Has anyone else noticed how many posts include phrases such as:

"Look at the 'linkedlist' object on David Fannings webpage for an object-oriented solution. If you come up with a non-object-oriented solution, let me know."

"Try the non-OOP approach for 15 minutes, then look at David's site."

How many of us have written posts with phrases such as

"I'm not asking someone to do the design for me, but I would appreciate some hints"

and then wake up the next morning (Thanksgiving, no less!) to find that someone across the pond has written a very lucid answer and has actually done the design?

How many newbies have written a question such as

"Why does my screen look red?"

or

"I found a bug in IDL: print,1/2 gives me zero and 10^6 =16960! IDL sucks!"

and gotten a gentle and clear explanation by folks who remember that all of us made similar errors when we were just starting up?

How many times has someone said, 'Just use HISTOGRAM!' and then gotten an explanation from JD of an obscure one-liner that obviously came from the Rosetta Stone?

Lots of other computer language newsgroups are filled with flame wars and ego contests. Not here. This newsgroup represents the best example I know of a cyber-community that feels like a real community. I don't think this has happened by accident. We learn by example, and David, Craig, JD, Ken, and all the other long-timers are the ones who have set the tone here.The rest of us just see that it's the right thing to do.

On this Thanksgiving Day, here's a heart-felt thanks to everyone who makes this a great place to find answers to life's deepest question - why doesn't my program work?

And for heaven's sake, will someone who lives in Colorado take some turkey
and gravy to David? I hate to think of him eating a tofu loaf on
Thanksgiving!

Dick French