



An Exciting Year Ahead!

With the new year and this issue, we say hello to a new columnist at the *Journal*. Steven Kreuzer takes over the svn update column from Glen Barber, who, with the advent of FreeBSD 11.0, needs more time for his release engineering tasks. It has been great having Glen on board, we thank him for two years of great columns, and we're sure that Steven will do a wonderful job as the torch is passed to him.

This first issue of 2016 features three excellent articles. The Dos and Don'ts of File System Benchmarking treats a topic that isn't covered often enough. While many people think they know how to measure system performance, most are wrong. A cornerstone article on file system benchmarking that can educate the broader technical community is one of our topmost goals.

Security researchers know and apply fuzz testing to systems to find security bugs, but this method can be applied more broadly and has found acceptance as a general tool for finding bugs and improving systems. Peter Holm provides a very personal overview of a tool he's built and applied to the FreeBSD kernel, but which is actually applicable to software in general.

Rounding out the articles this month, you'll enjoy reading a piece that looks at one of the more popular distributed coordination systems, Zookeeper. The author, Steven Kreuzer, not only uses Zookeeper, but also maintains the port for the FreeBSD ports system.

In 2016 *Journal* will feature interviews with people from the FreeBSD community. Dru Lavigne, a member of the *Journal's* Editorial Board and the author of the *Journal's* history and calendar columns, interviews Allan Jude, who has recently co-authored a book on ZFS. Over the course of the year, we'll present interviews with more community members to learn about what brought them to FreeBSD and what they get from and give back to the project.

And don't overlook this issue's informative columns, one of which is a new book review, by Simon Gerraty, of *FreeBSD Device Drivers: A Guide for the Intrepid*, authored by Joseph Kong.

Lastly, we don't generally put spoilers in the *Journal*, but it's too exciting not to alert readers that later in the year we will dedicate a full issue to FreeBSD 11, the latest release of FreeBSD planned to ship this summer. We won't give away all the articles the special issue will include, but we do want everyone to watch for both the new release and, of course, the *Journal* issue that will follow.

Sincerely,
George Neville-Neil

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