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.gbcacm.org/website/semi-information.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

Continued on Page 3

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.gbcacm.org/website/semi-information.php?id=1144

Sponsored by 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

Continued on Page 3

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

The Real Times is published ten times per year (September through June) and is the official newsletter of the Greater Boston Chapter of the Association for Computing Machinery, First-class postage paid at Boston, MA, 02101.

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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

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The Greater Boston Network Users Group  
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Vyas Sanzgiri, editor@gbcacm.org  
Chris Hopkins, co-editor

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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
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 collaboration platform for seamlessly integrating tasks across the software lifecycle. Learn more at http://jazz.net. This session will provide an overview of Jazz’s capabilities, 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 an 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 Scrum 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.gbcacm.org/website/renew/

If you have any questions, please contact the membership volunteer at membership@gbcacm.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 neuro-biologist 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
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/os). 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.

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
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 decided 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

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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.