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

Software Quality Group of New England (SQGNE)

Topic: Why Use Case Modelers Are Your Friends
Speaker: Norman Daoust, Daoust Associates
Date/Time: Wednesday, March 14th, 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

Speaker: Derek Kozikowski, SAP
Date/Time: Wednesday, April 14th, 2007, 6:00 - 8:00 pm
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Boston SPIN / ASQ Boston

Topic: Tales of Whoa and the Psychology of Customer Satisfaction
Speaker: Naomi Karten
Date/Time: Tuesday, March 20th, 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: Hilton Garden Inn Boston, Waltham, MA
Details and directions:
http://www.asqboston.org/Section_Information/meeting.htm

GBC-ACM Professional Development Seminar
Deep Agile
April 28-29th, 2007
Jeff Sutherland, Ron Jeffries

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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
Save this date: April 28 & 29

The last Saturday and Sunday in April 2007 is the date for our next Professional Development Seminar.

TOPICS:
- “The Plan is the Problem!”
- “A Fallacious Professionalism Standard”
- “Show me the software” – Running, tested and documented
- Scrum Basics
- XP Basics
- How New Teams Fail
- User Stories Used Right
- Roots of Scrum - Toyota & Lean; the story and lessons
- Test Driven Development (TDD) demo
- Testing Safety-Net
- Putting Scrum and XP successfully together
- Panel – Wrap-up Q&A

SPEAKERS:
Our speakers are original signers of the Agile Manifesto: http://www.agilemanifesto.org/ - Jeff Sutherland and Ron Jeffries.

Principles behind the Agile Manifesto
- Customer satisfaction by rapid, continuous delivery of useful software
- Working software is delivered frequently (weeks rather than months)
- Working software is the principal measure of progress.
- Even late changes in requirements are welcomed.
- Close, daily, cooperation between business people and developers
- Face-to-face conversation is the best form of communication.
- Projects are built around motivated individuals, who should be trusted
- Continuous attention to technical excellence and good design.
- Simplicity
- Self-organizing teams
- Regular adaptation to changing circumstances

Key success factors for Agile methods
- The culture of the organization must be supportive of negotiation
- People must be trusted
- Fewer but more competent people
- Organizations must live with the decisions developers make
- Organizations need to have an environment that facilitates rapid communication between team members

Jeff Sutherland – http://www.jeffsutherland.com/
Jeff is the CTO of PatientKeeper in Newton, MA and is the co-inventor of Scrum in 1993 with Ken Schwaber.


Ron Jeffries – http://www.xprogramming.com/
Ron is a consultant, trainer and author. He is one of the most prolific writers on Extreme Programming (XP) which is now considered a dimension of Agile software development.

From Ron’s website: “Ron Jeffries is author of Extreme Programming Adventures in C#, the senior author of Extreme Programming Installed, and was the on-site XP coach for the original Extreme Programming project. Ron has been involved with Extreme Programming for over five years, presenting numerous talks and publishing papers on the topic. He is the proprietor of www.XProgramming.com, a well-known source of XP information. Ron was one of the creators, and a featured instructor in Object Mentor’s popular XP Immersion course. He is a well-known independent consultant in XP and Agile methods.”
What is Scrum?

In the words of its co-inventor, Ken Schwaber:

Scrum is an iterative, incremental process for developing any product or managing any work. It produces a potentially shippable set of functionality at the end of every iteration. It’s attributes are:

- Scrum is an agile process to manage and control development work.
- Scrum is a wrapper for existing engineering practices.
- Scrum is a team-based approach to iteratively, incrementally develop systems and products when requirements are rapidly changing.
- Scrum is a process that controls the chaos of conflicting interests and needs.
- Scrum is a way to improve communications and maximize co-operation.
- Scrum is a way to detect and cause the removal of anything that gets in the way of developing and delivering products.
- Scrum is a way to maximize productivity.
- Scrum is scalable from single projects to entire organizations. Scrum has controlled and organized development and implementation for multiple interrelated products and projects with over a thousand developers and implementers.
- Scrum is a way for everyone to feel good about their job, their contributions, and that they have done the very best they possibly could.

Jim Gettys: One laptop per child: a software design

Continued from page 1
available expertise in the field.

Its recipe, while made out of standard or at most semi-custom ingredients, makes it a novel system: Our display has higher resolution than 95% of the laptop displays on the market today; approximately 1/7th the power consumption; 1/3rd the price; sunlight readability; and room-light readability with the backlight off, mesh networking, a novel dual mode touchpad that can function both as a standard touchpad and be used with a stylus, and novel power conservation capabilities. These include the ability to leave the screen and wireless mesh network fully on while the machine is suspended to RAM.

These also presents challenges to our software: the power conservation techniques needed are very new. Conventional GUI’s are intended for adult office workers: our audience are young children learning to read or getting a basic education, since most children only receive 5-6 years of education in many parts of the world. I’ll touch on some of these aspects as well.

These capabilities present novel challenges to Linux, and are possible for us to implement precisely because Linux is open source. The ability to design hardware knowing that the software can be modified as needed is liberating.
SIGCHI - Boston Chapter

Topic: Towards Experience-Focused HCI
Speaker: Joseph ‘Jofish’ Kaye, Cornell University
Date/Time: Tuesday, March 13th, 2007, 6:30 pm
Location: The Stata Center at MIT, Room 32-141
Details: http://www.bostonchi.org/

Abstract:
We can trace the history of HCI from early experiments in interactive computing to current work on blogging, instant messaging, affective computing and more. Over this period, the ways in which we create and validate knowledge have changed to reflect the problems facing the field at the time. In this talk, I’ll discuss the development of HCI’s notion of evaluation, starting from its pre-history in electrical engineering and computer science, incorporating methods and metrics from experimental psychology and cognitive science, and debate around expertise that accompanied the rise of prominence of usability as an approach to HCI. I conclude by discussing what appears to be a growing emphasis on experience-focused, not task-focused, HCI, and how we can evaluate technologies to support such uses.

Bio:
Joseph ‘Jofish’ Kaye is a Ph.D Candidate in Information Science at Cornell University. He recently spent six months as a Visiting Researcher at Microsoft Research Cambridge, and has also worked with the Domestic Design & Technology Research Group at Intel. His work includes ethnographic, cultural, critical and technological studies of academics’ archiving practices, couples in long distance relationships, ubiquitous computing, social networking, and smart homes and kitchens. He has a B.S. in Cognitive Science from MIT, and Masters degrees in Media Arts & Sciences from MIT and Information Science from Cornell.

Directions:
The Stata Center at MIT,
Room 32-141
32 Vassar Street,
Cambridge, MA

Map & Directions:
http://whereis.mit.edu/map-jpg?mapterms=32&mapsearch=go

Room 32-141 is on the ground floor at the center of the building.

Refreshments at 6:30 pm. Meeting at 7:00 pm. Meetings are free and open to the public. Please RSVP when possible to BostonCHI@sun.com (Those who have not RSVP’d are always welcome.) A photo ID is required to gain admittance to Sun. Wheel chair accessible.

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
Co-Editor
Secretary
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
NEJUG - The New England Java Users Group

Overview:
Most business applications are architected using a tier-based approach (presentation, business logic, data tier). The emergence of powerful and new commodity HW and the introduction of SOA/Grid architectures touts the promise of achieving true linearly-scalable systems at a lower cost. However, as we shall see in this presentation, these new platforms and architectures are not aligned with the existing tier-based approach, which is by definition centralized and static.

During the presentation, a new approach will be introduced - Space Based Architecture (SBA). It is basically a combination of Distributed Caching, SOA and Grid concepts combined into a single coherent architecture optimized for high-performance data-intensive applications, which transforms existing tier-based applications into linearly and dynamically scalable services. Towards the end we will also discuss a real-life example of a financial application that was built using the SBA. We will explore the patterns used to achieve this goal and explore how it can be applied to other applications with similar requirements.

About the speaker:
Owen Taylor is a Principal Software Architect at Precise Software, Inc. He is also the Chief Technology Officer for the Lawrence R. Taylor Company. Owen is a well-known technology expert and has been a featured speaker at conferences and events such as: Sunworld conferences, J2EE World, and ITWorld. He has also written several books, including: "JavaSpaces - Not Just for Toaster" and "Ultra-Fast Computing". Owen has written numerous articles for various publications and has a blog located here: http://jroller.com/page/owentaylor.

Speaking Engagements:
- December 5, 2006 Washington DC “Taking a Fresh Look at Scalable, Ultra-Fast Computing” (Panel discussion)
- June 2006 IASA Seattle (The End Of Tier-Based Architecture)
- May 2006 Triangle NC JUG (Jini and JavaSpaces -Not just for toasters)
- April 2006 Anne Arbor, Denver, Boulder, and Austin JUGs (Jini and JavaSpaces -Not just for toasters)
- March 2006 San Diego JUG (The End Of Tier-Based Architecture)
- June 2003 NYC JUG (Advanced J2EE Patterns)
- June 2003 Boston JUG (Performance Success with J2EE)
- April/May 2002 Precise Software and The Serverside present: “Performance Success with J2EE”.
- Boston, NYC, Washington, Dallas, Chicago, Minneapolis, Denver, Santa Clara
- February 4th 2002 Moderator: Java on Wall Street “Performance tuning J2EE Applications”

BostonPHP User Group

Overview:
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.

The ODF standard has been developed by a variety of organizations and is publicly accessible. This means it can be implemented into any system, be it open source or a closed proprietary product, without royalties. The ODF is intended to provide an open alternative to proprietary document formats so organizations and individuals can avoid being locked into a single vendor. Join BostonPHP along with representatives from:

OSC - http://www.osc.org
ODF Alliance - http://www.odf alliance.org/

The ODF Alliance works globally to educate policymakers, IT administrators and the public on the benefits and opportunities of the Open Document Format, to help ensure that government information, records and documents are fully and natively accessible across platforms and applications, even as technologies change.

The Commonwealth of MA IT Division (ITD) - http://www.mass.gov/ITD

As we explore:
1. what is ODF?
2. where is it going?
3. what vendors support it?
4. how does it impact the enterprise and why should I care?
The No Fluff Just Stuff Java Symposium Series is proud to announce the return of the New England Software Symposium on March 09 - 11, 2007. NESS 2007 will be held at the Sheraton Ferncroft. Since 2002, the No Fluff Just Stuff Java Symposium has been regarded as the premier Java/Agility event series anywhere serving over 16,000 attendees with some 100 events. The popularity of the NFJS symposium series can be traced to the following:

1). Exceptional Speakers  
2). Limited Attendance - capped at 250 people  
3). No Vendors, No Sales Pitches, No Marketecture  
4). Excellent networking opportunity with speakers and fellow attendees because of small size.  
5). The Best Value in the Java conferencing space period.

The New England Software Symposium 2007 will offer 5 concurrent tracks with a total of 55 sessions to choose from with some of the topics including:

1). Groovy  
2). Grails  
3). OSGI  
4). Domain Driven Design  
5). Annotations  
6). Java 6.0  
7). REST  
8). JRuby  
9). Enterprise Ajax  
10). JPA and many more!!

REGISTRATION:
The registration fee includes a three day all access pass to NESS 2007, all meals and snacks during the show, custom laptop NFJS bag, binder for handouts and CD with all presentation content.
**Boston SPIN**  
**(Software Process Improvement Network)**

**Topic:** Tales of Whoa and the Psychology of Customer Satisfaction

**Speaker:** Naomi Karten

**Date/Time:** Tuesday, March 21th 2007, 6:00-8:30pm  
6:00  Registration/social/networking  
6:30  Dinner  
7:30  Speaker

**Location:** Hilton Garden Inn Boston/Waltham  
420 Totten Pond Road  
Waltham, MA 02451  
(781) 890-0100

**Directions:**  
http://www.asqboston.org/Section_Information/meeting.htm

**Details:**  
Online registration available or cash and check payments at the door. The deadline for reservations is midnight March 13th, 2007; otherwise you will be billed for the dinner. Fees include buffet dinner and cash bar.  
$22.00  ASQ and SPIN members  
$27.00  Non-members  
$15.00  Retired/unemployed/students

For more information, please see the ASQ Boston website at the following URL:  
http://www.asqboston.org/Section_Information/meeting.htm

**Abstract:**  
What is it customers really want?

Obviously, they want software that meets their specs and is delivered on time and within budget. But “just” doing that is no guarantee you’ll have happy customers. That’s because how customers perceive they’ve been treated affects whether their satisfaction level is at the top of the chart - or slithering towards the bottom.  

Happily, the smallest measures - those that cost little or nothing in time and dollars - can have a huge positive impact.

In this presentation, Naomi will offer insight into the customer perspective, drawn from her psychology and IT background, research, customer feedback, and extensive experience with numerous organizations. The principles, tools and recommendations she presents will help you achieve a high level of customer satisfaction.

**About the Speaker:**  
As a highly experienced consultant with a psychology, technical and management background, Naomi Karten (www.nkarten.com) helps organizations improve customer satisfaction, manage change, and strengthen teamwork.

Naomi has delivered seminars and presentations to more than 100,000 people internationally. She has published numerous books, including Communication Gaps and How to Close Them and Managing Expectations: Working with People Who IWant More, Better, Faster, Sooner, NOW!

These books provide proven strategies for carrying out projects, implementing change, delivering superior service - and preventing the everyday miscommunications that drive us crazy.

Readers have described her newsletter, Perceptions & Realities, as a breath of fresh air.

In both her writing and speaking, Naomi is known for presenting serious material with a light touch.

Contact her at naomi@nkarten.com.
Solution:

UNDERSTANDING THE TECHNOLOGY

Floppy Disk
Application Software
Input
User Interface
Central Processing Unit
Overflow (Input/Output Error)
Supplemental Data
Backup System

INPUT

Main Storage
Normal Flow of Operation
Peripheral Hardware
Debugging Tool

FUNCTION KEY
MATERIAL
APP

c

Qualitime
Lean

App Live Software

Optimizing

Six Sigma

Crystal

Dynamic Systems

Resources

Project

Created with EclipseCrossword - www.eclipsecrossword.com
BNUG - The Greater Boston Network Users Group

**Topic:** Online Backup Technologies and DR Recovery Options Presented by Amerivault
http://www.amerivault.com/

**Date/Time:** March 6th, 2007, 6:30 - 9:00 pm

**Details:** Refreshments served at 6:30 pm

**Location:** Microsoft
201 Jones Road
Waltham, MA 02451

**Directions:** Click Here

New England SQL Server User Group

**Venue:** Microsoft offices in Waltham, MA

**Directions:** Click Here

**Date:** March 8th, 2007

**Time:** 6:30 pm

**Title:** In-depth AS/SSIS

**Speaker:** Raheel Retiwalla - Microsoft

Analysis Services and SQL Server Integration Services are key components of Microsoft’s BI stack. Find out from BI expert, Raheel Retiwalla, how best to leverage them for your firm’s BI needs.

**Date:** April 12th, 2007

**Time:** 6:30 pm

**Title:** In-depth AS/SSIS

**Speaker:** Sunil Kadimdiwan - Infotrove

Sunil will take a look at the changes to Reporting Services in version 2005, especially the Report Builder. He will also show how to use RS for both relational and OLAP data sources.

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**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.)

Please make checks payable to **GBC/ACM** and mail to:

GBC/ACM
P.O. Box 465
Lexington, MA 02420
### March/April 2007 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.