



The Real Times

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June 2007

GBC/ACM and IEEE CS Meeting

Thursday, June 21st, 2007

*The Next Computer Revolution: The Coming of
Semi-Smart Machines*

Speaker: John Bottoms

Time: 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Location: IBM Innovation Center

Directions: The IBM Innovation Center is located at 404 Wyman Street, Waltham. There is free parking in the garage at the north end of the building. To reach the meeting room, walk out the front of the garage and around to your right to the front door of the building. Directions to the room will be available when you sign in at the front desk.

Details: <http://www.gbcacm.org/website/semInfo.php?id=1130>

Joint Meeting with IEEE Computer Society and Boston DAMA

Overview: A GBC/ACM business meeting (starting at 6:30 pm) will precede the technical talk.

Computers are still stupid. What will it take to make them smarter? Have we given up on “intelligent machines” all together? Or, is there another option? This talk addresses one alternative to machines that think like humans: the “Semi-Smart” machine. What might such a machine look like? How would we design a Semi-Smart machine? Where would it be put to use? Could we use a computer that is smart as a dog? What could it do? Could a semi-smart machine help us get to Mars? Do we need Semi-Smart machines to go to Mars before we leave for Mars? This talk addresses the issues and problems that face developers of the next-generation of computers as intelligent machines. We will look at some of the obstacles to designing Semi-Smart machines and some approaches that could be of use in solving these problems.

GBC/ACM Annual Business Meeting

Time: 6:30 - 7:00 pm

Location: IBM Innovation Center

Directions: The IBM Innovation Center is located at 404 Wyman Street, Waltham. There is free parking in the garage at the north end of the building. To reach the meeting room, walk out the front of the garage and around to your right to the front door of the building. Directions to the room will be available when you sign in at the front desk.

Details: <http://www.gbcacm.org/website/semInfo.php?id=1130>

Overview: The annual GBC/ACM business meeting and elections will take place before the evening lecture. This meeting is open to anyone interested but voting for current chapter members.

Lecturers Biography: John Bottoms, a graduate of Purdue University, is a computer systems designer who works in data communications. His professional work has been in the design of large networks and telephone switches. In 1986 he designed the first SGML web browser using for searching large document databases. Bottoms is also an accomplished woodworker and an itinerate balloon sculptor, currently the most skilled balloon sculptor in West Concord. He has taught as an adjunct professor of computer science at Northeastern. In his spare time he designs and collects mechanical puzzles and is a member of the International Puzzle Party, the professional organization for puzzle designers.

*Please check for any last-minute changes to meeting arrangements by visiting the
GBC/ACM website <http://www.gbcacm.org> before the meeting.*

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Timely notices of events, meetings, and other activities of interest to the Chapter's Membership should be submitted by the 10th of the month Before the intended issue and emailed to:
editor@gbcacm.org

Please check the privacy policy at:

<http://www.gbcacm.org/website/privacy.php>

Annual subscription cost is included in the Chapter Membership dues of \$10.00. See top line on mailing label for membership expiration date. Library subscriptions are free. Please send orders for copies to the Chapter mailing address:

GBC/ACM Membership, P.O. Box 465, Lexington, MA 02420

June/ July Meetings

Software Quality Group of New England (SQGNE)

Topic: Project Scheduling for Techies (or why your significant other doesn't believe you when you say 1 more minute on the computer)

Speaker: Linda McInnis

Date/Time: Wednesday, June 13th, 2007, 6:00 - 8:00 pm

6:00 - 6:30 Networking

6:30 - 8:00 Business and Presentation

Location: Sun Microsystems, Burlington, MA

Directions: <http://www.swqual.com/SQGNE/directions.html>

Topic: Annual Hot Topics Night...

Date/Time: Wednesday, July 11th, 2007, 6:00 - 8:00 pm

6:00 - 6:30 Networking

6:30 - 8:00 Business and Presentation

Location: Sun Microsystems, Burlington, MA

Directions: <http://www.swqual.com/SQGNE/directions.html>

Boston SPIN

Topic: Managing Virtual Teams for Real Results

Speaker: Rick Brenner

Date/Time: Tuesday, June 19th, 2007, 6:00 - 8:30 pm

6:00 - 6:45 Networking and Roundtables

7:00 - 7:10 Announcements

7:10 - 8:10 Presentation

8:10 - 8:30 Questions and Answers

Location: The MITRE Corporation,

202 Burlington Road, Bedford, MA 01730-1420

www.mitre.org

Details: <http://www.boston-spin.org/meeting.html>

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Boston Linux and Unix Group

Topic: "Ruby on Rails"

Speaker: Brian DeLacey

Location: to be determined

Time and Date: Wednesday, June 20, 2007 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm

Details: <http://www.blu.org/cgi-bin/calendar/2007-jun>

IMPORTANT NOTICE - PLEASE READ

*Starting with January 2007 - we have switched from a hard to soft copy of the Real Times. In order to send you notification of the Newsletter posting, we need your email address. We are asking members to send their email address to **membership@gbcacm.org**.*

Please include your first and last name, if you would like to receive email copy/notification of the Real Times soft copy.

The GBC/ACM will not disclose your email address outside the chapter without your permission. Please check our privacy policy at:

<http://www.gbcacm.org/website/privacy.php>

GBC/ACM Chapter Elections

Slate of Candidates for GBC/ACM Fiscal Year 2007 Officers

The following are the candidates for officers of the GBC/ACM for fiscal year 2007:

- **For President**
 - Stephen Evanchik (incumbent)
 - Russ Doty
- **For Vice President**
 - Edward Freedman (incumbent)
- **For Secretary**
 - Stephen Anthony
- **For Treasurer**
 - Yona Carmichael (incumbent)

The GBC/ACM elections will be held at the Annual Meeting on Thursday, 21-Jun-2006 (to be held at the IBM Innovation Center at 404 Wyman Street, in Waltham, MA). The business part of the monthly meeting will start promptly at 6:30pm. (Note that the presentation will occur after the meeting at 7:00 PM.) The business meeting should consist of 3 parts: reports from officers, report of the strategic planning committee, and election. Candidate biographies and position statements appear on pages 4-5. You can also find out information at:

Stephen Evanchik - Candidate for President

Profile: Stephen Evanchik received the B.S. and M.S. degrees in Computer Science from Clarkson University in 2002 and 2004. While at Clarkson, Stephen was the President of the student ACM chapter where he organized social and job recruiting events. Recognizing the potential of open source software in academia, Stephen cofounded and later become director of an open source software institute which has become a central part of Computer Science education at the university.

Stephen is currently employed by the IBM Corporation in Cambridge where he works on advanced Internet technologies. Prior to working for IBM, he was a

consultant specializing in network management and planning in higher education. Stephen continues to be an active contributor to open source software; making contributions to the Linux kernel, Xen hypervisor, OpenEmbedded and other projects.

Position Statement: As President, I will have a forward looking agenda that:

- Encourages new ideas and fresh thinking
- Continues to redevelop the chapter's services
- Preserves and builds on the heritage of the chapter
- Expands membership to younger professionals
- Encourages member involvement with local communities

Working together, we can position the chapter as a model for others to emulate while preserving its history and integrity. I believe by achieving these goals, we will set the GBC/ACM on a course of future success.

Russ Doty - Candidate for President

Profile: Russ Doty has been an active member of GBC/ACM for several years. He has a member of the strategic planning committee and instrumental in the planning of the Deep AJAX and Deep Agile seminars.

Edward Freedman - Candidate for Vice President

Profile: Edward Freedman has been a member of ACM and a number of ACM SIGs since 1984 and has been an active member of GBC/ACM for many years. He is a member of the IEEE Computer Society and Social Implications of Technology Society, among others. Edward holds degrees in Physics, Computer Science, and Bioinformatics.

He has worked at university research labs, government agencies (NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center and White Sands Missile Range), and private industry (Digital Equipment and Compaq).

At Digital and Compaq, he was a principal software engineer working on tools for software development, advanced development in parallel algorithms and system architecture, architecture verification tools for 64-bit Alpha processors, and consulted on the design and development of Alpha products with partner companies.

Position statement: In January 2006 I became Chairman of the Strategic Planning Committee, and in June 2006 was elected GBC/ACM Vice-President. The chapter had been losing money at an alarming rate and had been forced to suspend its PDS series.

Over the past year and a half, I've had the privilege to lead the Planning Committee and a group of dedicated volunteers to reengineer the functioning of the chapter. This began with my vision for a new PDS model that debuted with our very successful Deep AJAX Seminar last Fall, and was followed by an even more successful Deep Agile Seminar this Spring. This past year we've accomplished a financial turnaround for the chapter and defined a more professional model for PDS events. We've improved internal communications via a chapter administrative website and begun to improve external communication with members. We've started to extend our educational outreach through participation in the First Annual Cambridge Science Festival.

This has been an exciting transition, but we still have more work to do. We will continue to run popular and successful PDS events and monthly technical presentations. In addition, in the coming year, I want to support completing the conversion of the public chapter website to new technology, enhance it with multimedia content from our technical events, expand our educational outreach through new free or easily affordable programs and events, grow our membership, and inspire more members to join our active volunteers and help create the dynamic and vibrant organization that GBC/ACM can become.

Stephen Anthony - Candidate for Secretary

Profile: Stephen Anthony is been working with other local technology related professional organizations for the past 5 years. He is a member of Boston SPIN, Agile Bazaar (where he serves as Treasurer) and the local Agile Project Leadership Network (APLN) chapter. He has recently been invited to assist GBC and has been participating as acting Secretary for the past couple of meetings. Additionally, he is on the Board of Directors for Odyssey Day School.

Professionally, he is a software Product and Engineering Manager, responsible for articulating product vision

and roadmap, and then working with the development teams to realize that vision. Most recently, he was with Jenzabar, defining the roadmap for a non-traditional education product that was nominated for a 2007 SIIA CODIE award. This product added over 1M\$ of revenue to the bottom line by fulfilling the needs of the non-traditional higher education market. Prior to that, he was with Kenan Systems, architecting and leading teams to realize a web middle-tier for a telco billing application, Sybase, where he designed and built the AS-IQ backup/restore engine, Software Partners/32, where he led the effort to build the corporate flagship backup/restore product, and last (but not least) Thinking Machines, where he was responsible for the system administration toolset.

Position Statement: Accurate and open information on the decisions made and the thought process that went into those decisions is vital to maintaining organizational knowledge. My goal is to provide timely and accurate meeting minutes, and to engage in thoughtful discussion for how to help GBC achieve its overall goals.

Yona Carmichael - Candidate for Treasurer

Profile: Yona Carmichael is the current GBC/ACM Treasurer. During her 3 years in office, she has analyzed the budgets and expenditures of the organization, and implemented many cost-saving measures to allow the chapter to be more fiscally responsible. She is also serving as the volunteer Treasurer of several other organizations with which she is involved.

Online chapter membership signup and renewal now available!

We can now offer chapter membership signup and renewal payments online using Google checkout. The annual chapter membership fee is still currently \$10.00 and you can pay for multiple years. The membership payment page is located at the following URL.

<http://www.gbcaacm.org/website/renew/>

If you have any questions, please contact the membership volunteer at membership@gbcaacm.org

Boston SPIN

Abstract: Virtual teams are now officially the way of things. Everything about such projects or operations is more difficult than face-to-face teams - including figuring out how to declare victory when failure is what actually happened.

What's a virtual team? You'll find various definitions if you surf around a bit, but the main features of a virtual team are what make them so difficult to manage - the people are dispersed geographically, they meet infrequently or never, and they might even come from different cultures. And these three factors conspire to make what's usually easy, difficult - and what's usually difficult, impossible.

But on top of all of that, there is organizational politics. Project sponsors and managers must learn to navigate the politics of all organizations that host project team elements. And they must understand the politics of managing team elements that lie outside their own organizations.

This program helps people who sponsor, lead or participate in virtual teams.

Participants learn to appreciate the true challenges of the dispersed environment.

They learn how the economics of the dispersed environment differ from the economics of the face-to-face environment, and how the picture conveyed by the organizational cost management system distorts our view of these differences.

Most important, they learn strategies and tactics for making the dispersed environment productive and effective. Based on attendee interest, topics will be drawn from this selection:

- * The nature of global and dispersed teams
- * Building and maintaining trust
- * Planning communications
- * Dealing with dispersion
- * Accounting for socio-cultural and political differences
- * Accounting for language differences
- * Allocating the work with dispersion in mind
- * Dealing with voicemail and email in virtual teams
- * Making face-to-face meetings count

* Celebrating achievements

* Leading telemeetings

Whether you're a veteran of virtual teams, or a relative newcomer, this program is a real eye-opener.

About the Speaker: Rick Brenner is principal of Chaco Canyon Consulting. He works with people in problem-solving organizations that need state-of-the-art teamwork and with organizations that want to create innovative products by building stronger relationships among their people.

Mr. Brenner is the author of *202 Tips for Managing Global Teams*, an ebook that is the basis for the program he will deliver to Boston SPIN.

In his 25 years as a software developer, software development manager, entrepreneur and consultant, he has developed valuable insights into the interactions between people in the workplace environment, and between people and the media in which they work.

He coaches managers at all levels. Mr. Brenner has held positions in software development and software development management, at Symbolics, Inc., and at Draper Laboratory, where, as a DARPA principal investigator, he conducted research into the software development process.

Since 1993, he has taught a course in business modeling at the Harvard University Extension School.

Mr. Brenner holds a Masters Degree in Electrical Engineering from MIT.

His current interests focus on improving personal and organizational effectiveness in abnormal situations, such as dramatic change, technical emergencies, and high-pressure project situations.

He has written a number of essays on these subjects, available at his Web site, www.ChacoCanyon.com, and writes and edits a weekly email newsletter, Point Lookout.

Call for Volunteers

There are many opportunities to help in the GBC-ACM. If you are interested in volunteering your time, please review the current volunteer opportunities listed below. If anything appeals to you or if you have a skill you would like to share, please contact Volunteer Coordinator, Jay Conne, M:(617) 470-5038, volunteer@gbcacm.org

Membership Chair

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.” - Margaret Mead

BostonPHP User Group

Topic: June User Group:: Object-Relational Mapping (ORM) in Action

Date/Time: Wednesday, June 6th, 2007, 6:30pm

Location: IBM/Lotus
1 Rogers Street
Cambridge, MA 02142

Map: <http://maps.google.com/maps?q=1+Rogers+Street+Cambridge+MA+02142+USA&hl=en>

Overview: Chuck Hagenbuch will introduce the concepts of ORM and then put them to work. Horde's RDO system is a light-weight, PHP 5, PDO-based version of ORM that also draws heavy influence from the Data Mapper pattern(<http://www.martinfowler.com/eaCatalog/dataMapper.html>). Entity and Mapper objects are simple and very flexible, while providing plenty of ways to extend and add functionality and domain logic. Associated patterns such as Horde_RDO_Lens allow for powerful decoration of result sets with efficient memory and object use.

Bio: Chuck Hagenbuch founded the Horde Project in 1998 and has been working with PHP and the world of web development ever since. He is currently a consultant doing work focused around Horde and PHP web development. He has provided professional PHP services to many prominent PHP-using organizations, including Google, PayPal, and Portugal Telecom.

Horde Framework: The Horde Application Framework is a mature, evolving application framework (featured in BostonPHP's Framework back-off) that has been used to build complex applications for years. It forms the core of the widely used IMP webmail application and the Horde Groupware suite. In addition, it provides a large number of tested, feature-rich components that can be used to build additional Horde applications, to integrate Horde functionality into other applications, or to build completely standalone sites.

Topic: July User Group:: Beach Blanket Summer School

Date/Time: Wednesday, July 11th, 2007, 6:30pm

Location: Cambridge Brewing Company
1 Kendall Square
Bldg 100, Cambridge, MA

Overview: Traditionally, summer user group meetings are "lightly" attended. Between schools vacations, playing hooky from work, and just enjoying the [brief New England] nice weather who's got this time? Well, er, we do...but we're holding off on the formal presentations.

Bring your "thinking cap", a tough OSS/PHP problem, and an appetite for participation, we're throwing a Beach Blanket Summer School Party (beach blanket optional). We will have all the fixin's to throw code on the table, dissect and discuss the ins-and-outs of PHP.

So bring a topic/problem, bring a friend, bring Anette Funicello (remember, you can't play beach ball without a-net), bring your wallet (we're meeting at the Cambridge Brewing Company).

Website: <http://www.cambrew.com>

Contact: Chris Punis
chris@cambridgebrewingcompany.com

Direction to the Cambridge Brewing Company from the "T." Take the red line to Kendall Square stop. Come up to the street level and go through the Marriott Hotel lobby. Take a left onto Broadway and continue walking straight until you cross over a set of railroad tracks (after the 2nd set of lights). Take your first right onto Hampshire Street and we are in the back left corner of the one Kendall square complex (5-10 minute walk).

NEJUG - The New England Java Users Group

Topics: Overview of Java SE 6 Release

Date/Time: Thursday, June 14th, 2007, 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Speaker(s): Sang Shin

Location: Sun Microsystems Burlington Campus

Directions: http://nejug.org/directions_sun.jsp

Overview:

Sang Shin will present an overview of the Java SE 6 release using the latest materials prepared for this year's JavaOne Conference.

Java SE 6 is another significant release packed with many new features, enhancements and improvements. In this session, the top new 10 features are chosen and talked about. These include (1) Scripting (2) Web services (3) Database (4) Desktop APIs (5) Monitoring and management (6) Compiler access (7) Pluggable annotations (8) Desktop management (9) Security (10) Quality, Compatibility, and Stability. Among these, the Scripting part will be described in rather detail. Whenever possible, these features will be demonstrated with example code.

About the speaker:

Sang Shin is a Java Technology Evangelist and Architect at Sun Microsystems, Inc. He has developed and delivered numerous talks on Java SE, Java EE, Java ME, Web application frameworks such as Struts and JavaServer Faces and Web services technologies to worldwide developer audiences. Sang Shin, who has taught Java programming courses ("J2EE Programming with Passion!", "Web services programming with Passion!", "XML", and "Distributed programming") at Brandeis University and Boston University, is currently teaching a free "J2EE programming with Passion!" online course to several thousand worldwide Java developers. The course can be taken through <http://www.javapassion.com>. He is also co-author of "Advanced Computer" published by University of Maryland in 2005.

Java is Sang's passion: Current speaking schedule.:
<http://www.javapassion.com/SangSchedule.html>

ICCA - Boston

Topic: Managing Client Relationships

Date: Tuesday, June 26, 2007, 6:00 pm

Invited Speaker: Herbert Fox, President of MultiTrack Sales Consulting

Herb will discuss how to create a strategy for complex selling situations involving many players. Successful sales strategies involve identifying the right people who can make a decision to hire you, understanding what motivates them to commit to you, and developing questioning and listening techniques that help you get at the real problems your client needs your help to solve. You will get some fresh ideas about how to craft an engagement letter, present it, and ask for the order.

Key aspects of client management including setting expectations, presenting and getting agreement on a work plan, and measuring desired outcomes will be included in the second part of this discussion.

- How do you keep the project on track and make sure the client is meeting his responsibilities?
- How do you make sure you are sticking to the scope of work you agreed to and how do you handle situations where the scope of work has to change in the middle of the assignment?

Herbert Fox has over 35 years of experience in sales and marketing management at several successful companies, including Data General Corporation, IBM Corporation, and MultiTrack Sales Consulting of which he is the Founder and President. At MultiTrack, Herb has helped hundreds of sales people and sales managers achieve success.

In addition to this work, Herb also was on the board of the Society of Professional Consultants where he developed a comprehensive consultant training program. Currently, Herb serves on the boards of the Boston Classical Orchestra and the Salem State College Foundation and is a volunteer consultant with Executive Service Corps of New England, an organization committed to helping non-profit organizations accomplish their missions. Herb resides in Brookline, MA, where his primary interest is his grandchildren.

Meeting Location: Rebecca's Cafe You can save by prepaying. Click Here to Register for the Program:
<http://www.icca-boston.org/eventreg.aspx>

Meeting Schedule :

| | |
|-------------|--|
| 5:15 - 6:15 | Free In-Person Mentor Program (available by request only) |
| 6:00 - 6:30 | Networking |
| 6:30 - 7:00 | Dinner |
| 7:00 - 8:30 | Program |
| 8:30 - 9:00 | Networking |

BNUG

The Greater Boston Network Users Group

Topic: Kerio 's Small Business Multi Platform Mail Server Presented by Josh Turiel

Date/Time: July 3th, 2007, 6:30 - 9:00 pm

Details: Refreshments served at 6:30 pm

Location: Microsoft
201 Jones Road
Waltham, MA 02451

Directions: Click Here

Center for Democracy and Technology / Anti-Spyware Coalition

<http://www.cdt.org/>

<http://www.antispywarecoalition.org/>

Topic: Anti-Spyware Coalition Public Workshop

Date/Time: June 27th, 2007; 8:00 AM through 4:30 PM

Location: Harvard University Law School, Cambridge, MA

Charge: \$150 (for commercial orgs) or
Free (for non-profits)

Contact: Ross Schulman
rschulman@cdt.org, 202-637-9800

New England SQL Server User Group

Venue: Microsoft offices in Waltham,MA

Directions: Click Here: <http://www.microsoft.com/mscorp/info/usaoffices/newengland/waltham.mspx>

Date: June 14th, 2007

Time: 6:30 pm

Title: MS Access for the SQL Server DBA

Speaker: Dean Serrentino - Paradigm Information Systems

MS Access is a powerful yet often overlooked tool when it comes to working with SQL Server. Dean will show the group various ways to simplify common DBA tasks by using the Access environment as a front-end.

Agenda: <http://www.antispywarecoalition.org/events/June2007Agenda.htm>

Registration: <http://www.antispywarecoalition.org/register/>

The Anti-Spyware Coalition will host a Public Workshop on Wednesday June 27th at Harvard University Law School. The event will feature keynote addresses from computer experts, spyware victims and law enforcement officials, along with panel discussions of the current state of spyware and the public policy surrounding the issue. Faculty, staff and students are welcome to take advantage of free registration.

Are you a member? Is your membership expired? *

Join! The \$10 annual membership fee offers many opportunities for development through regular and engaging interaction with local contemporaries, in addition to access to our popular PDS seminars. Paying for multiple years can save effort for you and us. Please mail in your membership form today!

(*Check your address label for expiration date.)

NEW - Online membership signup and renewal available. Please see intructions on Page 4

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Please make checks payable to **GBC/ACM** and mail to:
GBC/ACM
P.O. Box 465
Lexington, MA 02420

*** *June/July 2007 Events Calendar* ***

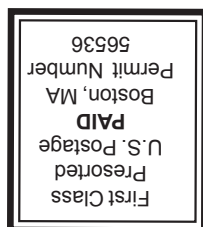
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| June 20th | Boston Linux and Unix Group - Ruby on Rails | MIT E-51-315, Cambridge, MA | Page 2 |
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If your membership has expired, please consider renewing it for one or more years. Currently the membership fee is only \$10/year. Your support helps make possible the wide array of GBC/ACM activities.

Address Service Requested

First Class:
Dated Materials

GBC/ACM is a non-profit educational and scientific society.
(781) 862-1181 - www.gbcaem.org



The Greater Boston Chapter of the

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