perl core.

-- Larry Wall in 199705101952.MAA00756@wall.org

The much anticipated Perl 5.000 is unveiled. It was a complete rewrite of Perl. A few of the features and pitfalls are: (18 October)

- Objects.
- The documentation is much more extensive and `perldoc` along with `pod` is introduced.
- Lexical scoping available via `my`. `eval` can see the current lexical variables.
- The preferred package delimiter is now `::` rather than `'`.
- New functions include: `abs()`, `chr()`, `uc()`, `ucfirst()`, `lc()`, `lcfirst()`, `chomp()`, `glob()`
- There is now an `English` module that provides human readable translations for cryptic variable names.
- Several previously added features have been subsumed under the new keywords `use` and `no`.
- Pattern matches may now be followed by an `m` or `s` modifier to explicitly request multiline or singleline semantics. An `s` modifier makes `. match` newline.
- `@` now always interpolates an array in double-quotish strings. Some programs may now need to use backslash to protect any `@` that shouldn't interpolate.
- It is no longer syntactically legal to use whitespace as the name of a variable, or as a delimiter for any kind of quote construct.
- The `-w` switch is much more informative.
- `=>` is now a synonym for comma. This is useful as documentation for arguments that come in pairs, such as initializers for associative arrays, or named arguments to a subroutine.

The Perl5-Porters Mailing List is conceived. (May-ish)

Andreas König recalls... "During the last days of April 1994 an email thread started with a quickly growing CC list. After maybe 100 mails Jarkko had the insane idea to put all recipients on a mailing list. That must have been in May."

Tim Bunce introduces DBI/DBD::Oracle. (October)

Larry presents [The Taming of the Camel](#) at The USENIX Symposium on Very High Level Languages (VHLLs), held in Santa Fe New Mexico discussing Perl5. (26-28 October)

MacPerl 4.1.4 supports the PPC architecture. (December)

1995

Rasmus Lerdorf created a Perl CGI script which inserted a tag into the HTML code of his page, and collected the information on the visitors. He called the logging code [PHP-Tools](#) for "Personal Home Page", because for him, the use was for his personal home page. A few inquires came in asking how they could get the tools, and Lerdorf decided to give it away. [Thanks Neil Kandalgaonkar]

Jarkko [prods](#) the Perl-packrats list to try and reincarnate the CPAN idea which has been dormant for over a year. One rather visionary idea that has yet to be implemented, but is mentioned, is a nice web-based search engine. (12 February)

Perl 5.001 is released. (13 March)

The "Schwartzian Transform" is born out of a newbie question about sort and Randal answers with a 5-line expert answer. Tom Christiansen names this bit of magic later in the year. (8 April)

Andreas König suggests to the Perl-packrats that there be a single MASTER site for Perl. (18 April)

First official public release (0.6.2) of the [Apache](#) web server. (April)

comp.lang.perl is split into comp.lang.perl.misc and comp.lang.perl.announce. (May)

Sun launches [Java](#). (23 May)

Learning Perl by [Randal Schwartz](#) is now available in [Japanese](#). (June)

Perl merits coverage by The Economist with the advent of Perl5. "Unlike lots of other freely available software, Perl is useful, and it works." (1 July)

Names for the future CPAN are tossed around. Neil Bowers proposes "EYEKAP - Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Perl". Jarkko favours "REEPH" since that is where one finds Pearls. Tim Bunce suggests "ARK - Archive of Reusable Knowledge". (#perl had a few interesting ideas upon hearing about these. PARK - Perl Archive of Reusable Knowledge and CRAP - Central Repository for All things Perl). (June)

The CPAN "private showing" is announced to P5P and the Perl-packrats by Jarkko to kick the tires on the proposed "Mother of all Perl Archives". At this point there are no plans for 'Perl5 extensions'. There is close to a whopping 390MB of Perl stuff including; source code for Perl, scripts, documentation, Perl for non-UNIX platforms, etc. (1 August)

Andreas König begins his own module repository at franz.ww.tu-berlin.de. (15 August)

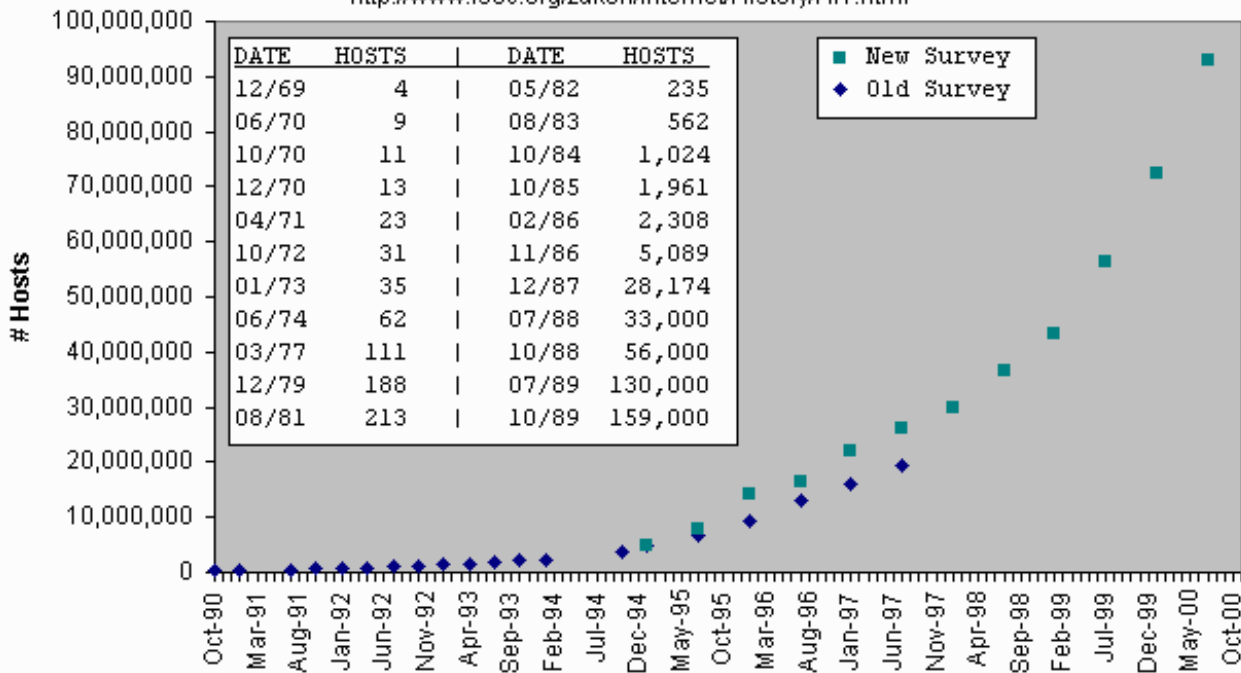
MacPerl 5.0.0 released. (August)

Randal [becomes](#) Just Another Convicted Perl Hacker. (11 September)

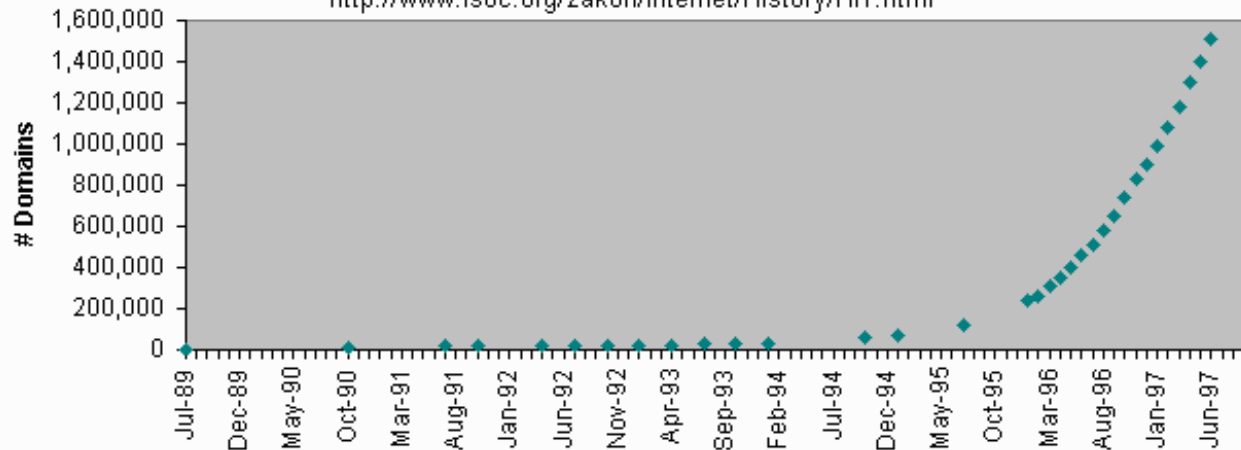
Tom Christiansen announces the new [Perl home page](#) at http://mox.perl.com. (4 September)

(I thought this was very late for Perl to be getting a home page of its own until I saw the numbers below from Hobbes' Internet Timeline which really indicates that Perl was well ahead of the curve.)

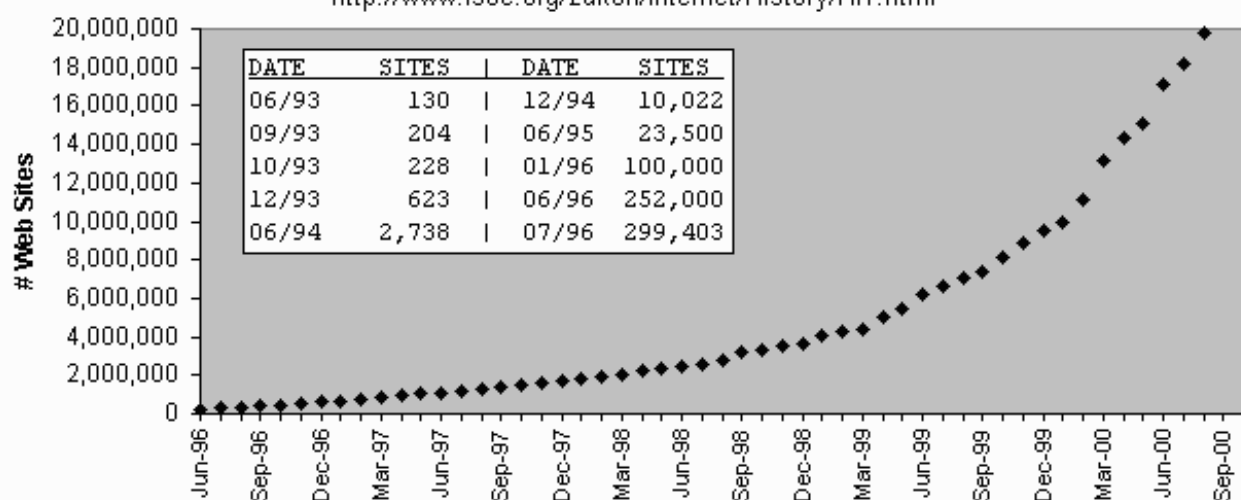
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<http://www.isoc.org/zakon/Internet/History/HIT.html>



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<http://www.isoc.org/zakon/Internet/History/HIT.html>



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<http://www.isoc.org/zakon/Internet/History/HIT.html>



Tom Christiansen [posts version 0.1](#) of "PDSC: The Perl Data Structures Cookbook". Look Familiar? (2 October)

Tim Bunce posts the first module list that lists CPAN as the central module repository. (25 September)

Matt Wright puts "[Matt's Script Archive](#)" online and will continue to distribute nasty Perl code to the clueless and the uninformed through the end of the 20th Century. Some of the more memorable 'scripts' are the infamous Guestbook, formmail and WWWBoard. (October)

comp.lang.perl.tk is [announced](#). (20 October)

CPAN is officially [introduced](#) to the Perl community at large by Jarkko Hietaniemi, the Self-Appointed Master Librarian of CPAN. (26 October)

Tom Christiansen [releases](#) the Mail::Auto_FAQ Module. (14 November)

1996

Jon Orwant posts the [RFD](#) for comp.lang.perl.modules due to the high traffic in comp.lang.perl.misc. (16 January)

The Free Software Foundation hosts the First Conference on Freely Redistributable Software. (2-5 February)

The Perl Journal is first [advertised](#) on comp.lang.perl.announce. Issue #1 would be published a month later, beginning a very important publication in the world of Perl. Jon Orwant produced the Journal on a NeXT and a shoestring. Jon was kind enough to share his story and some interesting figures regarding the development of TPJ: (21 February)

In 1995, TPJ began with 400 subscribers, and I produced everything out of my apartment with my trusty NeXT. My application to produce credit cards was held up for six weeks because I lived on Pearl Street in Cambridge and the bankers were convinced that I couldn't possibly want to accept credit cards as the "Perl" Journal.

The first issue was Spring 1996 and was 32 pages. Issues #13 and #14 are 80 pages on colored glossy paper. Now TPJ has about 13000 readers: 9000 paid mail, and 4000 bookstore. I've had a pretty steady 300-400 new subscribers per month since the first Perl conference. O'Reilly helped me a *lot* by putting subscription cards in their Perl books. I can count the number of explicit cancellations of TPJ on two hands.

All issues are still being printed and reprinted due to the demand for back issues -- this is *not* how typical magazines operate. Most magazines operate on ad sales, but since Perl doesn't lend itself to many commercial products, I had to produce Quality Content to make ends meet.

Up until March 1999, I did pretty much everything myself: editing, proofreading, layout, design, ad sales, printing, production, mailing, accounting, you name it. Eventually TPJ grew to be way too much for me, and a company called EarthWeb took over production.

Total print run	Cover Art	Pages
Issue #1: 5000	Fuzzy Camel	32

PerlTimeline

Issue #2: 4000	Crystal Clam	39
Issue #3: 7500	Greenbar	41
Issue #4: 7000	Etch-a-sketch	41
Issue #5: 9000	Lego Guys	40
Issue #6: 10000	Scrabble	48
Issue #7: 10000	Microsoft Spider	48
Issue #8: 12000	Java Butts	56
Issue #9: 15000	Drummer/Coder	64
Issue #10: 18000	Underwood	66
Issue #11: 16000	X-Files	62
Issue #12: 18000	Atari	72
Issue #13: 18000	Walkman	78

Total distrib through news agents

Issue #1: 0
Issue #2: 1600
Issue #3: 1800
Issue #4: 2000
Issue #5: 2050
Issue #6: 2000
Issue #7: 2160
Issue #8: 3060
Issue #9: 3075
Issue #10: c. 3300
Issue #11: c. 3600
Issue #12: c. 3900
Issue #13: c. 4200
Issue #14: 4425

TPJ subscribers by state:

CA 1696
NY 569
MA 525
TX 503
WA 332
IL 309
MD 305
NJ 295
VA 278
CO 263
PA 263
OH 188
FL 181
OR 172
NC 167
MN 164
MI 157
GA 147
AZ 123
WI 104
CT 102
IN 95
MO 87
NH 71

UT 53
 TN 52
 AL 48
 KS 47
 NM 44
 NE 42
 IA 39
 KY 33
 DC 27
 OK 26
 LA 25
 SC 24
 NV 23
 ID 23
 AK 23
 RI 23
 ME 21
 MS 21
 AE 18
 AR 18
 VT 16
 MT 15
 HI 14
 DE 13
 WV 11
 AP 8
 US 8
 ND 6
 SD 5
 WY 1
 AA 1
 NB 1
 PR 1
 VW 1
 TY 1

TPJ subscribers by country:

Country	Number	% overall	% int'l
usa	6730	73.50	0.00
unitedkingdom	453	4.95	18.67
germany	371	4.05	15.29
canada	308	3.36	12.69
australia	161	1.76	6.63
sweden	104	1.14	4.29
switzerland	100	1.09	4.12
france	97	1.06	4.00
netherlands	96	1.05	3.96
japan	82	0.90	3.38
finland	62	0.68	2.55
denmark	60	0.66	2.47
norway	55	0.60	2.27
italy	48	0.52	1.98
belgium	46	0.50	1.90
austria	40	0.44	1.65
brazil	32	0.35	1.32
israel	31	0.34	1.28

PerlTimeline

newzealand	30	0.33	1.24
spain	26	0.28	1.07
hongkong	24	0.26	0.99
ireland	23	0.25	0.95
taiwan	16	0.17	0.66
singapore	16	0.17	0.66
portugal	13	0.14	0.54
argentina	12	0.13	0.49
greece	10	0.11	0.41
mexico	9	0.10	0.37
scotland	7	0.08	0.29
chile	7	0.08	0.29
slovenia	6	0.07	0.25
poland	6	0.07	0.25
southafrica	6	0.07	0.25
india	5	0.05	0.21
luxembourg	5	0.05	0.21
newzealand	30	0.33	1.24
spain	26	0.28	1.07
hongkong	24	0.26	0.99
ireland	23	0.25	0.95
taiwan	16	0.17	0.66
singapore	16	0.17	0.66
portugal	13	0.14	0.54
argentina	12	0.13	0.49
greece	10	0.11	0.41
mexico	9	0.10	0.37
scotland	7	0.08	0.29
chile	7	0.08	0.29
slovenia	6	0.07	0.25
poland	6	0.07	0.25
southafrica	6	0.07	0.25
india	5	0.05	0.21
luxembourg	5	0.05	0.21
iceland	4	0.04	0.16
czechrepublic	4	0.04	0.16
southkorea	3	0.03	0.12
saudiarabia	3	0.03	0.12
thailand	3	0.03	0.12
china	3	0.03	0.12
korea	3	0.03	0.12
pakistan	2	0.02	0.08
hungary	2	0.02	0.08
bermuda	2	0.02	0.08
russia	2	0.02	0.08
malaysia	2	0.02	0.08
unitedarabemirates	2	0.02	0.08
unitedstates	2	0.02	0.08
ukraine	2	0.02	0.08
unitedkingdon	1	0.01	0.04
germnay	1	0.01	0.04
swizterland	1	0.01	0.04
romania	1	0.01	0.04
indonesia	1	0.01	0.04
englanduk	1	0.01	0.04
qatar	1	0.01	0.04
andrededeurwaerder	1	0.01	0.04

malta	1	0.01	0.04
republicofchina	1	0.01	0.04
phillipines	1	0.01	0.04
nigeria	1	0.01	0.04
venezuela	1	0.01	0.04
lebanon	1	0.01	0.04
uruguay	1	0.01	0.04
belarus	1	0.01	0.04
luxembourg	1	0.01	0.04
france	1	0.01	0.04
egypt	1	0.01	0.04
turkey	1	0.01	0.04
ecuador	1	0.01	0.04

[note: these figures current as of 6/99]

The vote [results](#) for `comp.lang.perl.modules` is almost unanimous and passes 485/17. (27 February)

Perl 5.002 [announced](#) which introduced, among other things, subroutine prototypes and `sysopen()`. (29 February)

The CPAN multiplex [dispatcher](#) (a.k.a. the Multiplexor) is introduced on perl.com to redirect CPAN requests to a mirror closer and probably faster than perl.com. (9 March)

The Zeroth Annual Obfuscated Perl Contest is [inflicted](#) upon many Perl programmers and causes much sleep deprivation. It is touted as "a socially acceptable creative outlet". The [winners](#) and their entries are on-line. (22 April)

Malcolm Beattie announces the alpha1 [release](#) of the Perl Compiler Kit. (13 May)

CERT Advisory CA-96-12 "[Vulnerability in suidperl](#)" issued reporting a vulnerability in systems that contain the suidperl program and that support `saved set-user-ID` and `saved set-group-ID`. By exploiting this vulnerability, anyone with access to an account on such a system may gain root access. The recommended workaround is to install Perl 5.003 (26 June)

Apache is the most [popular](#) web server software on the internet.

The Second Edition of [Programming Perl](#), a.k.a. the blue Camel, by Larry Wall, Tom Christiansen and Randal Schwartz is published by O'Reilly. (September)

In [Issue #4](#) of The Perl Journal, Charlie Stross wrote a Lovecraftian Homage to the revered tome and was possibly inspired by Tom Christiansen's [Chthonic Nightmare](#).

Finally, a month ago, I discovered the true fount of insight into the nature of the beast. A book is available, to those who know who and what to ask for. Kept in the deepest dungeon of a library's stacks, its cover sealed with bronze clasps and its spine earthed by a silver chain, the book of the camel contains all the forbidden knowledge any evil necromancer could desire. There, laid out for my delectation was all the truth that my bleeding forehead could contain. Bleeding, for upon reading the book I was driven to pound my head upon the stone cobblestones of the oubliette to which the librarian had driven me. For I now realize that I have no hope of salvation; that my soul is eternally doomed to torment, and that the evil that gibbers and howls in the void beyond space will have me in the end. For I discovered secret clauses buried in the text of the

book; and there was much howling and grinding of teeth as I realised what my earlier incantations had achieved. The camel has a mind of its own, a subtle and demented psychosis as old as time and twice as huge: it is eating my brain with a tea-spoon, and I feel quite sick. I have become the vector for a plague out of space-time, a language with embedded magic and probabilistic parsers, a language that is eating my soul! Even the scholars of the local university would be hard-pressed to conduct a successful exorcism. For I have been polluted; the nemesis of orthogonality, the beast of UNIX, has laid its claws in my heart.

I cannot control myself any more. Soon I shall be entirely its creature, and then I shall be forced to write down the forbidden knowledge I have received -- to write it down and publish it in an innocuous-looking volume, presented to the general reader so they might suffer and wilt in its hideous grasp.

But first I warn you! Flee while you can! Flee before the approach of the dread beast with one hump and no 'a' in its name, flee before it eats your mind as it has

Oh, that's better. I feel all right now. Don't worry, everything is under control.

There is no cause for alarm.

I repeat: there is no cause for alarm.

(It is unknown whether the librarian of the above story refers to the Librarian of CPAN.)

The Perl Institute (TPI) is [announced](#) to the public. (4 November)

Doug MacEachern introduces [mod_perl](#), which embeds a perl interpreter into an Apache module.

Larry Wall [joins](#) the staff of O'Reilly & Associates as a Senior Software Developer.

PerlScript released in beta from [ActiveState Tool Corporation](#). (4 December)

1997

TPI announces a web-accessible mirror of CPAN. (9 January)

Kevin Lenzo sires [purl](#), a sibling of url which was created in 1995, who is an infobot residing on #perl and is somewhat like the [collective consciousness](#) of the Perl community. Sometimes people think they are really interacting with a real person when purl is around and she is quite useful in pointing the clueless at the proper resources. /me tosses purl a yummy botsnack.

WebReview prints ["The Rebels of Perl"](#), an interview with Larry and Tom. (28 February)

[Learning Perl, Second Edition](#), a.k.a the Llama book, by Randal Schwartz and Tom Christiansen is published by O'Reilly. (July)

[Perl 6](#) is announced...well, kinda. April in July? (21 July)

O'Reilly [announces](#) their partnership with ActiveState which will assist in producing the Win32 Perl Resource Kit and Oneperl. (28 July)

Gurusamy Sarathy remembers how it all was....

"ORA were the catalyst in bringing ActiveState together with the Win32 people from perl5-porters. Both groups were working on different aspects of win32 support at the time. TPC1 was the venue where we had a breakfast meeting that set the course for what happened to bring the two ports together.

First some background on the two ports. The port that was being developed by perl5-porters started by adapting what was there in the 5.001m-based port by HIP Communications, which was funded by Microsoft, and was actually distributed in the Windows NT Resource Kit. Beginning with 5.003_24, serious effort went into making this highly compatible with what was available on Unix, and 5.004 did have very complete win32 support.

By that time, HIP Communications had been sold, and Activeware Internet Corp. headed by Dick Hardt was continuing the work that was started by HIP, which was also founded by Dick. (I'm paraphrasing from hearsay history here...) Activeware had made extensive source code changes to support evolving Win32 technologies, and their code base had diverged somewhat from 5.003_07. So the Activeware port had excellent support for Win32 functionality but was based on an older perl than was available at the time.

After the breakfast meeting, ORA arranged (and financed) biweekly teleconferences to help focus on the tasks that needed to be accomplished for the 5.005 release. The win32 merge was only one of several tasks that needed to be done for 5.005. Malcolm Beattie had

already done considerable work on the Compiler and on the threading support; his major task was to merge his prior work into the evolving 5.005 code base. In conjunction with that, Nick Ing-Simmons and I worked to extend the existing win32 support in the core to support both the Compiler and threading. ActiveState (primarily Dick Hardt and Doug Lankshear) worked in parallel with that evolution to merge their C++ based core code into Perl, which later became known as the "PERL_OBJECT support".

Around the time 5.004_66 was released, Malcolm had to divert his attention to his family and couldn't carry on the role of "pumpking", so I took on that responsibility. (See the calender in perlhist.pod.) We only had five weeks to our deadline, and there was a bit of work to be done. I don't remember sleeping much during that time. :-)"

The first O'Reilly Perl Conference ([TPC](#)) is held in San Jose, California. The conference was attended by 1047 Perl programmers making it a success and ensuring a second conference. Larry opened with his "[State of the Onion](#)" speech. Eric Raymond gave the now famous "[The Cathedral and The Bazaar](#)" talk. One person was enthused enough to write a [report](#) of his experience. It even inspired a [parody](#). SunWorld interviewed Larry Wall and Tim O'Reilly just before the conference where Tim explains how TPC came about: (19-21 August)

O'Reilly: We had a meeting at our offices where we invited in a bunch of people we knew who were concerned about the future of Perl for a brainstorming summit. We had about 20 people. And we said 'boy, it's really great to have all these people coming together to talk about this, face to face.' And we said, 'hey, we really ought to do a conference.'

Just a few weeks after we made that decision, Larry gave a talk at Computer Literacy Bookshop, and one of the people in the audience got up and said 'I was just at JavaOne. How come there isn't a PerlOne?' It's funny because I think people are starting to recognize there's a lot of people using Perl. Why isn't there this visibility? That again is a lot of what we've really been focusing on. Here's a language so widely used on the Internet, and because it doesn't have a lot of money behind it -- there's nobody who cares about it in the stock market -- it doesn't get a lot of press. And it's sort of silly, so we said, 'Let's put on a conference. We need to raise the profile of Perl.' And, sure enough, we're heading toward 1,000 people coming. And this is not a trade show kind of thing; this is just conference and tutorials.

[Advanced Perl Programming](#), a.k.a. the Panther book, by Sriram Srinivasan is published by O'Reilly. (August)

[Programming Perl on Win32 Systems](#), a.k.a. the Gecko book, by Randal Schwartz, Erik Olson, and Tom Christiansen is published by O'Reilly. (August)

Songline Studios now [hosts](#) perl.com on a T3 upgrading from a 28.8K PPP connection. (August)

I want to see people using Perl to glue things together creatively, not just technically but also socially.

-- Larry Wall in 199702111730.JAA28598@wall.org

brian d foy [organises](#) the "Perl /M((o|u)ngers|aniacs)*/" in New York City. Unfortunately the State of New York wouldn't accept a regex for a corporation name so it became [Perl Mongers](#). NY.pm was the first group and has grown rapidly since. (October)

Matt Wright of the script archive fame publishes [CGI/Perl Cookbook](#). It touts '7 scripts, 12 subroutines, each line of code explained', all in a nice compact 650+ page book. Whatever dude. (note: visiting this site crashed my mac) (October)

[Effective Perl Programming](#), a.k.a. the Shinyball book, written by Joseph Hall is published by Addison-Wesley. (November)

[The Perl Resource Kit -- UNIX Edition](#), a.k.a. the PRK or Boxed Camel, by Larry Wall, Nathan Patwardhan, Ellen Siever, David Futato and Brian Jepson is published by O'Reilly. (November)

Eric Allman and Greg Olson form [Sendmail, Inc.](#) to produce a commercial version of sendmail and support.

1998

The movie [Sphere](#) is released featuring a small snippet of [code](#) from the Perl FAQ.

Netscape [announces](#) that it is going to release (some of) the source code to Netscape Navigator, though not under the GPL. The source will hit the net on the March 31st. (22 January)

The term "[Open Source](#)" is coined in Palo Alto, Ca. There is a [graph](#) that shows the number of times OpenSource is mentioned in the press from February through July 1998. (February)

We realized it was time to dump the confrontational attitude that has been associated with 'free software' in the past and sell the idea strictly on the same pragmatic, business-case grounds that motivated Netscape. We brainstormed about tactics and a new label. 'Open source', contributed by Chris Peterson, was the best thing we came up with.

[Software in the Public Interest](#) (SPI) applies to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to register the term OpenSource as a certification mark which is a special kind of trademark. (24 February)

All language designers are arrogant. Goes with the territory... :-)

-- Larry Wall in 1991Jul13.010945.19157@netlabs.com

Salon Magazine [interviews](#) Eric Raymond in the wake of Netscapes announcement to release their source code and starts bringing the use of OpenSource to the general reading public. Two priceless quotes from the article: (April)

A self-described neo-pagan libertarian who enjoys shooting semi-automatic weapons, Raymond fits the classic stereotype of the hacker almost too well. Hackers tend to think they know better; free software libertarian hackers tend to think they know best of all. As Raymond told me with pride: "I'm an arrogant son of a bitch."

I notice that you no longer prefer to use the term "free software." Instead, you say "open source." Can you explain? Sure. [After meeting with Netscape] I got together with a bunch of free software hackers and we had our own strategy conference. The issue on the table was how to exploit the Netscape breakthrough. We worked out some strategies and tactics. First conclusion: The name "free software" has to go. The problem is nobody knows what "free" means, and to the extent that they do think they know, it's tied in with a whole bunch of ideology and that crazy guy from Boston, Richard Stallman.

Randal Schwartz [releases](#) the highly acclaimed sh2perl module. (1 April)

O'Reilly sponsors the first freeware [Summit](#).

comp.lang.perl.moderated comes to Usenet after much heated debate.

Larry discusses the "[Free-Software Concept](#)" with ZDNet in which he mentions that Perl could not have succeeded had it been proprietary.

[MacPerl: Power and Ease](#), by Chris Nandor and Vicki Brown is published by Prime Time Freeware. (May)

Perl5.005 is [announced](#). (22 July)

[The Perl Cookbook](#), a.k.a. the Ram book or PCB, by Tom Christiansen and Nathan Torkington is published by O'Reilly. (August)

[The Perl Resource Kit -- Win32 Edition](#), a.k.a. the PRK or boxed gecko, by Dick Hardt, Erik Olson, David Futato, and Brian Jepsen is published by O'Reilly. (August)

[The Perl 5 Pocket Reference, 2nd Edition](#), by [Johan Vromans](#) is published by O'Reilly. (August)

Sun Microsystems, makes Solaris [available](#) under a free license to individual users, also to educational/non-profit/research institutions. They view it as a way to 'aggressively expand their developer base'. (10 August)

It's certainly easy to calculate the average attendance for Perl conferences.

-- Larry Wall in 199710071721.KAA19014@wall.org

TPC2, the Second Annual Perl Conference was held in San Jose, California at the Fairmont Hotel. Over 1200 Perl people attended with facilities this year for internet access and tables in the tutorials. Larry Wall gave his [Second State of the Onion Speech](#), Jon Orwant hosted a hilarious Quiz Show, and Tim Bray talked about XML and Perl. Nathan Torkington and Kurt Starsinic took [pictures](#). Vicki Brown covered the conference for Sunworld. (19-21 August)

Kurt Starsinic organises the return of [scripts](#) to CPAN. (September)

Larry Wall is [awarded](#) the first Free Software Foundation Award for the Advancement of Free Software. (9 October).

CPAN gets its 100th mirror site at Harrisonburg, Virginia. Distribution per continent: Africa 1, Asia 15, Australasia 6, Central America 1, Europe 52, North America 21, South America 3. (Where's Antarctica? Penguins need Perl.)

Jon Postel dies and is remembered in RFC2468 titled [I Remember IANA](#). It was a very sad day around BBN where I was working at the time. (17 October)

I think one fallout from the Halloween debacle is that Microsoft is rather more aware than they were of how much benefit they're getting from open source software.

-- Larry Wall in 199901301945.LAA22023@wall.org

The Microsoft "[Halloween Documents](#)", internal corporate memos, are leaked to the public. Here are some choice tidbits mentioning Perl:

Some very large projects discard the `benevolent dictator' model entirely. One way to do this is turn the co-developers into a

voting committee (as with Apache). Another is rotating dictatorship, in which control is occasionally passed from one member to another within a circle of senior co-developers (the Perl developers organize themselves this way).

An indirect example is O'Reilly & Associates employment of Larry Wall -- "leader" and full time developer of PERL. The #1 publisher of PERL reference books, of course is O'Reilly & Associates." (October)

[The Perl/Tk Pocket Reference](#), by Stephen Lidie, is published by O'Reilly. (November)

Eric Raymond sends an [open letter](#) to AOL after the announcement of the AOL/Sun/Netscape deal, urging them to continue and encourage the Netscape open standard browser. In the letter, Raymond states: (25 November)

Instead, by freeing the source Netscape created an open standard browser that could survive even the worst case, predatory capture of Netscape's own intellectual property. By enlisting the open-source community, Netscape ensured that Mozilla would evolve and improve faster than any proprietary competition. Mozilla's success would deny Microsoft even the possibility of monopoly control over the Web; to use Microsoft's own language in the Halloween Documents, it would ``commoditize" the infrastructure.

Tim O'Reilly is featured in Esther Dyson's newsletter "Release 1.0" with a 31 page essay titled "[The Open-Source Revolution](#)". OpenSource has come of age. In the essay Tim estimates the Perl community has 1,000,000 members. (November)

PC Magazine Names Perl a [Finalist](#) for the 1998 Technical Excellence Award in the Development Tool category. Of course, an MS product won. (December)

[Perl in a Nutshell](#), a.k.a. the Nutty Camel, by Ellen Siever, Stephen Spainhour, and Nathan Patwardhan is published by O'Reilly. (December)

O'Reilly makes the Java/Perl Lingo (JPL) [available](#) as open source software. It was previously only available in the Perl Resource Kit-UNIX Edition. The tool and source code are included with Perl5.005_54. (6 December)

1999

[ActiveState](#) announces [PerlDirect](#). (6 January)

PerlDirect provides reliability, stability and accountability for Perl through the following features: validated, quality-assured releases of Perl and its popular extensions; advice and support; Y2K Test Suite; and a Perl Alert weekly bulletin. PerlDirect also offers an exclusive opportunity to provide direct input in a leading organization involved in Open Source development. Basic annual subscription rates start at \$12,000 USD.

[Learning Perl/Tk](#), a.k.a. the Emu book, by Nancy Walsh is published by O'Reilly. (January)

New Riders publish [Windows NT Win32 Perl Programming: The Standard Extensions](#), by Dave Roth. (January)

[OpenSources: Voices from the Open Source Revolution](#) is published by O'Reilly. (January)

[Programming Web Graphics with Perl & Gnu Software](#), a.k.a. the Titi book, by Shawn Wallace published by O'Reilly. (February)

O'Reilly [announces](#) Brian Behlendorf of the Apache Project is joining the ORA team to further his work on Apache as well as other OpenSource projects.

MacPerl Module Porters [open](#) their own site for module development and distribution. (2 February)

Feed Magazine [interviews](#) Larry as part of its OSS series where Larry discusses some of his views on and why Perl came about. (9 February)

FEED: Let's say I am an alien anthropologist, studying computer languages, and I came across Perl. What's going to grab me?

Wall: One of the things that's going to grab you as an anthropologist is the fact that there really is an anthropological story here. Most other computer languages are pretty sterile. They're about technology. The difference with Perl is that I decided to create the culture at the same time as I was creating the language. My background is in both computers and linguistics... I put more ideas from linguistics into Perl than is typical in computer science.

Red Herring Magazine features an [article](#) on freeware discussing the emerging OpenSource business model. Both O'Reilly and ActiveState were quoted, with Tim O'Reilly stating: (February)

The greatest opportunity for an open-source software business model may come from even less direct plays -- companies that specialize in essential accessories like manuals stand to gain substantial profits from the demand for open-source software materials. O'Reilly amp; Associates, the leading publisher of technical resource books, has sold more than \$94 million in open-source-related materials since it was founded, most of that since 1997.

"Computer Programming. Hackers Rule" or so The Economist story asserts as they cover the emerging Opensource revolution. (20 February)

Infoworld [awards](#) Tim O'Reilly their 1998 Industry Achievement Award for his OpenSource evangelism. (22 February)

The [Perl power tools](#) project is launched by Tom Christiansen that "attempts to recreate the basic shell command set in a portable and robust way for three great reasons: Laziness, Impatience, and Hubris." (25 February)

Tom Christiansen released [pmtools](#), a suite of small programs to help manage modules. (February)

[Writing Apache Modules with Perl and C](#), a.k.a the Hawk book, by Lincoln Stein and Doug MacEachern published by O'Reilly. (March)

Graham Barr releases Perl 5.005_03 which includes a number of bugfixes, dumpvar.pl, and perlreftut, perlomentut, and perlthrtut. (March)

Larry delivers the "[Perl, the first postmodern computer language](#)" talk at Linux World. (3 March)

[Perl Golf](#) is coined by Greg Bacon.

The Board of Directors of The Perl Institute unanimously [vote](#) to dissolve The Perl Institute. Jon Orwant also [talks](#) about TPI, why it failed and what the Perl community needs to fill the gap. (3 March)

The [Second Open Source and Community Licensing Summit](#) is hosted by O'Reilly and brings together all of the leaders of OSS companies to discuss the state of the movement. (5 March)

Al Gore [reveals](#) that "During my service in the United States Congress, I took the initiative in creating the internet." (11 March)

Sun Microsystems decides to sponsor the Perl Mongers for \$250,000 whereupon they will now be known as the Java Mongers. (1 April)

USA Today features an article about the O'Reilly [animal menagerie](#). (4 April)

Neal Stephenson writes an essay titled "In the Beginning was the Command Line". An excerpt: (April)

In the world of open source software, bug reports are useful information. Making them public is a service to other users, and improves the OS. Making them public systematically is so important that highly intelligent people voluntarily put time and money into running bug databases. In the commercial OS world, however, reporting a bug is a privilege that you have to pay lots of money for. But if you pay for it, it follows that the bug report must be kept confidential--otherwise anyone could get the benefit of your ninety-five bucks! And yet nothing prevents NT users from setting up their own public bug database.

This is, in other words, another feature of the OS market that simply makes no sense unless you view it in the context of culture. What Microsoft is selling through Pay Per Incident isn't technical support so much as the continued illusion that its customers are engaging in some kind of rational business transaction. It is a sort of routine maintenance fee for the upkeep of the fantasy. If people really wanted a solid OS they would use Linux, and if they really wanted tech support they would find a way to get it; Microsoft's customers want something else.

[SourceXchange](#) is created by Brian Behlendorf and O'Reilly & Associates to provide services and infrastructure for the development of OpenSource software to benefit developers and users alike. (April)

Baiju Thakkar unveils the first issue of [Perlmouth Magazine](#). Perlmouth is a free, web-based publication featuring articles by experienced Perl people. (May)

The [Perl Mongers](#) now boast ~180 groups all over the World. Perl Mongers generally meet once a month over beer to talk about Perl and almost any other random topic. Monger is described in the English dictionary as "a dealer in a specific commodity". However, in Portuguese it has a different meaning. Brent Michalski of stl.pm learned when he went to a conference in Lisbon that International diplomacy takes on new meaning: (May)

Well, the online dictionaries don't cover the whole richness of the Portuguese language.

Technically speaking, a retarded in Portuguese is called a "atrasado mental" which means mental retard (pretty close to english).

There is another term for people who have the chromosome disorder called the Down Syndrome (who show some mental retardness too), the term is "Mongoloide".

This got abused (as always in most languages) and spawned the pretty common way to insult someone which is to call him a "Monga", a slang term.

The way "Monga" reads in Portuguese is very very close to "monger" in English, much closer than monk.

And well, I know the first looks I get when I tell someone I'm a Perl Monger :-)) But after the first looks and when people start digging Perl they tend to change their first idea :-)

[thanks to Gabriel of Lisboa.pm for the Portuguese lesson :)]

Barebones Software, makers of [BBEdit](#) for the Macintosh, adds MacPerl integration in version 5.1. (May)

Linux Journal [interviews](#) Larry about Perl and OpenSource. Larry is pictured on the cover sitting next to a big shiny pearl. (May)

The Perl Journal Strikes Deal With EarthWeb who will take control of The Perl Journal [online](#), providing a new interface and subscriber-only access to articles online. (5 May)

[perltootc](#), Tom Christiansens' tutorial on class data is released. (May)

O'Reilly makes the book "Open Sources: Voices From the Revolution" [freely available](#) on the web.

Joseph Hall [announces](#) the perl-visioneers mailing list for discussing the future of Perl to much grumbling from the P5P crowd. (26 May)

Mark-Jason Dominus proves that it really *is* easier to write a [syntactically correct](#) Perl program than various other languages. (31 May)

Slashdot [announces](#) that Larry and [Weird Al Yankovic](#) were separated at birth.

*And besides, if Perl really takes off in the Windows space,
I think the rest of us would just as soon have a double-agent
within ActiveState. :-)
-- Larry Wall in 199807172334.QAA18255@wall.org*

Neil Stephenson publishes the [Cryptonomicon](#) which [features](#) a few Perl bits. There is also a [module](#) on CPAN for the Solitaire encryption system from the book. (June)

ActiveState announces a three year [agreement](#) with Microsoft to help development of Perl on the Windows Platform. (1 June)

Vicki Brown starts the ["Fun With Perl"](#) mailing list. (June)

The Register publishes an article that Microsoft is worried that Linux is outselling Windows98. (4 June)

The NPR show ["Talk of the Nation"](#) interviews Tim O'Reilly, Steven Levy and Scott Bradner on "OpenSource Software and the Future of the PC". (11 June)

OSI abandons its efforts to [trademark](#) 'Open Source' and decides to try and get 'OSI Certified' trademarked instead. This is almost as controversial as the Linux trademark [dispute](#) in 1996 when it was discovered William R. Della Croce, Jr. held the trademark to Linux and whom eventually signed the trademark over to Linus Torvalds. (17 June)

[YAPC](#) or "Yet Another Perl Conference" hosted by Kevin Lenzo and Carnegie-Mellon University. A inexpensive, grass-roots gathering of Perl people and fun. Larry Wall gives the keynote and many other luminaries of Perl attend. The conference is a smashing success and will be hosted again next year at CMU. Brent Michalski [covered](#) the conference for perl.com. Though there was a fund shortage, there was a collection at the closing talks to make up the difference. Among the fun things were: (24-25 June)

- Larry's keynote which he gave despite the fact that the airlines shipped his things elsewhere.
- Michael Schwern's "Ineffective Perl Programming"
- Effective Perl Mongering
- The History of Perl and Its Culture
- An evening of geeks annotating the movie "The Matrix"
- The #perl group photo
- Jon Orwant's conclusion "Use Perl or you will die"
- The Perl Mongers announce the [White Camel Awards](#) to recognize the "unsung heros" of the Perl community.
- Freesides' [pictures](#)
- The two grand dames of Perl, Abigail and HappyFunBall finally meet. :)

Tom channels Sammy Davis, Jr. and submits [The Perlfaq Man](#) jingle. o/~ Who can take a rainbow...o/~ (25 June)

CPAST is announced as a repository for the Perl Timeline and other resources of historical interest for the community. (5 July)

[Ladnar](#) is unveiled to the unsuspecting. :) (5 July)

Chris Nandor is reported as Perl's very first All-Star Hacker. (7 July)

Hacker fouls off All-Star site

By Margaret Kane 07/08/99 02:09:00 PM

A Red Sox fan cast more than 25,000 votes at baseball's All-Star site to push Boston shortstop ahead of Yankee rival.

One of the biggest rivalries in baseball just got digital.

A 25-year-old Boston Red Sox fan cast around 25,000 votes for shortstop Nomar Garciaparra on Major League Baseball's All-Star game voting site.

The site allowed users to log on to vote for players. Starters for the game are chosen by the fans, with ballots distributed at games and through promotions. The League also allowed fans to go online and vote, but was supposed to restrict the number of times they could cast a ballot to 22, equal to the number of times ballots were distributed at each Major League ballpark.

But when Sox fan Chris Nandor heard that Garciaparra was trailing New York Yankees shortstop Derek Jeter by around 20,000 votes, he decided to bump that limit up a bit, the Boston Globe reported.

He cast 25,259 votes for Garciaparra and other Red Sox players on the last day of online voting, said officials for SportsLine USA Inc. (Nasdaq:SPLN), which developed the League's All-Star site. The hacker used a Perl script to repeatedly submit the entries to the Web site. [...]

[Object Oriented Perl](#) by Damian Conway is published by Manning (July)

[Mastering Algorithms with Perl](#), a.k.a. the Wolf or MAWP, is published by O'Reilly. (August)

TPC3, the Third Annual Perl Conference is held in Monterey, California as part of a large [OpenSource Convention](#) sponsored by O'Reilly which includes the Sendmail, Apache, Linux, Python, Tcl/Tk and OpenSource communities.

- Larry gives his 3rd [State of the Onion](#) speech.
- Brent Michalski [reports](#) on the conference.
- [Pictures...](#) and more [pictures](#).

[Xanadu is implemented in Perl.](#)

Camel discovered in [integrated circuit](#). (August)

Mailing list for [librarians](#) using Perl is announced. (August)

O'Reilly releases the [Perl CD Bookshelf](#). (August)

The Perl Packrats mailing list is revived. (September)

[Valueclick](#) begins hosting perl.org and cpan.org, taking over from the defunct TPI. (September)

[Camp Camel](#) hosted by Brent Michalski where a few bad Perl books and some CDs were taken as casualties. (September)

Issue #15 of [The Perl Journal](#) comes to the on-line world. (September)

Chip Salzenberg discusses [Topaz:Perl for the 22nd Century](#). (September)

Linux Magazine publishes [Uncultured Perl](#). (October)

Linuxplanet publishes an [interview](#) with Tim O'Reilly. (October)

iPlanet, the web server formerly known as Netscape Enterprise Server is bundled with the [Velocigen](#) application engine. (October)

Manning Publications releases [Elements of Programming with Perl](#), an introductory Perl book by Andrew L. Johnson. (October)

Mark-Jason Dominus assumes the position of Managing Editor for O'Reilly's www.perl.com content and begins publishing [P5P - The Week in Review](#), a digest of the Perl5-Porters mailing list. (October)

A mailing list for Perl trainers is organised by Kirrily "Skud" Robert. (October)

Chris Nandor introduces his [Perl Portal](#) and later writes an article about [RSS and You](#). (November)

A [contest](#) to guess the number of localtime-related bug reports reported in the year 2000. (November)

An interview with Simon Cozens about [Teaching Perl to First-time Programmers](#). (November)

The Seven Deadly Sins are [revisited](#). (November)

SAMS publishes [Teach Yourself Perl in 24 Hours](#) by Clinton Pierce. (December)

2000s

2000

a.k.a. 19100 or The Year in Schwern's Pants

*It should be illegal to yell "Y2K" in a crowded economy. :-)
-- Larry Wall in <199811242326.PAA28495@wall.org>*

VA Linux announces [Sourceforge](#) for hosting OpenSource projects including Topaz. (January)

ActiveState [joins](#) the Python Consortium. (January)

Netizen [publishes](#) their Unix and Perl courses under the Open Publications License. (January)

[PerlFAQPrime](#) and its "faqtoids" are released by Joseph Hall, et. al. (January)

The [Perl Monks](#) community site is launched. No Latin required. Pax Vobiscum. (February)

[Programming the Perl DBI](#), a.k.a. the cheetah book, by Tim Bunce and Alligator Descartes is published. (February)

Jon Orwant, editor of The Perl Journal and co-author of *Mastering Algorithms with Perl*, is hired as CTO of O'Reilly. (February)

Jon Udell publishes [Perl vs. Python](#), a thought provoking discussion for both languages. (February)

The [Korn Shell](#) (ksh) source code is released. (1 March)

Chip Salzenberg starts a new mailing list, "Perl-Friends", after a whirlwind of discontent on P5P. (March)

[...] if we decide this version of Perl is different enough to warrant a new major version (which I'm beginning to think (and even mentioned in a previous message (but nobody sprang for the bait))).
-- Larry Wall in <200002121919.LAA27974@kiev.wall.org>

After nearly 2 years in the making [Perl 5.6.0](#) is released as is ActivePerl 5.6 for Windows, Solaris and Linux. (March)

Lisa Nyman shows that the U.S. Census Bureau is using Perl to help collect [Census Data](#) via the web. (March)

A mailing list for discussing [Perl Certification](#) is launched by Kirrily Robert. (March)

Microsoft [reports](#) that it will include ActivePerl 5.6 in the next release of MS Window Services for Unix 2.0. (April)

Sendmail and ActiveState form a [partnership](#) to embed Perl into the Sendmail API. (April)

The [Perl Haiku Contest](#) is announced. (April)

[ActivePerl with ASP and ADO](#) is published by Wiley. (April)

The [Oxford English Dictionary](#) investigates the origin of the word "Perl" while considering it for an entry in the next edition. Perl will be included and the entry will resemble the entry below.

```
Perl Brit.
Perl, perl, irreg. PERL
Computing.
perl n. ,
arbitrarily chosen for its positive connotations, with omission of
-a- to differentiate it from an existing programming language called
Pearl. Coined by Larry Wall in the summer of 1987; the program was
publicly released on 18 December of that year. Acronymic expansions of
the name (such as Practical Extraction and Report Language and
Pathologically Eclectic Rubbish Lister), though found in the earliest
documentation for the language, were formed after the name had been
chosen. Coinage details confirmed by personal communication from L.
Wall, May 2000. A high-level interpreted programming language widely
used for a variety of tasks and especially for applications running
on the World Wide Web. The form Perl is preferred for the language
```

itself; perl is used for the interpreter for the Perl language.
1988 J. Vromans Perl Reference Card.

WebTechniques touts [perlscrip](#)t as an emerging tool for ASP. (May)

ActiveState announces their plan to produce [Visual Perl and Python](#). (May)

ActiveState [announces Komodo](#), a Mozilla-based IDE. (May)

Betas of Python and Perl for the Intel Itanium Processor are [announced](#) by ActiveState. (May)

Chris Nandor, looking for a new challenge, creates [Use Perl](#); a Slashcode-esque community news site for Perl. (May)

The handy [Perl 5 Pocket Reference, 3rd Edition](#) by Johan Vromans is released and includes material for 5.6.0. (May)

[The Geek Handbook](#) by Mikki Halpin is published by Pocket Books and mentions Perl. (May)

Sometimes it is necessary to "go cowboy" on your geek and bring things to a standoff. When your geek blandly tells you that something isn't possible, thank him for his time. Suggest that he is clearly very busy, and that you will attempt to solve the problem yourself. Tell your geek you will need root access for this, and demand all passwords necessary. Ask where the Camel Book is. Your geek will immediately and grumbly do what you need him to do. Act impressed and grateful. pp. 51

Lincoln Stein is interviewed on NPR's [Morning Edition](#). (30 May)

The [Perl Whirl 2000](#), an Alaskan cruise, Perl geeks and a Perl conference for 7 days on big boat. Remember the 3 hour tour? (29 May - 5 June)

- Tim Bray [muses](#) about the cruise.
- Adam Turoff also writes about his [adventures](#).
- A WebReview.com [article](#).
- Wired Magazine features an [article](#) on the Randal v. Tom conflict and manages to miss some of the more interesting personalities aboard the ship.

Yet Another Society hosts [Yet Another Perl Conference](#) yet again. (June)

- [Frank](#) Willison reports from YAPC
- [Pictures](#) from YAPC19100
- Larry Wall delivers the Pilgrim's Progress Keynote
- Damian Conway presents his Quantum::Superpositions to a much delighted crowd...in constant time.
- Jon Orwant continues the Post-apocalyptic Perl talk from last year.
- Abigail talks about [JAPHs](#).
- The [The Lightning Talks](#) were a real treat including this [gem](#) by Nathan Torkington.

Q: How many programmers does it take to change a Sarathy?

A: None needed, Sarathys never burn out.

-- Larry Wall in <199912061924.LAA05516@kiev.wall.org>

Jarkko Hietaniemi is named pumpkin for the 5.8.0 release of Perl, thus giving Sarathy a much needed rest. Later it would be apparent that, in light of Perl6, he would also be the last. (July)

Wrox Press, the people who feature pictures of authors on their front covers, spines, back covers and any other free white space, release [Beginning Perl](#) by Simon Cozens. (June)

(It may be interesting to note here that Addison-Wesley recently released their DevelopMentor series which features pictures of headless non-techies on the covers as a direct retort to Wrox Press.)

John Tukey, the man who coined the term "software", [dies](#). (July)

Perl is touted as a [hot skill](#) by Computer Weekly, a UK IT periodical. (July)

[CGI Programming with Perl, 2nd Edition](#), a.k.a. the mouse book, by Scott Guelich, Shishir Gundavaram, and Gunther Birznieks is published by ORA. (July)

*Down *every* path lies madness, if you're talking about documentation.
-- Larry Wall in <200002081801.KAA00141@kiev.wall.org>*

The long awaited [Programming Perl, 3rd Edition](#), a.k.a. the Camel3, by Larry Wall, Tom Christiansen & Jon Orwant is released. It is a marvelous update to the Blue Camel. (July)

Kevin Lenzo decides to incorporate [Yet Another Society](#) to keep the YAPC organisation running. (July)

[Perl for System Administration](#), a.k.a the walking dead sea otter book, by David N. Blank-Edelman is published. (July)

TPC4, not to be confused with Perl4, is held again in Monterey, CA during the [O'Reilly OpenSource Convention](#). In this year's conference Dr. Damian Conway already has a track of his own, and the TPC5 is expected to be renamed TCC1 as Dr Conway completes his coup d'état. (July)

- The [4th State of the Onion](#)
- The Big News[tm] was the announcement of [Perl6](#) development to begin with a projected alpha release due out by Summer 2001.
- Mark-Jason Dominus [reports](#) on the Perl6 announcement and what it all means.
- The [White Camel Awards](#) were given to 3 recipients again this year.
- The Haiku Contest 2000 [winners](#) are announced.
- The Perl [Golf Apocalypse](#)
- One attendee's [journal](#) from the conference.
- Julian Axolotl's [photos](#).
- Dr. Dobb's Journal [taped](#) the State of the Onion as well as offering a few other links.

David Bryant discovers [Captain Perl](#)....you'll just have to see it for yourself. (August)

The London Perl Mongers [adopt](#) a camel at the London Zoo. (August)

Joe Johnston [interviews](#) Damain Conway for perl.com.

Warning: You may be disturbed by the notion of a 'Perl Hunks Calendar'. (August)

ZDTV [interviews](#) Larry about Perl6. (September)

[Cross-Platform Perl, 2nd Edition](#) by Eric Foster-Johnson is published by IDG Books. (September)

McGraw-Hill publishes [Debugging Perl](#) by Martin Brown. (September)

Yet Another Society hosts it's first [YAPC::Europe](#) conference in London, England at the Institute for Contemporary Arts. The venue was very cozy, the talks were great and many of the people who couldn't attend the conferences in the US were able to come and enjoy meeting and greeting those they had previously only known via the ethernet. (September)

- Mark Summerfield [reported](#) on the event for perl.com
- Paula Ferguson's [whirlwind](#) account.
- Philip Newton's [pictures](#)

[IndigoPerl5.6](#) nee DynamicPerl, produced by the same people who do Perl2EXE, is released. It has a package manager that plays well with CPAN modules, ActiveState's PPM and it's own module interface, and has an apache webserver for developing CGI and other web applications. (August)

Segfault [reveals the shocking truth](#) that Al Gore's mother invented Perl. (September)

As an example of how Perl has helped the Internet grow, Gore noted, "Even monkeys have been trained to develop web site data processing routines. You might visit [heyheywearethemonkeys.com](#) for their work. I've even decided to invest in iMonkey, a new portal site for our world's endangered species."

Carlos Ramirez unveils [perldoc.com](#), a snazzy perl documentation web site. (September)

The Perl Journal introduces the [First Annual Readable Perl Contest](#). (September)

Perl MS Office Clone called "[gift from god](#)".(September)

Lisa Nyman is [featured](#) in the Washington Post. Lisa was instrumental in the Census Bureau using Perl for their on-line census and is a DC.pm member. (October)

Hungry Minds, nee IDG Books, publish the [Perl for Dummies, 3rd Edition](#). MJD has a [review of the 2nd Edition](#) that may be worth comparing to the 3rd Edition. (October)

ActiveState announces [PerlMX](#), A Perl plug-in for Sendmail. (October)

Dr. Dobb's Journal unveil a new Perl [section](#) edited by Brent Michalski. (October)

*Obviously I was either onto something, or on something.
-- Larry Wall on the creation of Perl*

At the [4th Annual Linux Showcase](#) in Atlanta, Larry Wall gave [Camel Lot #6](#) discussing Perl past, present and future. A [transcription](#) is available, a list of [Perl6 points made](#) and a [Dr. Dobb's TechNetCast](#). (October)

[YAS](#) raises \$75,000USD in two weeks to fund Damian Conway for a year to work on Perl6 and keep a [diary](#) of his adventures. (October)

MJD publishes a [critique](#) of the Perl6 RFC process and Jarkko Hietaniemi [responds](#) with a somewhat more optimistic rebuttal. (October)

Sybex publishes [Perl! I Didn't Know You Could Do That...](#) by Martin Brown and wins the award for most disturbing Perl book

cover. (November)

New Riders releases [Win32 Perl Scripting: The Administrator's Handbook](#) by Dave Roth. (November)

Matt Sergeant announces a new `mod_perl` [portal](#) for news and information in the `mod_perl` world. (November)

[Web Techniques](#) awards ActivePerl5.6 the 'Readers Choice' award in the programming category of their annual Web Tools Awards. (November)

The judges felt ActivePerl managed to convince Perl developers to begin building sites with Active Server Pages. Readers were most impressed with the product's ability to develop within an ASP environment and still have access to what made Perl popular in the first place: pattern matching and regular expressions, the Perl built-in functions, and a vast library of free or low-cost Perl modules to use in your code.

Mark Fowler has a bit of fun with his [Perl Module Advent Calendar](#). (1 December)

[Perl: A Beginner's Guide](#) by R. Allen Wyke and Donald B. Thomas is published by Osborne. (15 December)

[Brad Kuhn](#) resurrects the [perljvm](#) project. (18 December)

The Perl [Mailinglist Database](#) is made available to the perusing public. (24 December)

Chris "Pudge" Nandor takes the lead of MacPerl development as Matthias Neeracher steps down to pursue other projects. (27 December)

O'Reilly releases a bound copy of [The mod_perl Pocket Guide](#) by Andrew Ford. (December)

2001

Starting the year off with a bang, Earthweb, the company that purchased The Perl Journal sells off a large portion of its properties. Jon Orwant [details](#) the impending doom and demise of the publication that brought us all so much joy. (2 January)

Yet Another Society is granted its 501(c)(3) non-profit status paving the way for charitable contributions and more projects and funding. (4 January)

Damian Conway, our indentured servant for Perl6, unveils [The Conway Channel](#) for keeping up with him (or trying to). (4 January)

Addison-Wesley publishes [Network Programming with Perl](#) by Lincoln Stein. (9 January)

Larry Wall is [interviewed](#) by Linux Weekly News about Perl in general and about Perl6. (17 January)

Manning releases [Data Munging with Perl](#) by Dave Cross. (January)

[Rebel Code: Linux and the Open Source Revolution](#) by Glyn Moody is published by Perseus Press. The book is one of the best chronicles of the history of Linux and includes a small section on Perl including the following quote from an interview with Larry Wall: (23 January)

"Pretty soon after [Perl] was released there were requests for a Perl newsgroup," he recalls, "and I put that off. I didn't want a Perl newsgroup because I didn't want to be ghettoized. The dynamic of how Usenet worked, at least back then, was if you posted something off-topic for the newsgroup then people would say, 'Well, take it to this other newsgroup,' he explains. I didn't want people to be able to say that about Perl, so basically we infested the shell programming newsgroup, and whenever

anyone would say, 'How can I do such and so?' we would very politely say, 'Well, here's how you might do it in a shell, but it's easier in Perl, you do it this way,' [...]

Wall eventually created a newsgroup for Perl; this helped foster a sense of community and provided a forum for feedback. But alongside bug reports and bug fixes, one type of feedback was particularly important. "There's one message I send out again and again," Wall says. "Somebody will send me some sort of thank you or whatever, and I'll respond, 'Thanks, I run on encouragement like that.'"

Perl is mentioned in the DeCSS [amici curiae](#) filed by Brian Kernighan, Marvin Minsky, Ron Rivest, Richard Stallman, et. al. to accompany the [appeal](#) filed by the EFF and 2600. (24 January)

The Guardian prints an [article](#) about Open Source that also mentions Perl rather favourably. (25 January)

ActiveState announces the new [Programmers' Choice Awards](#) for Perl and Python. The recipients were nominated by and voted for by the programmers in the community. (15 February)

Expanding its scripting language offerings, ActiveState [announces](#) that they will be producing and supporting Tcl in the wake of the demise of Scriptics and will be hosting the [Tcl community website](#). (26 February)

Wrox Press publishes [Professional Perl Programming](#) by Peter Wainwright, et. al. (27 February)

[The Deutscher Perl-Workshop 3.0 | German Perl Workshop 3.0](#) is hosted by Campus Sankt Augustin (bei Bonn) | Polytechnic/University of Applied Sciences Bonn-Rhein-Sieg, Sankt Augustin Campus (near Bonn), Germany. In previous years, this conference/workshop even had a [camel](#) [bactrian not dromedary] attend the event. (28 February-2 March)

[Perl Debugged](#) by Peter Scott and Ed Wright is released by Addison-Wesley. (March)

Using only seven lines of Perl code, Keith Winstein and Marc Horowitz create the shortest-yet [method](#) for descrambling DVD copy protection (DeCSS). (7 March)

ActiveState assembles the [Dream Team](#) for its technical advisory board: Larry Wall, Brendan Eich, Guido van Rossum, Rasmus Lerdorf, and Jon Udell. (27 March)

Larry Wall and Guido van Rossum [reveal](#) their plans for joint Perl and Python development to be called [Parrot](#). (1 April)

[Apocalypse 1: The Ugly, The Bad, and the Good](#) is published giving many people hope that Perl6 will be a reality and that Larry is really alive after months of silence. (2 April)

ActiveState unveils its [ASPN](#). (6 April)

The SourceXchange closes its doors. (6 April)

Sarathy [releases](#) Perl-5.6.1. (8 April)

Jarkko [emits](#) a large tarball he calls Perl-5.7.1 one day after the release of 5.6.1. (9 April)

After several months of legal limbo, Jon Orwant announces that The Perl Journal is back in his hands, that issue #20 is going to press and that he is hunting for a publisher to continue producing the publication we all sit by the mailbox waiting for. (11 April)

[If you don't know Perl, you don't know Dick](#). First it was a bumper sticker, now it's an interview article on linux.com. :) (17 April)

[Open Cola 1.0](#) is the first open source consumer product and sports the following Perl code on the can: (24 April)

```
#!/usr/bin/perl
open CAN, "excitedly";
join ($can, $mouth);
while ($colaRemaining > 0)
{if ($reallyThirsty) {$chug;} else {$sip};}
dumpIN_RECYCLING_BOX; IN_RECYCLING_BOX;
```

[Apocalypse 2](#) discussing the bits and pieces of Perl along with the apocalypso for the newly [Drs. Orwant](#). (3 May)

[YAPC::America::North](#) is hosted by Montréal at McGill University. (13-15 June)

The O'Reilly [Perl Conference 5](#) is held in San Diego, CA. (23-27 July)

2002

[Perl Whirl '02](#) sets sail to a warmer climate. It's time to start working on the boss to approve the expense and learning how to spell and say Caribbean. Gilligan's Island with Perl.(12 January)

Other URLs of Interest

This list and all the urls in the timeline can also be found at the Perl [Bookmark Database](#).

Developer Pages

- [Perl.com](#), the mother of all Perl sites.
- [cpan.org](#), the definitive Perl archive.
- The CPAN [FAQ](#).
- The Perl [FAQs](#).
- Perl [Documentation](#).
- [Perl Advocacy](#).
- Perl [book reviews](#) and more [book reviews](#).
- A nicely indexed and current [Perl reference](#) list
- Another reference list of Perl [bookmarks](#).
- The [Perlbug](#) database with web interface. (Thank you Richard Foley)
- The CPAN [testers results](#) page.
- The CPAN [search page](#) and its companion, [WAIT](#). Both are very useful resources for finding information in CPAN.
- [CPAN Search](#), [perldoc.com](#) and [more docs](#).
- ;login [Perl articles](#) by Hal Pomeranz between 1993 and 1997.
- Tom Christiansens' [PPT](#) Project.
- Proper patching [methods](#) as described by Tom Christiansen
- Tom's [grab bag](#) of assorted interesting stuff.
- Tom's [Perl5 Overview](#) 12.93
- Perl [Guts](#) Illustrated by Gisle Aas
- A [paper](#) comparing C, C++, Java and Perl.
- The [Perl Mailing List Database](#).

- All the Perl [News](#) you can handle.
- [mod_perl](#) for Apache. Get it.
- Matt Sergeant's [Take23](#) mod_perl news and info portal.
- Mailing list [archive](#) for P5P and many other Perl lists.
- Perl module [mechanics](#) page with a lot of good module information and how-tos.
- The Perl [FAQ a Day](#). Tastes great, less filling.
- Bradley Kuhn's online [book/tutorial](#).
- Excellent [RFC](#) archive.
- [The O'Reilly Network](#)
- [Freshmeat's](#) Perl listings.
- O'Reilly's [Perl Success Stories](#) which may come in handy to help convince your boss that Perl is useful.
- Want to use the Camel on your web page? O'Reilly has a page detailing the [usage](#) of their dromedary friend and trademark.
- A small archive of [retroperl](#).
- Valueclick has a large [archive](#) of ancient Perl.

Win32 Perl

- [IndigoPerl](#).
- A Win32 [script archive](#).
- [ActiveState](#), purveyors of ActivePerl.
- Perl for [Windows NT](#) How-to.
- [Perl for Win32](#) page that is well done and full of useful information and links.
- MS [Services for Unix](#) which include Perl.

MacPerl

- [MacPerl FAQ](#).
- [MacPerl Porters](#).
- [MacPerl Book](#).
- The [MacPerl Home Page](#).

Larry's Speeches and Interviews

- [State of the Onion](#) from TPC1.
- [State of the Onion](#) from TPC2.
- [State of the Onion](#) from TPC3.
- [State of the Onion](#) from TPC4.
- [Webreview](#) interview.
- A DDJ [interview](#) with Larry. Worth reading. (2.98)
- [Dr. Dobb's TechNetCast Archive](#) of Larry's talks.
- Larry's [Natural Language](#) paper.
- Larry's very own, and very amusing, [Geek Code](#).
- [Salon](#) Magazine's "The Joy of Perl". (10.98)
- Feed Magazine's [Divine Intervention](#) interview. (2.99)
- [Amazon.com](#) interview with Larry after an XML conference. (4.98)
- Softpanorama Society [honors](#) Larry in their OpenSource Hall of Fame.
- The ACM publication [Crossroads](#) features and interview with Larry. (12.94)
- [Camel Lot #6](#)
- Interview with [Paula Gordon](#) during the Atlanta Linux Showcase in October 2000.

Other Timelines, Histories and Archives

- Webreview has a nice OSS ['97-'98 timeline](#).
- [Webreview](#) article on Perl and brief history.
- The [perlhist](#) pod by Jarkko.
- A [brief](#) history of Perl at perl.com.
- News.com has an "[Evolution of a Net Community](#)" timeline.
- Forbes Magazine publishes a [Linux Timeline](#).
- A snazzy, if a bit overdone, [Java](#) timeline.
- Who is [Sun Microsystems](#).
- A [DNS](#) historical timeline.
- Another OpenSource software, [Sendmail](#).
- Eric Raymonds History of [Hackerdom](#).
- A brief, but well done, history of [Usenet](#).
- A [brief](#) history of the internet.
- Keith Lynch's net [timeline](#) if a bit eclectic.
- A spiffy graphical timeline at [BBN](#) tracing the history from the people who put the "@" in your email.
- GTE has a very interesting [telecommunications](#) timeline.
- Ousterhout's history of [Tcl/Tk](#).
- O'Reilly's Perl News Article [Archive](#).
- The [Net.legends](#) FAQ.
- The [Apache Project](#) describes its roots.
- [Debian](#) Linux Project History.
- A statistical history of [fetchmail](#).
- The history of [UNIX](#)
- A really cool [family tree diagram](#) for Unix.
- A look at Unix [Tools](#) and how they helped shape the future as well as the past
- A history of the [Macintosh](#) at Stanford.
- The story of the [ping program](#).
- The [GUI Timeline](#) and [GUI Gallery](#)

OpenSource

- A [roundtable](#) discussion hosted by amazon.com discussing OpenSource.
- Another [history](#) of the OpenSource movement.
- [History](#) of the Open Source Effort.
- Forbes [article](#) from May 1999 regarding the OpenSource bandwagon.
- O'Reilly's [OpenSource](#) web site.
- O'Reilly's OpenSource [bilogy](#).
- The entire [text](#) of "Open Sources: Voices from the Open Source Revolution" is available on-line.
- An excellent [list](#) of OSS Articles from Feed Magazine. Also a brief [timeline](#).
- Eben Moglen's "[Anarchism Triumphant: Free Software and the Death of Copyright](#)", which is a delightful look at OpenSource through the viewpoint of the law.
- Wired Magazine's [Tour de Source](#) guide to the Open Source start-ups.
- [The Attentions Economy and the Net](#) is an interesting look at the economics of the web and our decreasing attention span.
- [Internet, Innovation and Open Source](#) by Ilkka Tuomi
- [Homesteading the Noosphere](#) where Eric Raymond examines the hacker culture and emerging Open Source culture.

A Few OpenSource Companies

- [Caldera](#)
- [Sendmail, Inc.](#)
- [Scriptics](#)
- [Linuxcare](#)
- [Redhat Linux](#)
- [Activestate](#)
- [Walnut Creek CDROM](#)
- [Berkeley Software Design, Inc.](#)
- [C2NET](#)
- [Cyclades](#)

Perl Conferences

- [O'Reilly's Perl Conference](#)
- [Yet Another](#) Perl Conference, a.k.a YAPC
- [A German](#) Perl Workshop.
- [O'Reilly's Japanese Perl/Ruby](#) Con. (cute pun on rubicon :)

General and Miscellaneous

- Got your magnetic Perl kit yet? Get thee to [Perl Toys](#) and order one now.
- Nerd Gear has cool [JAPH](#) shirts.
- Think Geek offers a [Camel JAPH](#) shirt.
- Do you have your [Perl Geek Code](#) yet?
- Dr. Dobbs Journal [article](#) on Perl from December 1995.
- Neil Stephensen's [essay](#) on the evolution of OSs.
- Taken the Perl [Purity Test](#) yet?
- The [Jargon](#) File.
- Got your Perl Monger [shirt and hat](#) yet?
- The [Hacker FAQ](#) for the clueless manager.
- [Geek Chic](#) hats, etc. with a large portion of the sales going to support OpenSource endeavours.
- Extropia's page of [hacks](#), some of which are written in Perl.

Perl Training and Support

- [Stonehenge Consulting Services](#) run by Randal Schwartz.
- [Joseph Hall's](#) Perl training.
- [Tom Christiansen's](#) Perl Consultancy.
- [Sun Education](#) offers "Perl Programming".
- [Chip](#) Salzenberg's perlsupport.com offering technical support and solutions for Perl.
- [The Perl Clinic](#) operated by ActiveState and The Ingram Group offer professional support on an annual or per incident basis.

Other Useful Perl Pages

- [Lincoln Stein's](#) fine web page.
- Mark-Jason Dominus' [Perl Paraphernalia](#) page chock full of Perl treats.
- [Alligator](#) Descartes Perl page with the DBI page being a special feature.
- [Graham](#) Barr's homepage with lots of good information on his modules like IO and libnet.

- [Joseph](#) Hall's web page and be sure to check out [Innocent Inanimate Objects](#).
- [Malcom](#) Beattie's spot on the web.
- Brent Michalski's [perlguy](#) page.
- [Pudge's](#) pad.
- [Perl & XML](#) page by Michel Rodriguez. Excellent resource.
- [Yahoo's](#) Perl site index.
- [Dale Bewley's](#) Perl page which is nicely organised.
- Confused about which Perl book to buy? Go to [The Perl Book Buying Guide](#).
- Jonathan Eisenzopf's "[Mother of Perl](#)" site. Nice tutorials.
- [The Perl Zone](#).
- [Kevin's](#) Perl Script Site.
- [The Other Kevin's](#) infotastic page.
- The [Perl Shell](#) page.
- Practical Perl Programming [tutorial](#)
- [Just some guy's](#) Perl page
- [japhy's](#) Perl collection.

Sources and Special Thanks

- [HIT] [Hobbes' Internet Timeline v4.1](#)
- brian d foy for capturing that most priceless picture of Randal singing Happy Birthday to Perl.

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