



The Real Times

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February 2008

GBC/ACM and IEEE CS Meeting Monday, February 4, 2008 *New England Database Day 2008*

Speaker: Call for Participation

Time: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Location: MIT room 32-123

Directions: The auditorium on the first floor of the new Stata Center (corner of Vassar St and Main St.)

Details: <http://www.gbcaacm.org/website/semInfo.php?id=1143>

Sponsored by Boston/Central New England Chapter of IEEE Computer Society, GBC/ACM and Vertica, Sun Microsystems, NEDS, Netezza

Purpose: To assemble the DBMS research and development community from New England-area companies and colleges to network, share problems, solutions and insight. This will give participants new ideas they can apply to their business, technology research or product development.

Invited talks by:

- Prof. David Dewitt (University of Wisconsin)
- 2nd Speaker TBD

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GBC/ACM and IEEE CS Meeting Thursday, February 21, 2008 *BIRT: An Eclipse based open source reporting solution*

Speaker: Michael Fox, IBM Rational

Time: 7:00 pm - 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.gbcaacm.org/website/semInfo.php?id=1144>

Joint meeting of Boston/Central New England Chapter of IEEE Computer Society and GBC/ACM

Overview: BIRT (Business Intelligence and Reporting Technology) is an open source reporting package being developed under the Eclipse Foundation. It is designed and built to fit the needs of those who want an extensible, reliable, fully functional reporting solution. So far, BIRT is very successful. It is one of the leading Eclipse downloads (after the platform itself), has a very active newsgroup and community, and is being

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Please check for any last-minute changes to meeting arrangements by visiting the GBC/ACM website <http://www.gbcaacm.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

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Feb-Mar 2008 Meetings

Software Quality Group of New England (SQGNE)

Topic: Agile: Adopting a New Methodology at Harvard Business School

Speaker: Sarah Olivier, Susan Borges, Jennifer Gilmore, Harvard Business School

Date/Time: Wednesday, February 13, 2008, 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>

Using Customer Surveys to focus Software Quality Improvement

Peter Schulz & Lisa Arnold, Cisco, March 12, 2008

The Pitfalls and Hidden Costs of Offshore/Outsourced Testing

Matt Pappas, SAS-Marketmax, April 9, 2008

Having a Defined Target for Software Security Testing

Robert Martin, Mitre, May 14, 2008

The Greater Boston Network Users Group

Topic: Anti Spam by Barracuda Networks

Date/Time: Tuesday, February 5, 2008, 6:30 pm

Location: Microsoft, Waltham, MA

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

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 and IEEE CS Meeting
Monday, February 4, 2008
New England Database Day 2008

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Short (20-30 minute) talks by area academic
 Posters and demos of interesting systems

Registration: Please register by January 10, 2008
 at <http://db.csail.mit.edu/nedbdays08/htdocs/>.

Submissions: If you would like to give a talk or
 present a poster/demo please upload a short 1/2
 page talk description or poster demo/abstract by
 January 10th to <http://db.csail.mit.edu/nedbdays08/htdocs/>.

Organizing Committee: General Chairman of
 the event is Mike Stonebraker (MIT). Program
 Committee Chair is Samuel Madden (MIT).
 Members of the program committee are Stan
 Zdonik (Brown), Mitch Cherniack (Brandeis), and
 Elke Rundensteiner (WPI)

See <http://db.csail.mit.edu/nedbdays08/> for
 additional details.

GBC/ACM and IEEE CS Meeting
Thursday, February 21, 2008
*BIRT: An Eclipse based open source
 reporting solution*

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deployed by companies as both an in-house reporting
 tool and incorporated into their products.

In this session, Mike will cover the following:

- High level BIRT architecture and main features
- Report and Chart design using the Eclipse based
 designer
- Features that facilitate developing a professional set
 of reports
- Overview of APIs and extension points, as just about
 everything in BIRT can be customized and extended

The material will be supported by

demonstrations as much as time allows.

Lecturer's Biography: Mike is currently a
 Technical Team Leader, Architect, and Software
 Engineer at IBM Rational with over 25 years of
 professional experience. Much of his work has
 focused on reporting and BI tool integration. In
 this role, Mike has been working with BIRT and
 the Actuate Corp (the primary contributor to BIRT)
 since prior to BIRT V1.0. He represents IBM to the
 BIRT PMC (Program Management Committee) and
 is recognized as a focal point for BIRT issues across
 IBM Software Group.

Prior to joining IBM, Mike worked for several
 smaller companies including a few "dot bombs".
 Much, but not all, of this work involved reporting
 and data presentation using both web and rich client
 environments.

GBC/ACM and IEEE CS Meeting
Thursday, March 20, 2008
*Collaborative Software Development with
 Jazz*

Speaker: Peter Klenk, IBM Rational

Time: 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Location: IBM Innovation Center

Overview: The Eclipse Platform was developed using
 agile practices, but the team never had the luxury of
 developing in a single location or even a single time
 zone. The team adapted and evolved its own practices
 and those adopted from the agile community in order
 to support their work to ship quality software on time.
 The Jazz Project has been exploring how tools can help
 with these practices and drawing on IBM Rational's
 experience providing change management solutions.
 Jazz is a joint project between IBM Rational and IBM
 Research to build a scalable, extensible team collabora-
 tion platform for seamlessly integrating tasks across
 the software lifecycle. Learn more at <http://jazz.net>.
 This session will provide an overview of Jazz's capa-
 bilities, architecture, and how Jazz is being developed,
 including a demonstration of Jazz at work.

Boston SPIN

Topic: What's Up RUP?

Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2008

Time: 6:00 PM-8:30 PM

This event will include:

FREE PIZZA in addition to our snacks.

6:00-7:00 Networking with PIZZA

6:00-6:45 Roundtables (also with PIZZA)

7:00-7:10 Announcements

7:10-8:10 Presentation

8:10-8:25 Questions and Answers

8:25-8:30 Raffles and Gifts

Speaker: Joseph Morin

Venue: MITRE, Bedford, MA

Abstract: The Rational Unified Process (RUP) process framework had significantly changed in the past years. The content and process elements are now based on the Unified Method Architecture (UMA) and the RUP product comes with a new method authoring tool which allows process engineers and project managers to tailor the process to their individual needs. Additionally, the RUP content has changed and a new certification was released. This presentation will introduce the major changes and give participants the most important takeaways to talk the new RUP-lingo.

Speaker: Jochen (Joe) Krebs, <http://www.jochenkrebs.com>, is a active member in the agile alliance and the agile project leadership network where he spearheads the local chapter in NYC (<http://www.aplnnyc.org>) .

He is a certified Scum master and co-author of the Rational Unified Process - Reference and Certification Guide (ISBN 0131562924), and publishes articles with a focus on project management and requirements engineering.

He holds his MSc in Computing for Commerce and Industry at the Open University and teaches Project Management courses at New York University (NYU).

In his current role he is responsible for the adoption of agile methodologies in a large investment bank in New York City.

Using Software Configuration Management to Enable Agility

Steve Berczuk

March 18 2008

Cave Dwellers and Chatterboxes: Demystifying Introversion and Extraversion

Naomi Karten

Date TBD

Joint meeting with ASQ

Project Management Isn't Enough: Essentials of Effective Sponsorship

Payson Hall

May 20, 2008

Putting the engineering in software engineering: technology infrastructure in process improvement

Drs. Dorota Huizinga and Adam Kolawa

June 16, 2008

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 CHI

Topic: The Implications of the Semantic Web

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2008 - 6:30 PM

Venue: Sun Microsystems, Burlington, MA

RSVP : BostonCHI@sun.com

Abstract: BostonCHI & UPA Boston, in association with Boston-IA, UX Boston, IxDA Boston, NEC HFES and UPA NH invite you to a first 7-group event, bringing members of all of the premier Boston-area Interaction organizations together for one big night of food and fun.

Bio: Eric Neumann writes: "I am by training a neurobiologist who transitioned into informatics, providing yet another case that information is central to biology. Outside of the sciences I enjoy art, nature, and literature, but have a personal passion for music. I am always intrigued in finding some hidden relations between science and art, and want this means for us.

"Currently, I am director of the Clinical Semantics Group, a consulting firm specializing in semantic web solutions for drug R&D. I have worked in the biotech and pharmaceutical world for the last 10 years, and a few large corporations such as BBN and Sanofi-Aventis Pharmaceuticals. I helped create and directed BG-Medicine's informatics division, and founded Genstruct where I created their Knowledge Assembly strategy. I am also an MIT Fellow with Science Commons, working on the NeuroCommons Project.

"Back in 2004, a few of us were able to jump-start the Semantic Web initiative in the Life Sciences. I am now a co-chair for W3C's Semantic Web for Healthcare and Life Sciences Interest Group where we have been trying to engage the community in real informatics solutions based more on practical and attainable approaches. I have seen many efforts that focus more on marketing, rather than advancing innovative and needed tools for improving human health. My hope is to make a real impact here.

I firmly believe that only by using explicit semantics can we effectively describe things like genes, proteins, compounds in familiar terms, and without artificial formalisms (e.g., database schemas). This has motivated me to try and apply emerging Semantic Web technologies, on interesting and challenging problems. Although I am a bit of an evangelist on this topic, I have actually worked on several examples involving pharmaceutical and clinical data, including a dashboard application called BioDash. I am currently working on a new technology called 'MagLev' that combines social web phenomenology with the Semantic Web. Finally, I've really become excited about the Exhibit semantic viewing technology from MIT's SIMILE project -- you can see some interactive demos of it for viewing Clinical Trial data, Kinase Disease relations and Cancer Genome information [on my website: eneumann.org]

Tuesday, March 2008, Rick Treitman, Buzzword founder and CEO and Robby Shaver, Buzzword chief designer

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: Choosing an OSS license to match your business model/community

Date/Time: Wednesday, February 6, 2008, 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>

With six months now past since the release of version 3 of the GNU General Public License, there are reportedly 1200 projects that have released code under the new license (<http://www.blackducksoftware.com/oss>). The addition of GPLv3 into the mix of 60+ other licenses approved as “open source” by the Open Source Initiative (<http://www.opensource.org/licenses/alphabetical>) has not made the selection of a license for a project any easier.

Join BostonPHP and:

- * Karen Copenhaver of Choate Hall & Stewart, and
- * Ira Heffan of TopCoder

as they talk about version 3 of the GPL and how to go about aligning your selection of an open source license with your business or other project goals.

Website: <http://www.BostonPHP.org>
Contact: Mark Withington
Email: mark.withington@bostonphp.org
Phone: 508-746-2383

Info/Notes: BostonPHP is the unofficial, highly biased and overly ambitious PHP Users Group for Boston and its surrounding communities. Our membership ranges from newbie-to-techie. We discourage RTFM attitudes and encourage you to come see what PHP is all about.

BostonPHP works in conjunction with BostonPHP Meetup, usually meeting the first Wednesday of every month for structured presentation at a local university or business location, and then typically moves on to a nearby restaurant/bar/pub for more informal discussion.

March User Group:: An in depth view of Drupal

Date/ Time: Thursday, February 28, 2008
The Drupal CMS (PHP, GPL) allows you to assemble

powerful web sites instead of writing them from scratch. It supports custom inter-related data types, configurable views and summaries of all content, user-generated content, search, user accounts, roles, media handling, and much more. Thousands of contributed modules provide all kinds of functionality. Eventually, though, many sites need custom functionality. Join Barry Jaspan, Principal Engineer at Acquia, Inc., for a deep introduction to Drupal development, including:

- Drupal hooks
- Custom modules
- Leveraging existing modules and APIs
- What’s new in Drupal 6
- Becoming a professional Drupal consultant/site developer

Drupalcon Boston

March 3-6th, 2008, 8:00am
Boston Convention & Exhibition Center
Boston, MA
<http://boston2008.drupalcon.org>

Drupal Code Sprint
March 7, 2008
Specific location TBD, Boston

Drupalcon Boston 2008 takes place from March 3, 2008 to March 6, 2008 at the Boston Convention and Expo Center. There will also be a Drupal Code Sprint on March 7 at a location in the Boston area.

Drupalcon is the twice-yearly gathering of Drupalers to learn about, discuss & advance Drupal, and to network with other Drupal community members. With sessions targeted at everyone from novice to expert attendees, Drupalcon is where you go to advance your understanding and use of Drupal.

AIIM Expo will be held at the same time and location, and Drupalcon attendees can visit the AIIM Expo Hall. For full access to AIIM Expo, separate registration is required.

Admission Charge: \$195

RSVP: <http://boston2008.drupalcon.org/user/register>

NEJUG - The New England Java Users Group

Topics: Designing for Ajax

Date/Time: Thursday, February 7, 2008,
6:00 - 8:00 pm

Speaker(s): Nathaniel Schutta

Location: Sun Microsystems Burlington Campus

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

Overview: So you've convinced the boss that your new web application just has to have Ajax...but now what? With dozens of libraries making even the most blinkish of interactions trivial, how do you decide where to sprinkle the magic Ajax dust? This talk will give a plain old boring "web 1.0" an Ajax facelift with a focus on improving the user experience providing you with a game plan for introducing Ajax to your world.

About the speaker: Nathaniel T. Schutta is a senior software engineer in the Twin Cities area of Minnesota with extensive experience developing Java Enterprise Edition-based Web applications. He graduated from St. John's University (MN) with a degree in Computer Science and has a master's of science degree in software engineering from the University of Minnesota. For the last several years, he has focused on user interface design.

A long-time member of the Association for Computing Machinery's Computer-Human Interaction Special Interest Group, Nathaniel believes that if the user can't figure out your application, then you've done something wrong.

Along with his user interface work, Nathaniel is the co-creator of the open-source Taconite framework, has contributed to two corporate Java frameworks, has developed training material, and has led several study groups. During the brief moments of warm weather found in his home state of Minnesota, he spends as much time on the golf course as his wife will tolerate. He's currently exploring Ruby, Rails, and (after recently making the switch) Mac OS X. Nathaniel is the coauthor of the bestselling book, Foundations of Ajax.

JBOSS ESB Deep Dive with Kurt Stam and Burr Sutter, March 13, 2008

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 instructions on Page 4

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*** Feb/Mar 2008 Events Calendar ***

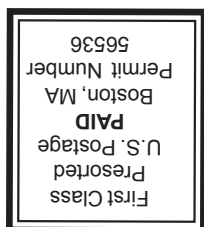
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If your membership has expired, please consider renewing it for one or more years. Currently the membership fee is only \$10/year. Your support helps make possible the wide array of GBC/ACM activities.

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First Class:
Dated Materials

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