

Saturday, October 18, 2008

### Introduction to Publishing Platform Wordpress

By Jorge Garifuna

WordPress is an open source blog publishing application. WordPress is the official successor of b2\cafelog, developed by Michel Valdrighi. The name WordPress was suggested by Christine Selleck, a friend of lead developer Matt Mullenweg.

This talk will cover the following topics:

- Easy setup and installation of Wordpress
- Getting your feet wet with WordPress by writing posts, creating pages among other things
- Organizing your blog posts into categories
- Efficient ways to manage comments in WordPress
- Changing the look-and-feel theme of your WordPress site
- Installing WordPress plugins, such as images, Recent comments, Spelling checker, and Google AdSense among many
- Special references to community sites

Jorge Garifuna is the CEO of Garinet Media Network, LLC. , which offers a multitude of Web Development services for organizations, businesses, entertainers and family members. Jorge joined LAMPsig over two years ago and has added a new spark of enthusiasm to our group. He is quick to answer mail-list questions or bring up new topics of interest to LAMP developers. You may learn more about Jorge's technical background and expertise at <http://www.jgari.com/resume>

Posted by Solomon K. Chang in Meetings at 13:00

Saturday, September 20, 2008

**LAMP developers guide to subversion \*Rescheduled\***

**\*MEETING RESCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 20 !!!\***

This talk will cover the following topics:

1. Subversion basics: what it is, what it can be used for, the svn philosophy, and an interpretation of the underlying mechanics of SVN.
2. Basic subversion concepts including creation, security, Sandbox, updating, committing, branching, tagging and merging
3. Common svn issues and how to deal with them.
4. Examples of typical svn use, using the svn command line client and the subclipse plugin integrated into the Eclipse editor will be attempted \*live\*.
5. Properties and the use of the invaluable Svnmerge.py script in facilitating branching and branch merging will be covered.

David Rolston has a long history of web development that dates back to the earliest days of the WWW. He is currently working for a startup company in the multiplayer social network gaming space. He was also one of the founding Lampsig members, and has previously given lampsig talks on PHP, SVG with Ajax, and Xen.

Posted by David Rolston in Meetings at 13:30

Saturday, July 19. 2008

## **An Introduction to Maatkit**

By Solomon Chang

Maatkit (available at <http://www.maatkit.org>) makes MySQL easier and safer to manage. It provides simple, predictable ways to do things you cannot otherwise do. It would be nice if these features were included with MySQL, but they are not. That's why Maatkit is now shipping by default with many GNU/Linux distributions such as Debian and CentOS.

You can use Maatkit to prove replication is working correctly, fix corrupted data, automate repetitive tasks, speed up your servers, and much, much more.

And best of all, Maatkit is Free Software so you can modify, inspect, and redistribute it yourself.

Posted by Solomon K. Chang in Meetings at 13:00

Saturday, June 21. 2008

## **Multi-Instanced MySQL**

By Solomon Chang

There are whispered rumors from the remote corners of MySQL configuration gurus concerning the Dark Art of running more than one instance on MySQL on the same machine. Like a body possessed by a legion host of demons (well, MySQL daemons, actually), a single machine could serve multiple instances of MySQL that each may respond to different names, ports, and... dare I say it...? IP addresses! Oh, the horror! The terror! The memory consumption! However, just as summoning and binding nether-worldly entities into an unwilling mortal shell has its own nefarious uses, so too does the black magic of invoking two or more instances of mysqld on the same single machine. Slowly and surely, it is a gateway for you to embark upon other unspeakable database experiments, such as Replication and Distributed Clustering, whilst obviating the need for any other machine. Replication with but a single computer, you say? Yea, it is an abomination! But this abomination you can configure for yourself while dangling your sanity between hard drive capacity and memory usage!

Muhahahahaha!

Ph'nglul mglw'nath MySQL Instance Manager R'yleh!

MySQL Fhtagn!

Black robes and candles optional.

When he is not obsessing over the stories of HP Lovecraft, Solomon Chang is a MySQL certified DBA and the current acting director of LAMP SIG. He works as a professional Database Administrator in El Segundo, and is a co-author of the MySQL Cluster Certification Study Guide.

Posted by Solomon K. Chang in Meetings at 13:00

Saturday, May 17, 2008

## **Managing MySQL Permissions**

By Solomon Chang

There comes a time in the life cycle of a company where everyone has to stop connecting as password-less root to their central database. All the inherent security protocols (such as "We only have 3 users," or "No one here is malicious enough or knowledgeable enough to crack our Production database!") begin to lose relevance as the DB user base starts to grow. This talk aims at the "why" and the "how" of setting user permissions, as well as how users are generally authenticated into the system. This talk also delves into the granularity of permissions for those who require extremely fine-tuned access to database resources.

Solomon Chang is a MySQL certified DBA and the current acting director of LAMP SIG. He works as a professional Database Administrator in Venice Beach, and is a co-author of the MySQL Cluster Certification Study Guide.

Posted by Solomon K. Chang in Meetings at 13:00

Saturday, April 19, 2008

### **An introduction to Flex - Chris Charlton**

Adobe Flex is a collection of technologies released by Adobe Systems for the development and deployment of cross platform, rich Internet applications based on the proprietary Adobe Flash platform. The initial release in March 2004 by Macromedia included a software development kit, an IDE, and a J2EE integration application known as Flex Data Services.

Flex is a hot (open source) topic this year and Linux users aren't left out. With the newly announced Adobe AIR for Linux and the upcoming Flex Builder 3 for Linux desktops, everyone can develop cross-browser/platform applications for the Web (SWF) or any popular desktop operating system (Linux, Mac OS X, Windows). Chris Charlton will be covering how to develop in Flex and deploy an RIA with one code-base while not having to worry about platform or browser differences.

So what is Flex and doesn't it cost money? The Flex SDK is free - containing a debugger, compiler, and the entire Flex framework. Adobe's IDE (Flex Builder) costs \$250 (Standard Edition) and is free for students and teachers.

What's the difference between Flash and Flex? Why not just use Ajax? Good questions, but you'll want to attend the next LAMPSIG meeting to ask and find out!

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Chris Charlton has tons of community involvement: authorized Adobe Flex Champion, Adobe User Group Manager for LA AIR, helps run LA Drupal, is co-author of the book *Advanced Flex Application Development: Building RichMediaX*, and teaches at the Rich Media Institute.

Posted by Solomon K. Chang in Meetings at 13:00

Saturday, March 15, 2008

### **A Tour of External Language Stored Procedures for MySQL - Antony Curtis**

The integration of Business intelligence and logic within the database has been a long requested feature for MySQL. With version 5.0, MySQL delivered a stored procedure implementation and here we extend it to provide general support for external language stored procedures.

We detail the philosophy and design of the external language stored procedure framework and its implementation within the server and libraries. We then also detail how an external language plug-in is written using the simple skeleton plug-in which exercises the basic interfaces between the server and external stored procedures.

Demonstrations using the already developed plug-ins, including an overview of the implementation for the simple XML-RPC and the more sophisticated Java plug-ins, writing stored procedures and functions, with ideas for applications and their utility.

This presentation includes a tour of the actual source code, highlighting the big picture. The audience will see the low impact of the main-line server code, the simplicity of writing plug-ins for new languages and the ease of using the language plug-ins already developed. This is an exciting new feature preview for MySQL. All demonstrations are with live running examples which everyone can try for themselves: No mockups, no screen-shots.

Posted by Solomon K. Chang in Meetings at 13:00

Saturday, October 20, 2007

## **Hard Drive Based NDB MySQL Cluster**

By Solomon Chang

NDB (Network Database) is an enterprise-grade, scalable, and highly available clustering storage engine - a share-nothing cluster that has no single point of failure - which is capable of running on inexpensive commodity hardware. NDB allows the construction of cheap, scalable, and exceptionally reliable database clusters, without expensive, specialized or additional hardware or software.

Back in June, Solomon Chang discussed the basic setup of a distributed, fault-tolerant, NDB Cluster for MySQL. The NDB storage engine has had one shortcoming, however: it has been traditionally memory-based.

As of MySQL 5.1, MySQL AB introduced a disk-based NDB solution, although its setup and configuration are significantly more complex than building a simple cluster. A disk-based cluster allows the administrator to spend less money on hardware costs by allowing him to commit larger NDB fragments to a single server. There will be a brief recap on the first Clustering lecture for those who are new to MySQL Distributed Clustering.

This clustering method can be implemented on as few as three computers that have been manufactured within the last decade. Come and hear how to do this and add this skill to your resume.

Solomon Chang is a MySQL certified DBA and the current acting director of LAMP SIG. He works as a professional Database Administrator in Venice Beach, and is a co-author of the MySQL Cluster Certification Study Guide.

Posted by Solomon K. Chang in Meetings at 13:00

Saturday, June 16, 2007

## **MySQL Clustering with the NDB storage engine**

Main Topic: MySQL Clustering with the NDB storage engine

Speaker: Solomon Chang

NDB is an enterprise-grade, scalable, and highly available clustering storage engine - a share-nothing cluster that has no single point of failure - which is capable of running on inexpensive commodity hardware. NDB allows the construction of cheap, scalable, and exceptionally reliable database clusters, without expensive, specialized or additional hardware or software.

A MySQL Cluster distributes processing over multiple servers, resulting in a single redundant and scalable solution. A cluster consists of a set of computers running MySQL servers to receive and respond to queries, storage nodes to store the data held in the cluster and to process the queries, and one or more management nodes to act as a central point to manage the entire cluster. There are many reasons for clustering a database and several different methods of clustering.

Solomon will discuss the creation, methodology, and usage of a MySQL Cluster, and demonstrate a cluster in practice with a series of virtual machines.

Solomon Chang is a MySQL certified DBA and the current acting director of LAMP SIG. He works as a professional Database Administrator in Venice Beach, and is a co-author of the MySQL Cluster Certification Study Guide.

Posted by Peter Benjamin in Meetings at 13:00

Saturday, May 19, 2007

**May Meeting: Free Linux virtual servers with Xen 3.0**

Main Topic: Free Linux virtual servers with Xen 3.0: a great developer tool

Speaker: David Rolston

David will explain what Xen is, and walk us through the setup on an existing Linux server. He will cover the basics of running multiple instances, and explain how a developer can easily set up multiple virtual Linux servers with completely separate LAMP environments, or conversely, how to clone an existing server with a complete LAMP environment.

David Rolston learned PHP and MySQL during a stint as head moderator of the PHP community site PHPFreaks.com and MySQLFreaks.com, he went on to author tutorials on LAMP and PHP OOP which have been read by over 100,000 people. David has participated in several Open Source projects, including The Serendipity Blog, as the author of the GeSHi plugin, and is the project leader of the Mambo & Joomla gallery plugin PonyGallery. These days he works as a consultant focused on open source technologies used in the creation of interactive web sites and web services.

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 21:16

Saturday, April 21. 2007

**April Meeting: AJAX - Asynchronous JavaScript And XML: Zip Code fills in City, State fields**

Main Topic: AJAX - Asynchronous JavaScript And XML: Zip Code fills in City, State fields

Speaker: Peter Benjamin

There is movement afoot towards thick client applications using AJAX. Combining JavaScript in your web page to go back to the web server and run server side CGI scripts to send back small chunks of information to display on the page is the "thickening" of the thin web client.

Simple database applications are increasing the user friendliness of web forms with prefilling fields based on a just entered value, for example, in the United States entering the 5 digit zip code also defines the City and State values. Why have the customer type those values in as well, when AJAX can do it for them?

AJAX methodology using the XMLHttpRequest method or ActiveX equivalent will be overviewed using the Zip Code as an example. The lesson will be based on JavaScript and PHP and MySQL code.

Peter Benjamin is a freelance computer consultant with three decades of experience; he's programmed mainframes and minis, and more flavors of Unix than you can shake a stick at. Peter also leads a Web technology study group called Web Spinners; see <http://LAWebSpinners.org>

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 15:05

Saturday, March 17, 2007

### **March Meeting: Examining the SourceForge LAMP Stack**

Main Topic: Examining the SourceForge.net LAMP Stack by Ross Turk

Ross will speak about SourceForge's heterogeneous LAMP-based, open source infrastructure, providing in-depth descriptions of several core components, their interactions, and scalability models. He will analyze strengths and weaknesses of the site.

SourceForge.net, the world's largest open source destination, consistently ranks among the busiest 100 web sites. The services provided are various and, in some cases, very complex. Ross will present key site traffic and demographical metrics, and will discuss their constantly changing business requirements.

Ross Turk has served in multiple capacities since joining the Open Source Technology Group family in 2000. Most recently, as the Engineering Manager for SourceForge.net, he has led efforts to improve the site's usability, including the new Software Map and Search along with major navigation and aesthetic overhauls. In his current role, Ross is responsible for communicating with the SourceForge.net community and responding to its needs.

During his twelve-year career, Ross has focused on assessing and optimizing the business and engineering processes of a wide variety of engineering organizations, always with a passion for Open Source methodologies.

Ross recently spoke on this same subject at Linux World. Slides and podcast are available here.

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 21:05

Saturday, February 17, 2007

### **February Meeting: An Introduction to Drupal**

Main Topic: Introduction to Drupal by Richard Schave

Richard's quest for social context engines, knowledge management, semantically interchangeable metadata and a user-based paradigm as tracked through the development of the last three releases of Drupal.

Content Management Systems are becoming more and more versatile in quickly building complete Websites with a minimum of coding. Drupal is one of the most popular and best established.

Those who saw our Joomla presentation should check out this comparison of Drupal vs Joomla feature sets.

Richard holds a bachelor's degree in computer science from calstatela (class of '05), and is deeply concerned with building communities that matter as a function of the improved dissemination of information between niche groups. He regularly attends the sisters of jazz sunday night jam at the world stage, and has recently built his first bio filter for his japanese goldfish pond. (They're just being Koi.)

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 14:13

Saturday, January 20, 2007

### **January Meeting: DNS for the LAMP Developer & SCALE 5 Preview**

Main Topic: DNS for the LAMP Developer by Peter Benjamin

\*\*\*\* Meeting Date Change\*\*\*\*: Saturday, Jan 20th, 1-3pm

Most talks on DNS are for bind/named services for corporate LANs, which excludes what the everyday LAMP developer needs to know to create multiple web sites with separate domain names on their office computer. Also, to be included is how the Registrar and Global Registry systems work to create new domain names, transfer names, expire names. In addition, Registrar web interface to multiple accounts to handle domain names will be expounded.

Peter Benjamin is a freelance computer consultant with three decades of experience; he's programmed mainframes and minis, and more flavors of Unix than you can shake a stick at. Peter also leads a Web technology study group called Web Spinners; see <http://LAWebSpinners.org>

After the DNS presentation we will go over announced SCALE sessions as they relate to LAMP programmers.

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 13:13

Saturday, December 9, 2006

## **LAMPsig Holiday Party!!**

Special Event: LAMPsig Holiday Party!!  
Special Day: Saturday Dec 9th  
Special Place: Philippe's French Dip

Join us for lunch and camaraderie at Philippe's French Dip at noon on Saturday December 9th.

We will try to get a room upstairs so that we don't disturb other diners with our well-known ribaldry. Make merry with fellow coders.

For those unfamiliar with Philippes, this is the birthplace of the French dip sandwich. They are also popular for their '40s-style menu and servers. Sides include coleslaw, potato salad, beef stew, and chili. Desserts range from pies to tapioca pudding to baked apples.

You can have a great meal for \$10 or less!

Philippe The Original  
1001 N. Alameda St.  
Los Angeles CA. 90012

located 1 block north of Union Station, Olvera St, and the Hollywood 101 Freeway at Alameda and Ord St.  
(213) 628-3781

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 20:15

## Blog Export: LAMPsig, <http://www.lampsig.org/new/>

Wednesday, November 22, 2006

### **No Regular Meetings for November & December**

Due to holidays near the fourth Wednesday of the next two months, LAMPSIG will not have our normal meetings during November and December.

We are not hibernating though. We will be working on our project for SCALE 4 in February of next year. We will soon be asking for volunteers to help with the project. Stay tuned for more information.

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 19:39

Wednesday, October 25, 2006

### **October Meeting: Myth TV**

Main Topic: Build an Open Source Home Entertainment Network with Myth TV

Speaker: Clay Claiborne

Clay Claiborne recently had his "Linux Beach Media Center" named the "Ultimate Linux MultiMedia System" by Linux Journal. This system, which has been describe as "Tivo on Steroids" not only allows you watch, pause and record live TV including HDTV. It also rips DVDs and CDs and stores them on the hard drive, displays on your big screen TV, outputs eight channel sound or digital audio to your surround sound system, integrates Internet and home media, and utilizes a free on-line program guide. Of course it runs on Linux and the software that runs it, including MythTV is free. Clay will be demonstrating this system and giving members a general update on developments in the Linux world.

Clay Claiborne ([cjc@Cosmoseng.com](mailto:cjc@Cosmoseng.com)) is CEO of Linux hardware integrator Cosmos Engineering Company. He has worked in the computer industry off and on for 30 years, and has been a Linux enthusiast since 1995. In 1996 Clay developed the concept of selling Linux pre-installed on a hard drive and produced Linux On A Disk. He founded Linux Users, Los Angeles and was its president for eight years. Clay currently resides in Venice, CA.

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 21:45

Wednesday, September 27, 2006

## **September Meeting: MySQL Replication**

Main Topic: MySQL Replication - Solomon Chang

MySQL Replication is the means by which one or more MySQL databases can keep data synchronized with a master server. The scope of replicated data can cover any range, whether a single table, or indiscriminately all the databases on the master server. MySQL Replication is beginning to find progressively more exposure in corporate production environments, where it sees use from providing hot backups, to distributing access load amongst large numbers of users.

This lecture will cover four main topics:

- \* Requirements of MySQL Replication
- \* Concepts of MySQL Replication
- \* Configuring MySQL Replication
- \* Troubleshooting MySQL Replication

Solomon will provide a master to replicate from, so attendees are encouraged to bring their own computers running MySQL (4.1 or later, please) to configure as a hands-on slave. Attendees will also have full access to Solomon's master. If there is time, more advanced topics will be discussed:

- \* Pyramid Architectures
- \* Dual Masters
- \* Circular Replication
- \* Circular Replication of Masters

Solomon Chang, a MySQL-certified DBA, practices his skills at PriceGrabber.com and has been involved with LAMPsig since its inception in 2003. He is also currently co-authoring the MySQL Cluster Certification Guide by MySQL Press. SCALE attendees may remember Solomon entertaining us at the grand piano during lunch breaks.

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 21:37

Wednesday, August 23, 2006

### **August Meeting: Symfony, a PHP Framework (part 2)**

Main Topic: The Symfony PHP Framework

Symfony is one of the hottest PHP framework projects in the LAMP development community. Demo apps built with Symfony recently made the front page of both Digg.com and Ajaxian, and thousands of developers have downloaded and are using symfony to build their applications. Kevin Moreland is a freelance Linux sysadmin and LAMP developer who has been using Symfony in the development of an enterprise level application. He'll provide an introduction to the framework, and demonstration of its abilities, using the same basic outline from the CakePHP presentation from last month. The presentation will cover the following material:

- Introduction
- The Symfony structure: directories explained
- Models, Views, Controllers
- Starting with symfony
- using the command line tools
- Introduction to Propel
- Prototype an Application
- scaffolding what you need
- Customize the Application
- add a nice layout and enhance the views
- Example(s)
- Extending the Application with helpers and components
- Conclusion / Q & A

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 21:16

Wednesday, July 26, 2006

### July Meeting: CakePHP, a PHP Framework

Main Topic: CakePHP, Rapid Development Framework - Garrett J. Woodworth

CakePHP is about rapid development. Therefore, Garrett Woodworth will build a sample application as a demonstration of its ease of use.

During our meeting, Garrett will lead us through:

- Installing CakePHP
- The CakePHP structure- directories explained
- Models, Views, Controllers
- Starting with bake.php - using the command line tools
- Prototype an Application - scaffolding what you need
- Customize the Application - add a nice layout and enhance the views
- Extending the Application - we probably need some helpers and components
- Conclusion / Q & A

Garrett J. Woodworth aka gwoo has been the Project Manager for CakePHP since August 2005, just after the release of 0.9.1\_dev. Now CakePHP has passed 1.0 stable and has grown into one of the largest PHP communities. The CakePHP community has over 1900 members, a solid development and documentation team, and is supported by the Cake Software Foundation. Garrett is responsible for the CakeAMFPHP package, which links CakePHP with AMFPHP for Flash remoting goodness. Gwoo also produced several sample applications with CakePHP including a blog/photo gallery, a code-sharing bin, a Google Maps application, and a web based bake utility.

Garrett started developing PHP applications in 1999. He holds a JD, focused on intellectual property, and MBA in information systems from Fordham University.

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 21:30

Wednesday, June 28, 2006

### June Meeting: More Joomla CMS

Main Topic: Joomla Content Management System (Part II) - Jorge Garifuna and David Rolston

Because the Joomla/Mambo Presentation by David Rolston and Jorge Garifuna was so popular and because we had to cut the meeting a little short, many attendees asked that we continue our discussion of Joomla at the June meeting. We have gotten a tentative acceptance to have a follow-up.

Jorge's demonstration showing how easy it is to install Joomla made this old dog try a new trick. Within 20 minutes I had the skeleton of a complete Website up and running.

This month we will go into more depth on the tools and add-ons available to Joomla. I heard several people say they would like a discussion of the templates and how they are used.

David Rolston is a Los Angeles based system developer who has worked for a variety of entertainment and game companies including Paramount Pictures, Broderbund software, and Vivendi Universal Games. He has focused most of his recent efforts on LAMP and is one of the founders of LampSIG. He contributes to a number of open source projects including Joomla, and is the project lead of a popular Joomla gallery component called PonyGallery.

Jorge Garifuna is the CEO of Garinet Global Inc. which offers a multitude of Website services for organizations, businesses, entertainers and family members. Jorge has been using Joomla customer sites for some time now.

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 20:44

Wednesday, May 24, 2006

### **May Meeting: Joomla Content Management System**

Main Topic: Joomla Content Management System - Jorge Garifuna and David Rolston

Content Management systems offer the promise of publishing tools, user authentication, modular structure and support for plugins, and most of the things an average person or business needs to build a professional looking full featured website.

Mambo/Joomla is both a CMS and one of the highest profile open source LAMP projects going, boasting a substantial user community and a number of open source awards.

David and Jorge will present a brief history of Mambo & Joomla, clarifying the connection and differences. They will include an installation of Joomla, explanation of the basic paradigms and terminology one needs to know to effectively install, administer and configure Mambo or Joomla, and offer some insight into the extensibility of Joomla from a developer's standpoint, by looking at some of the parts of a Joomla component and Joomla module.

David Rolston is a Los Angeles based system developer who has worked for a variety of entertainment and game companies including Paramount Pictures, Broderbund software, and Vivendi Universal Games. He has focused most of his recent efforts on LAMP and is one of the founders of LampSIG. He contributes to a number of open source projects including Joomla, and is the project lead of a popular Joomla gallery component called PonyGallery.

Jorge Garifuna is the CEO of Garinet Global Inc. which offers a multitude of Website services for organizations, businesses, entertainers and family members. Jorge joined LAMPsig at the end of last year and has added a new spark of enthusiasm to our group. He is quick to answer maillist questions or bring up new topics of interest to LAMP developers.

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 20:59

Wednesday, April 26, 2006

### **April Meeting: Open Source Exchange Replacement Platform**

Main Topic: Open Source Exchange Replacement Platform - Charles Wyble

Now there is an Open Source alternative to Microsoft Exchange in the office network. Charles Wyble is the project founder and lead developer of OSER Platform. He will show us how to get rid of expensive per-seat licenses without giving up core functionality.

The OSER Platform uses Postfix and Courier IMAP for email, Jabber for collaboration, Clam Anti Virus and Spam Assassin to provide world class protection. It uses OpenLDAP and SyncML for Contact Management, and a Webmin-based administration suite to easily control all aspects of the applications.

If time permits, Charles will also cover a sub project which is an Asterisk+Festival+Sphynx interface.

Charles Wyble is a senior Linux administrator with a consulting firm on the side. He also works on the Open Source Chicago Project to provide compatibility with Excel & Powerpoint files, and belongs to the Los Angeles/Ventura Asterisk Users Group. He will be joining us all the way from Oxnard.

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 22:23

Wednesday, March 22, 2006

### **March Meeting: OpenPro LAMP-Based ERP**

Main Topic: OpenPro Software: LAMP in the Business World - Jim Clark

OpenPro CEO Jim Clark will explain how his company uses Open Source LAMP technology to create a full-featured ERP application. He will describe the business model for competing against closed-source packages in the mercantile world.

Jim will demo the user interface which has to be simple and consistent across applications yet flexible for power-users. PHP and JavaScript allow all applications to be Web accessible across the Internet.

Business software requires sharing of information among most departments in a company. Jim will show us how the MySQL database was designed to facilitate intra-company sharing. OpenPro uses ADOdb to reduce inconsistencies between MySQL, PostgreSQL, and other databases.

Jim will divulge OpenPro's future goals which may include opportunities for bright LAMP programmers.

Jim Clark, Co-Founder, President and CEO

The principal technologist, Jim Clark, has more than 20 years' expertise in ERP software, information systems, and open-source platform software development. He has extensive

training and experience in industry-standard database management systems, and open source technology.

Jim's experience in the ERP software field ensures that OpenPro has continued access to the latest and best technology for developing its products. He maintains a network of customers, primarily of distributors and manufacturing companies, to provide input for product requirements and enhancement.

Prior to founding OpenPro, Inc., Jim was president of CompuAll, Inc., a Value Added Reseller of business ERP software solutions. CompuAll created manufacturing add-on products for the major ERP solution providers. From his California base as president of CompuAll, Jim built nationwide distribution channel of RealWorld resellers. CompuAll was the top-selling VAR of RealWorld software for many years. Microsoft Business Solutions purchased RealWorld.

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 00:00

Wednesday, February 22, 2006

### February Meeting: The Making of our SCALE Demo

SCALE 2006 Los Angeles LAMP sig's February meeting will be on Wednesday, Feb 22 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm at the Tom Bradley Center (home of LULA)

Crowded LAMPsig Booth  
Main Topic: The Making of our SCALE Demo: Interactive SVG with Ajax  
Speaker: David Rolston

Last month we learned about Scalable Vector Graphics (SVG) from Inkscape leader Ted Gould. Several of our members, lead by David Rolston, were inspired to see what they could accomplish using this up and coming technology. With help from Peter Benjamin, David created a terrific application which was a big hit at SCALE.

David wrote the SCALE Schedule Web page in PHP, rendering SVG with embedded AJAX and JavaScript using data pulled from a MySQL database. One goal for the demo was to write all the code from scratch so no libraries were employed. The end product looks and acts like a web page, without using any html. David worked on the project right up to the last minute, even adding a small change to accommodate the resolution of the projector. David will fill us in on the challenges he faced, tools he employed to help in the development process, and how some challenges were overcome while others were not. What they saw  
Agenda:

7:00pm Introduction

7:15pm The Making of our SCALE Project - David Rolston

9:00pm Fini

Please arrive before 7:00pm so that you are seated for the speaker.

Cost: Free

Non-Member Cost: Free

David Rolston developed systems for a variety of entertainment companies including Paramount Pictures, Broderbund Software, Vivendi Universal Interactive and Z.com. While at Paramount he introduced the use of HP/UX servers, and set up the first company email and webserver. He employed the use of servers running AIX, Irix and Solaris in subsequent projects, then caught open source fever.

Having learned PHP and MySQL during a stint as head moderator of the PHP community site PHPFreaks.com and MySQLFreaks.com, he went on to author tutorials on LAMP and PHP Oop which have been read by over 100,000 people. He's participated in several open source projects, including The Serendipity Blog, as the author of the GeSHi plugin, and is the project leader of the Mambo & Joomla gallery plugin PonyGallery. These days he works as a consultant focused on open source technologies used in the creation of interactive web sites and web services.

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 20:43

## Blog Export: LAMPsig, <http://www.lampsig.org/new/>

Wednesday, January 18, 2006

### January Meeting: Dynamic Graphics with SVG

\*\*\*\* NEW DAY, TIME, & LOCATION FOR LAMPSIG MEETING \*\*\*\*

Los Angeles LAMP SIG's January meeting will be on Wednesday, Jan 18 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm at the Tom Bradley Center (home of LULA) (Address & directions below.)

InkscapeMain Topic: Dynamic Graphics with SVG - Ted Gould

Graphics and visualization can make your basic text and data compelling for users of all levels. SVG is an XML based vector graphics format specified by the W3C that can be easily used in scripting languages already designed for the web to create interesting, data driven graphics. Ted will cover the basics of the SVG format, and how to create dynamic SVG using PHP among other languages.

Vector Graphics should sound familiar to the artist who has used Adobe Postscript, Corel Draw, Adobe Illustrator or Flash. Vector graphics are used by these drawing programs to create images (and text) which can be scaled up or down without losing detail, through the use of Bezier curves.

Programmers will appreciate that since vector graphics are actually defined as mathematical formulas, they are compact and efficient. The obvious application for this is generation of charts and graphs from raw data. The SVG internal format uses XML, which allows DOM access via JavaScript within an SVG document. Via embedded EcmaScript, you can make your SVG images or graphics dynamic and interactive. Ted will be showing examples of SVG's abilities.

Ted Gould is one of the founding developers of the Inkscape project, which is an open source competitor to Adobe Illustrator, that uses SVG as its native file format. Ted and the Inkscape team are working to make Inkscape extensible through plugins and scripts.

Ted is also a member of the GNOME foundation and a Linux PPC user. He prefers vi. Other interests include photography and hiking with his wife and son.

Agenda:  
7:00 Introduction  
7:15 Dynamic Graphics with SVG - Ted Gould  
9:00 Fini

Please arrive before 7:00pm so that you are seated for the speaker.

Cost: Free  
Non-Member Cost: Free

For latest info: [www.LAMPSIG.org](http://www.LAMPSIG.org)

When: Wednesday, Jan 18 7-9pm

Where:

Tom Bradley Youth and Family Center  
5213 West Pico Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90019  
Telephone: (323) 692-0669

North side of West Pico Blvd.  
between Cloverdale Avenue and Cochran Ave.  
between major cross streets of Fairfax Avenue and La Brea Ave.

Here is a map.

**DIRECTIONS:**

From 10 East or West - Exit north on La Brea, go one mile, turn left onto Pico, go west about 1/2 mile and park.

From 405 Freeway North or South, go 10 East - see above.

From 5/101/170 Freeway North or South, go 10 West - see above.

**PARKING:**

Metered parking on Pico, Cochran, and Cloverdale;  
free after 6PM.

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 20:19

Tuesday, January 3, 2006

### **LAMPsig Searching for New Home**

As LAMPsig ends its second year, we must bid a fond farewell to CalTek.Net. Ken Wyrick and Candy Tanamachi were instrumental in launching LAMPsig by providing not only a location for our monthly meetings but also a permanent clubhouse for our classes and other activities. We can never thank them enough for their generosity.

Our January meeting will be held on the evening of Wednesday, Jan 18 at the Tom Bradley Center on Pico between La Brea and Fairfax. This is also where LULA meets. If we are on our best behavior, this could become our permanent home.

Tom Bradley Youth and Family Center  
5213 West Pico Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90019  
Telephone: (323) 692-0669

North side of West Pico Blvd.  
between Cloverdale Avenue and Cochran Ave.  
between major cross streets of Fairfax Avenue and La Brea Ave.

We are still looking for alternate locations. If you know of one, please post it to the user list.

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 19:37

Saturday, November 19, 2005

### **November Meeting: Introduction to Regular Expressions**

Main Topic: Introduction to Regular Expressions, by Peter Benjamin

Regular Expressions can be part of your arsenal for text processing. Whether you've used them before or not, there's probably more you could learn about them. Peter will take us through regular expressions - not just writing them, but also \*reading\* them, and how to quickly use them from the command line. His handout is online .

Peter Benjamin is a freelance computer consultant with three decades of experience; he's programmed mainframes and minis, and more flavors of Unix than you can shake a stick at. Peter also leads a Web technology study group called Web Spinners.

Opening Topic: Sexy SCALE App

Bring ideas for really eye-catching LAMP application that we can demonstrate at SCALE. We will discuss ideas before the main presentation.

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 00:00

Saturday, September 17, 2005

### September Meeting: LAMP-Fu: Securing LAMP Websites

Main Topic: LAMP -Fu: Securing LAMP Websites

"Grasshopper, snatch the Packet from my LAN..."

Fresh from DEFCON 13, Solomon Chang will lead us in attacking an insecure LAMP site, then show how to harden the site against the bad guys.

Although security itself spans a broad range of topics, this presentation will focus on the four most common LAMP vulnerabilities:

- SQL Injection
- Cross Site Scripting (XSS)
- XML Injection
- PHP Register Globals Exploits

Solomon will distribute a highly vulnerable mock website and database, and you will learn to conduct these attacks yourself on your own computer (so if you own a LAMP-enabled portable, please bring it). Then you will learn to secure your site against these attacks. It is essential to fully learn methods used by a hacker... excuse me, cracker, to safeguard against his attacks.

Solomon Chang is a member of SVGLUG as well as one of the core leaders of LAMPsig. He has developed LAMP Websites for both sides of the Force. Like all good security consultants, he keeps up with the latest exploits in order to protect against them. His laptop has a bumper sticker reading "My Other Computer is Your Linux Machine."

Opening Topic: Table-driven Programming for Taking Money from People via the Web - David Benjamin

Forms with lots of fields can be tedious to author. Having to then program those fields for a financial transaction and again for database insertion and again for reporting and again for an in-house administrative GUI and again for reading from the database to place a new charge can be tedious to the extreme.

Table-driven programming comes to the rescue. By defining attributes of each field in a data table, a much smaller program can build the needed HTML and transactions. David will show Table-driven Programming with the example of an Authorize.Net component for web form, database, and re-billing. Of course, this component includes the "Pandora" technology described last month.

David has an extensive programming background in Java and other languages. He is currently developing a LAMP site where sensitive information must be kept secure yet accessible.

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 11:31

Saturday, August 20, 2005

### **August Meeting: WebFusion Studio - Philippe Lewicki**

Main Topic: WebFusion Studio - Philippe Lewicki

WebFusion Studio is the first web application development software to allow real-time collaboration between web designers, developers and end-users in building database-driven web sites and web applications. All contributors to a project may work together to build and maintain dynamic web sites and intranets, each at their own level of skill.

Using the open source framework PAS (Application Server for PHP) as a foundation, WebFusion Studio vastly simplifies database integration in web applications. With true WYSIWYG editing, real-time execution of JavaScript and PHP scripts, and tons of open-source add-on packages, this entirely server-based development environment speeds project completion, cuts development costs and increases customer satisfaction.

WebFusion Studio is the first 100% web-based RAD (Rapid Application Development) environment for PHP.

This presentation will introduce WebFusion Studio and the PAS Application Server for PHP. Philippe will explain how it can help modern PHP applications programming.

- Introduction.
- presentation: WebFusion Studio and its components
- demo PageBuilder: Web Based PHP WYSIWYG programming
- demo WebIDE: Simplify Database development
- demo SiteManager: Ready to use Open source Application packages
- presentation: PAS: OOP, MVC, software partners, events

Philippe Lewicki has had 10 years experience in the open source world specializing in PHP. He held high technical management positions with cutting-edge web development companies before founding SQLFusion in 2003. SQLFusion is an Open Source consulting and software company with the goal of bringing PHP benefits to small and medium businesses.

Opening Topic: Secure Tracking of Credit Card Transactions - David Benjamin

David recently developed a system to protect credit card information in a LAMP environment. The Website had to be secure but practical. He will explain some of the measures that he took to safeguard this sensitive data.

Afternoon Session: CalTek.Net Computer Testing and office cleanup.

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 00:00

Saturday, July 16. 2005

**July Meeting: "Poor Man's" Online Store - John Martinez**

Main Topic: "Poor Man's" Online Store - John Martinez

The Store:

This setup is a "Poor Man's" solution and not designed to be a high volume, customer tracking, or accounting solution but can be with a lot of time put in.

John will help you get started with advice on:

- Choosing a Web host.
- Creating a gallery.
- Payments through Paypal.
- Policies and Disclaimers.
- Security.
- Advertising.

Besides being an IT Manager for the largest HVAC company in California, John Martinez makes various types of webs and develops Windows apps and games. Check him out at <http://www.funkyfreshdesigns.com>

Opening Topic: ECommerce Setup from the End-User Point of View - Jim Workman

This is a case study of the End-User responsibilities when creating an eCommerce site. You'll need an Internet Merchant Account, a credit card processing gateway, and an SSL certificate before you even open your virtual doors.

Afternoon Session: CalTek.Net Computer Testing and office cleanup.

Post-meeting: Open for Business installfest - Si Chen

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 00:00

Saturday, May 21. 2005

### **May Meeting - SQLite**

Main Topic: SQLite - Al Danial

Al Danial will present SQLite at the May LAMPsig meeting. Having used SQLite for over a year he has found many reasons to recommend this database engine. The presentation will include an overview of SQL, a comparison of SQLite to conventional client/server database programs like MySQL and Postgres, and demos using the command line and Perl and C bindings.

SQLite is included in PHP5 and is a simple, totally open alternative to other databases. This makes it ideal for development environments.

Opening Topic: Open for Business - Si Chen

Si Chen will do our introductory presentation. He will be giving an overview of Open for Business, an Open Source set of business applications written in Java. Si has used Open for Business to develop his very professional [www.graciousstyle.com](http://www.graciousstyle.com) Website. He will also cover his development effort for the project. Si currently has opportunities for programmers with his support company.

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 17:30

Saturday, April 16. 2005

### April Meeting - Configuring Apache

LAMPsig co-founder, Peter Benjamin has run Apache for five years hosting hundreds of domain names and currently has 4 colocated computers supporting them. Special attention will be paid to commonly requested features and CGI features.

The approach of the talk will be to assume one wants to edit the default Apache 2 httpd.conf file to support two virtual domain names using the same IP number and a default httpd.conf will be edited \*live\* to support two or more domain names.

Configuring Apache involves not only editing the httpd.conf file, but also choosing and creating folders for web roots, web logs, CGI and other naming convention driven httpd.conf edits, where having an initial, excellent naming convention, can save many headaches later.

The hobbyist can get by with the default httpd.conf file, but the developer and hosting service must support multiple domain names. The typical httpd.conf edits to host two or more virtual domain names will be detailed for both Unix and Windows. Commonly used directives will be explained, like VirtualHost, DocumentRoot, ServerName, ServerAlias, User and Group (suexec), Directory, AllowOverride, Options, htaccess password access), Indexes, IndexOptions, FollowSymlinks, errorDocument, XBitHack (SSI), ScriptAliasMatch, CustomLog, LogFormat (combined), ServerRoot, and a few more, basic Apache features.

Opening Topic: Attendance Tracking - David Russell

David teaches computer courses at University High School. He has developed a classroom attendance application using LAMP elements. It will be unveiled at our April meeting.

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 22:34

Saturday, March 19, 2005

### **March Meeting - Understanding Web Statistics**

Today we have access to tons of statistics about our Websites. Buried in all these numbers are clues for improving our sites. Our panel of experts, Chris Stauffer, David Rolston, and Peter Benjamin will show us how to make sense of the numbers and graphs. Bring your questions for the panel. Moderated by Jeff Loomis.

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 17:07

Saturday, February 19, 2005

## **February Meeting - Solving the E-Commerce Puzzle**

**SPEAKER:** Peter Benjamin

E-Commerce sure sounds easy. Put up a few web pages listing your products, add a checkout form and credit card debiting, and it's finished, right? Peter Benjamin will detail the many pieces of a server-side e-commerce package. He will explain the basics and help us avoid common mistakes. Come early. There is a lot of ground to cover. Get the 12 page outline before the meeting begins.

Come and get your questions answers about these components:

- The Catalog
- The Product
- The Price
- Ordering Form/Information
- The Receipt
- The Software
- Protecting Credit Card Information With Encryption (SSL)
- Shopping Carts
- Catalog Back End Administration
- SSL Certificates
- Merchant Accounts

Many details about what goes into each type of web page are presented, as well as what software and other involved third parties in critical steps.

Please arrive before 10:30am so that you are seated for the first speaker.

Cost: Free

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 03:25

Friday, January 14. 2005

### **January Meeting: SCALE Application Demos**

Featured Topic: SCALE preparation

We will go over our demonstration topics for our booth volunteers. For those not planning to go to SCALE, this will be a great opportunity to an overview of several popular applications.

John Burge - Zen Cart  
Peter Benjamin - LAMP architecture diagram  
Solomon Chang - phpMyAdmin  
Jim Workman - Searchable Photo Gallery  
Ken Wyrick - e-lane knoppix  
David Rolston - Serendipity

Afternoon Session: We will prepare our demonstration machine and prepare for next year's LAMP classes.

Agenda:

10:30 Introduction  
10:40 Prep for SCALE  
12:15 Questions & Feedback  
12:30 Lunch break - brown bag or Tommy's  
1:15 Machine configuration & social networking  
2:30 Fini

Please arrive before 10:30am so that you are seated for the first speaker.

Cost: Free

Non-Member Cost: Free

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 23:58

Friday, December 17. 2004

**December Meeting: Preparation for SCALE**

OPENING TOPIC: This is the end of our first year. We will discuss options for the future of the group.  
LEADER: Jim Workman

AFTERNOON SESSION: Prep for the LAMP class.

- \* Agenda: 10:30 Introduction
- \* 10:40 Discussion of LAMP SIG's 2nd year - Jim Workman
- \* 11:00 Preparation for SCALE - Group Discussion
- \* 12:15 Questions & Feedback
- \* 12:30 Lunch break - brown bag or Tommy's
- \* 1:15 Prep for SCALE and Class
- \* 2:30 Fini

Please arrive before 10:30am so that you are seated for the first speaker.

Cost: Free

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 22:13

Saturday, November 20, 2004

**November Meeting: Building a Forms Manager**

Speaker: Christopher Thompson  
Featured Topic: Building a Forms Manager - Christopher Thompson

This is a practical how-to session to build a forms manager. It will be used to show examples of a number of basic PHP programming concepts.

Opening Topic: This is the end of our first year. We will discuss options for the future of the group.

Afternoon Session: We will continue with informal discussions among members.

Agenda:

- 10:30 Introduction
- 10:40 Discussion of Lampsig's Next Year
- 11:00 Building a Forms Manager - Christopher Thompson
- 12:15 Questions & Feedback
- 12:30 Lunch break - brown bag or Tommy's
- 1:15 Machine configuration & social networking
- 2:30 Fini

Please arrive before 10:30am so that you are seated for the first speaker.

Cost: Free  
Non-Member Cost: Free

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 00:10

## Blog Export: LAMPsig, <http://www.lampsig.org/new/>

Saturday, October 16. 2004

### **October Meeting: GD Library for creation of image files**

Speaker: Solomon Chang

The ANSI C-based GD Library dynamically creates image files. Solomon will show how we can use PHP can use the GD Library to display images to Web pages.

Follow-up Topic: GD used to create an image from several smaller images

Speaker: David Rolston

Afternoon Session: We will configure machines for our weekly PHP classes and continue with informal discussions among members.

Agenda:

10:30 Introduction

10:45 GD Library - Solomon Chang

12:00 Example of GD in use - David Rolston

12:15 Questions & Feedback

12:30 Lunch break - brown bag or Tommy's

1:15 Machine configuration & social networking

2:30 Fini

Please arrive before 10:30am so that you are seated for the first speaker.

Cost: Free

Non-Member Cost: Free

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 00:16

Friday, September 17. 2004

**September Meeting: osCommerce**

FEATURED TOPIC: osCommerce, the popular online shopping package  
SPEAKER: Chris Stauffer

osCommerce is an open-source e-Commerce application using PHP, Apache, and MySQL. It is one of the most popular shopping cart solutions with over 1300 live stores and 40,000 community members. This presentation will introduce us not only to the specific features of osCommerce but also the concept of online storefronts.

OPENER: .LRN - open source software for supporting learning and research communities. presented by Kenneth Wyrick

Originally developed at MIT as part of the Intellectual Commons, .LRN is now backed by a world-wide consortium of educational institutions, non-profit organizations, industry partners, and open source developers.

**AFTERNOON SESSION:**

Solomon Chang will lead a 'First Come, First Served' open question and answer session. Also we will configure machines for our upcoming 'Noobies & Woobies' project sessions.

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 22:17

Friday, August 20, 2004

### **August Meeting: phpDocumentor & intro to PEAR**

FEATURED TOPIC: phpDocumentor and an intro to PEAR  
SPEAKER: David Rolston

phpDocumentor is the world standard auto-documentation tool for PHP. Written in PHP, phpDocumentor can be used directly from the command-line, or through an easy to use web interface. phpDocumentor can be used to generate professional documentation directly from the source code of your PHP project. Support for linking between documentation, automatic class inheritance and generation of highlighted source code with cross-referencing to PHP general documentation are just a few of the features of phpDocumentor.

PEAR is a framework and distribution system for reusable PHP components. PEAR uses phpDocumentor as its official documentation method.

OPENER:  
To Be Determined

AFTERNOON SESSION:  
We have four small hands-on projects scheduled. We will be taking a look at our CalTek.net server, hardening an OSCommerce server, and checking a couple of Linux laptops.

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 22:31

Friday, July 16. 2004

**July Meeting: The Best Tool For The Job - OOP vs Procedural**

FEATURED TOPIC: The Best Tool For The Job: Object-Oriented versus Procedural Programming in PHP  
SPEAKER: Robert Peake

In PHP, unlike many other languages, you can choose between using an object oriented (OO) or a procedural approach. This presentation does not attempt to decide between the two approaches and come up with a single "best practice", but to explore the advantages and disadvantages of each. Please check out Robert's article at [\[url=http://www.zend.com\]zend.com\[/url\]](http://www.zend.com) to get the most from the presentation.

**OPENER:**

Survey of members' projects

You will have a chance to explain a project on which you are working and get advice on any knotty problems.

**AFTERNOON SESSION:**

We will be configuring a Web server to be based at Caltek.net

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 22:34

Wednesday, June 16, 2004

### June Meeting: Intro to PHP OOP

Speaker: David Rolston

David Rolston gives an introduction to PHP Object Oriented Programming. Besides defining some of the nomenclature such as attributes, methods, and objects, David provides a Stopwatch class example to help explain classes and subclasses.

Intro Session: Loading csv data into mysql

Speaker: Solomon Chang

The June L.A. LAMP SIG meeting was a terrific success due to the last-minute efforts of Solomon Chang and David Rolston. When Peter Benjamin, who has been fighting a nasty case of the flu, had to cancel his presentation a few days before the meeting date, David and Solomon stepped in to save the day. Then, from his sick-bed, Peter arranged for us to use his projector for our meeting.

Web-sites referenced during the meeting included:

- \*A sneak peek of next month's featured topic by Robert Peake can be found at [Zend.com](http://Zend.com)
- \* David Rolston's [pastebin](#).
- \* Chris Stauffer's recommended downloads (including Eclipse).
- \* [Eclipse.org](http://Eclipse.org)
- \* [PHPDOC.org](http://PHPDOC.org)
- \* Our new irc channel (join us): [#lampsig](#) on [irc.freenode.net](http://irc.freenode.net).

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 22:48

## Blog Export: LAMPsig, <http://www.lampsig.org/new/>

Friday, May 14. 2004

### **May Meeting: Meeting database design**

SPEAKERS: David Rolston & Peter Benjamin

FEATURED TOPIC: Our featured topic for May is the design of a Meeting database. We will continue to define and relate the fields and tables needed to create announcements, calendars, and archives. The current design will be updated by User List suggestions and those of meeting attendees. This interactive brain-storming session will be led by two of our resident database gurus, Peter Benjamin & David Rolston. See it at David Rolston's site . (Feel free to participate in the User list discussion thread before the meeting.)

SHOW & TELL: After the lunch break, Solomon Chang will continue to dissect his Calendar routine which will eventually access the Meeting database.

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 22:55

Friday, April 16. 2004

**April Meeting: Planning a website**

TOPIC: Planning your Site  
SPEAKER: Sue Marrone

Sue's presentation covers the issues one encounters when planning for the creation and development of a website.

Other Topics

TOPIC: Case Study:Planning and Implementing the Lampsig.org site Database  
SPEAKER(S): David Rolston and Peter Benjamin

OPENER: Show & Tell:Source Code - a web-based calendar application  
SPEAKER(S): Solomon Chang

OPENER: Show & Tell:Utilities - 6 MySQL/PHP functions to streamline development  
SPEAKER(S): Betty Chung  
Details to follow.

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 22:58

Friday, March 19. 2004

**March Meeting: PHP Template solutions**

TOPIC: PHP Templates

SPEAKER(S): Peter Benjamin, Solomon Chang, and David Rolston

Solomon Chang covers a roll-your-own templating solution, Peter Benjamin covers [Smarty](http://smarty.php.net/), and David Rolston covers [TemplatePower](http://templatepower.codocad.com/)

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 23:11

Friday, February 20, 2004

## **February Meeting: Introduction to PHP**

SPEAKER: David Rolston

FOLLOWUP: David converted his presentation into HTML

[url=<http://forum.gizmola.com/phpBB2/viewtopic.php?t=36>]Link Here.[/url] You can also download the presentation and some additional materials to try out some of the points contained in the presentation.

The Presentation covers:

- \* Brief background of PHP, and explanation of how the PHP engine works with an Apache webserver
- \* Ways to mix PHP and HTML
- \* Showing how to quickly create header and footer scripts using include()
- \* PHP variables and arrays, associative arrays and the best practice syntax
- \* Explanation of PHP Scope, function scope and globals
- \* PHP Builtin Superglobals for handling form variables and URL parameters
- \* How to use a form object with php
- \* The magic\_quotes\_gpc
- \* How to use the php.net manual to find the most useful built-in functions and a list of a few commonly used ones

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 23:02

## Blog Export: LAMPsig, <http://www.lampsig.org/new/>

Friday, January 16. 2004

### **January Meeting: Apache & MySQL Installation**

SPEAKERS: Solomon Chang and Peter Benjamin

TOPIC: Solomon and Peter will presented an Apache and MySQL installation, and config files tweaking.

SPEAKER: Jeff Ali

INTRO: NYVRMLSIG

Jeff Ali belonged to the NYVRMLSIG Landmarks Project in New York and he will explain how that internationally famous group operated.

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 23:07

Friday, December 12. 2003

## Lampsig Organizational Meeting

:: Dec 13 @ 10:30am @ Caltek.net

Here's a synopsis of what happened at the first meeting By Pete Benjamin:

I wanted to let those who could not attend what happened.

Jim Workman ran an excellent meeting covering all the bases needed to have this new SIG happen. There is still more to go so if you wish to volunteer, then speak up to Jim or myself.

There were experience LAMP users and new users and novices in the group. Everyone had a chance to speak up and state what they wanted to the group to be and how they could help.

### Next Meeting

\* The meeting place will likely continue to be CalTek. We met in their work/storage area instead of the larger space, which might happen next time.

\* January 17th, the third Saturday of the month, is the next meeting at CalTek. The start time will be 10:30 for an informal gathering of Q&A, install questions, or whatever, before the start of the formal meeting at 11 am until 2 pm. The start time and intro period is subject to change, so wait for the meeting announcement to know when you should show up, but mark your calendars as 10:30 would be safest.

\* The topics will likely be Config files for Apache and MySQL. To show how to edit the default install of Apache to multiple domain name (virtual hosting) and to get MySQL running in a better mode than the default install as well as how to create a database and its tables and fields, and create users perhaps. We did not talk explicitly about this, but I assume Max will be speaking as he had volunteered to do for the first meeting.

\* Also, whatever infrastructure set up details we could not hammer out between now and then will be talked about and decided upon at that meeting.

What was decided at this meeting? See below.

### The Focus

\* The group will focus on LAMP which will include all OSes, but mainly Linux and some FreeBSD, A for Apache but other web servers to be talked about for special applications will be tthtpd (tiny httpd for fast static sites), streaming web servers, AOL Server, and others were mentioned. M for MySQL (P for Postgres) are the primary databases, and P is PHP, Perl, and Python. Other databases and languages are welcome.

\* So we appear to be multi denominational, not focusing on just LAMP, where the web page will state as much.

\* There was a strong desire to cover more than installing and configuring application software and to cover web site authoring of pages, forms, front ends, back ends, databases, CGI, pathname naming conventions, and more.

\* Basically, the group was interested in the whole art of putting something online for public consumption from an enterprise viewpoint, not just one CGI, yet we know we must start at that level.

\* Definitely, there was a nuts and bolt, show me the code mentality, mostly on configuring, authoring, designing, implementing methods and resources. And the reason why a choice was made to go one way and not another.

\* Installing was a low priority as installing most of these apps is so simple, an RPM and five minutes, but important enough to find a way to give newbies a good learning chance as described below. (RH comes with them installed).

\* Mini instalffests at the beginning of each meeting might be possible as there are literally dozens of recycled computers waiting to have OSes and apps installed on them. So those with no experience in installing might get the chance to install several times. At least if we keep the meetings at CalTek where they recycle computers for families in LA. No you would not get to keep the computer, unless you qualify per the CalTek non profit bylaws. You could bring your own computer.

\* We have 4 expert speakers in the group who will be giving the first few presentations, but more than just presentations was desired. More than likely there will be 30 minutes of presentation followed by 2 hours of Q and A, where the group mind will verbalize a range of possible solutions and reasons to go one way or the other. Panels will likely be the majority of the meetings and editing configuration files the bulk of the first half dozen meetings.

In Brief

## Blog Export: LAMPsig, <http://www.lampsig.org/new/>

\* Best Practices was mentioned several times.

\* DNS and the software and configurations. BIND, of course, Tiny DNS and DJS DNS.

\* Lots of talk about doing a software project. Starting with small ones of 1-2 months in duration. And doing about 3-4 a year.

\* An online syllabus, likely done in PHP for community editing, is going to be available at some point to let the members set up the meeting topics, detail what needs to be covered by the group mind and panelists, and then serve as an archival learning resource.

### Initial Web Site Status

\* LAMP was considered the "KISS" name for the group. Names for the group were batted around. I'd talk more about the name of the group but to save ourselves the embarrassment of someone registering it before we have a chance due to my post I will forgo that.

\* I expect that topic to be on a private thread, that I have started, so if you wish to join in, then email me, Pete.

\* We have 3 potential volunteer web site hosts, with details to be worked out between them (Sharon, Solomon and Pete). We might eventual have a load balancing set of web hosts to demo how a database would exist on all 3 or more web hosts. The domain name is being decided. It will not be LALAMP.org as that is owned by the Louisiana Association of Library and Media Professionals so Solomon will have to look at his list and tell us what else might be available from his set of registrations.

\* We likely will get our own mailing list at the domain name with online archive (Mailman most likely).

That's all folks. Please add your suggestions and comments and feedback and voice your needs, and how you might volunteer with starting this new group!

Pete

Posted by Jim Workman in Meetings at 23:26