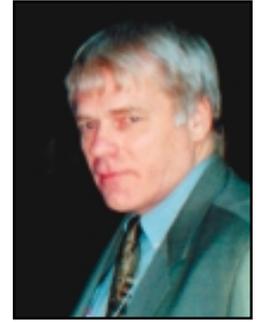


# President's Corner

By *Léo Lefebvre*,  
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*Léo Lefebvre*

People come and people go – that's life. So it is with the directors sitting on TUG's board. Directors come and go, but some return! Ken Sadler who had served on the TUG board for many years (from 1989) had decided to step down in 1998. Last November, it was Debbie Gallagher's turn to decide to step down from the board. That created a vacancy, which needed to be filled. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Debbie for all the work she has done during the relatively short time she served as a TUG director. She has done more, in less than two years, than some "mere mortals" will accomplish in five. Debbie's main work in the real world is project management, and she writes about it. You can regularly read her articles in this magazine. (See page 29).

By pure coincidence, the person who will be completing Debbie's term, Ken Sadler, is also involved in project management. Once in a while Ken also "commits" an article in this magazine. (See page 27 to read Ken's current article.) Ken also likes to speak. Twice he spoke at our Meeting of Members and once at TEC. For the third year in a row, Ken will be speaking at the Project World conference in Toronto, (March 20-23, 2001). Ken left the TUG board in 1998, but he always stayed close to us. Last Fall, he helped to organize our 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, and this year, he was selected among the four proposed candidates. Ken, welcome back on board!

As you should know, TUG is independent of IBM. TUG members are the driving force of the organization and never IBM interferes in its management.

Sitting on the TUG board though, we have a non-voting director, also known as TUG's IBM Liaison, as I explained in an earlier article, (November 1999 – Volume 15, Number 2.)

Tom Hoover served as our IBM liaison for more than three years. Having replaced Lisa Jobson in the Summer of 1997, Tom decided to dedicate more of his free time to his young family and announced his intention to leave the board last November. Tom's wife gave birth to their second child, Scott Hoover, on January 11, 2001. Tom has been an excellent liaison between TUG and IBM. Every time we asked Tom for a favor, he delivered. You have to be behind the scenes to see what an IBM liaison can do, and what Tom achieved during his period on TUG board. Tom is also an excellent speaker and never refused an invitation to stand in front of the members and explain IBM's latest announcements or clarify the software subscription program.

Tom, I know that your replacement, Dale Perkins, has big shoes to fill. Thank you for all your support and let's keep in touch.

As I also explained in my November 1999 President's corner, since the introduction of the first IBM/TUG liaison, the seat was never empty, and this time was no exception. As soon as Tom had announced his decision, a new liaison was assigned. Dale Perkins stepped in even before Tom was definitely gone. At our December 2000 board meeting, we had two IBM liaisons. Welcome on board Dale. I am sure we'll find something to keep you occupied! Here's a point to think about though...

The last two IBM Liaisons before you, left the board because of births. Lisa Jobson left TUG in the summer of 1997 to give birth to her first child on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1998. Tom Hoover's wife gave birth to their second child less than two months after Tom left TUG! Does that make you think about your future?

So people come and people go. Being selfish, we hate to see them leave. Being supportive, we wish them all the best for the rest of their lives.

People come and people go... and that may be true once more by the month of May. As usual, at this time of the year, TUG is calling for volunteers and maybe future TUG directors. The 2001 TUG election campaign is now started and, this year 6 director seats are up for grabs. The elections will take place between mid-April to mid-May 2001. The results will be announced at the Meeting of Members on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. If you know someone who would be interested in running for election, let us know by contacting the TUG office. We'll tell you what needs to be done in order to be put on the list. TUG

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