

Twin Cities Software Symposium

Hilton Minneapolis/Bloomington Hotel

March 13 - 15, 2009

<http://www.nofluffjuststuff.com/conference/minneapolis/2009/03/index.html>

Fri, Mar. 13, 2009					
	1	2	3	4	5
12:00 - 1:00 PM	REGISTRATION				
1:00 - 1:15 PM	WELCOME				
1:15 - 2:45 PM	REST : Information-Driven Architectures for the 21st Century Brian Sletten	The Busy Java Developer's Guide to Java7 Ted Neward	So you want to be an Architect Ken Sipe	JSF 2.0: An Introduction David Geary	Agile, Relevance Style Stuart Halloway
2:45 - 3:15 PM	BREAK				
3:15 - 4:45 PM	RESTlet for the Weary Brian Sletten	The Busy Java Developer's Guide to Java Platform Security Ted Neward	Debugging your Production JVM Ken Sipe	JSF 2.0: Advanced Topics David Geary	Taking Agile From Tactics to Strategy Stuart Halloway
4:45 - 5:00 PM	BREAK				
5:00 - 6:30 PM	Semantic SOA : Meaningful Service Strategies Brian Sletten	The Busy Java Developer's Guide to Advanced Platform Security Ted Neward	7 Habits of Highly Effective Developers Ken Sipe	Flex for Java Developers David Geary	IZero: Starting Projects Right Stuart Halloway
6:30 - 7:15 PM	DINNER				
7:15 - 8:00 PM	Keynote: by Neal Ford				

Sat, Mar. 14, 2009					
	1	2	3	4	5
8:00 - 9:00 AM	BREAKFAST				
9:00 - 10:30 AM	Emergent Design & Evolutionary Architecture Neal Ford	Introduction to NetKernel : Software for the 21st Century Brian Sletten	Programming Clojure Stuart Halloway	GWT: An Introduction David Geary	Architecture: Non-Functional Requirements Ken Sipe
10:30 - 11:00 AM	BREAK				
11:00 - 12:30 PM	Real-world Refactoring Neal Ford	Advanced NetKernel : Software for the 21st Century Brian Sletten	What's New in Spring 3 Ken Sipe	GWT: Advanced Topics David Geary	Producing Software Groove David Hussman
12:30 - 1:30 PM	LUNCH				
1:30 - 3:00 PM	The Productive Programmer: Mechanics Neal Ford	The Busy Java Developer's Guide to the OpenJDK Ted Neward	Programming Scala Venkat Subramaniam	Java Memory, Performance and the Garbage Collector Ken Sipe	Going Beyond "Hello Agile": Your Questions and Mine David Hussman
3:00 - 3:15 PM	BREAK				
3:15 - 4:45 PM	Open Source Debugging Tools Matthew McCullough	The Busy Java Developer's Guide to Collections Ted Neward	Hacking - The Dark Arts Ken Sipe	Building External DSLs Venkat Subramaniam	Hands-on Agile Development Neal Ford
4:45 - 5:30 PM	BIRDS OF A FEATHER SESSION				

Sun, Mar. 15, 2009					
	1	2	3	4	5
8:00 - 9:00 AM	BREAKFAST				
9:00 - 10:30 AM	CSS For Developers Nathaniel Schutta	Git Going with Distributed Version Control Matthew McCullough	Test Driven Design Neal Ford	Effective Java Venkat Subramaniam	Surviving Middle Management David Bock
10:30 - 11:00 AM	MORNING BREAK				
11:00 - 12:30 PM	Making Web Apps Suck Less Nathaniel Schutta	Maintaining Project Integrity with JDepend, Macker, PMD, Maven, and other open source tools David Bock	Pragmatic Domain Specific Languages Neal Ford	Know your Groovy? Venkat Subramaniam	Architecture and Agility Are Not Mutually Exclusive David Hussman
12:30 - 1:15 PM	LUNCH				
1:15 - 2:15 PM	EXPERT PANEL DISCUSSION				
2:15 - 3:45 PM	Design Patterns in Java and Groovy Venkat Subramaniam	Internationalization and Localization in Java David Bock	Regular Expressions in Java Neal Ford	Mastering Maven 2.0 Matthew McCullough	Project Bootstrapping Nathaniel Schutta
3:45 - 4:00 PM	BREAK				
4:00 - 5:30 PM	Agile Testing Venkat Subramaniam	What Is Lean And Why Do You Care? David Hussman	Meta-programming JRuby for Fun & Profit Neal Ford	iPhone Objective-C integration to Java Web Services Matthew McCullough	Hacking Your Brain for Fun and Profit Nathaniel Schutta

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-Session Schedule-

(event schedule as of March 11, 2009)

Friday, Mar. 13

12:00 - 1:00 PM : REGISTRATION

1:00 - 1:15 PM : WELCOME

1:15 - 2:45 PM - Sessions

Session #1 : REST : Information-Driven Architectures for the 21st Century by Brian Sletten

There is a shift going on in the Enterprise. While still used and useful, the promises of the SOAP/WSDL/UDDI Service-Oriented Architecture (SOA) stack have failed to live up to their promise. A new vision of linked information is enveloping online and Enterprise users. The REST architectural style is squarely behind this thinking as a way of achieving low-cost, flexible integration, increased data security, greater scalability and long-term migration strategies. If you have dismissed REST as a toy or are unfamiliar with it, you owe it to yourself to see what is so interesting about this way of doing things.

Session #2 : The Busy Java Developer's Guide to Java7 by Ted Neward

Even though the Java 7 JSR has yet to be formed, some interesting things are beginning to emerge from Sun about what Java7 may include when its formal release contents are finally made public.

Session #3 : So you want to be an Architect by Ken Sipe

This session is a quick look at all aspects of being a corporate software architect. Whether you are a developer looking to move into the role of architect, needing to have an understanding of what is expected or already in the role of software architect looking for new and interesting ideas, this session is for you.

Session #4 : JSF 2.0: An Introduction by David Geary

This session introduces JSF 2.0 fundamentals, with emphasis on new features in JSF 2.0. *Prerequisite: Familiarity with JSF, or other component-based frameworks*

Session #5 : Agile, Relevance Style by Stuart Halloway

The Agile Manifesto, like any good scripture, admits of many interpretations. There is no one "right path." What works for us may not work for you. At Relevance we have tried many paths, and learned many lessons. Join us to see dozens of ideas that have worked for us, plus some that haven't.

2:45 - 3:15 PM : BREAK

3:15 - 4:45 PM - Sessions

Session #6 : RESTlet for the Weary by Brian Sletten

If you have started to take a look at REST as way of exposing web services or managing information spaces, you may be frustrated by the support offered by legacy containers. There is no direct support for REST concepts in the J2EE specs (yet). XML-based configurations are so 1990's. Come learn about Restlets, a little API that has caught the attention of many in the RESTafarian community. *Prerequisite: Give it a REST (unless you are very comfortable with REST)*

Session #7 : The Busy Java Developer's Guide to Java Platform Security by Ted Neward

Permissions, policy, SecurityExceptions, oh my! The Java platform is a rich and powerful platform, complete with a rich and powerful security mechanism, but sometimes understanding it and how it works can be daunting and intimidating, and leave developers with the basic impression that it's mysterious and dark and incomprehensible. Nothing could be further from the truth, and in this presentation, we'll take a pragmatic, code-first look at the Java security platform, including Permissions, the SecurityManager and its successor, AccessController, the Policy class and policy file syntax, JAAS, and more.

Session #8 : Debugging your Production JVM by Ken Sipe

So your server is having issues? memory? Connections? Limited response? Is the first solution to bounce the server? Perhaps change some VM flags or add some logging? In today's Java 6 world, with its superior runtime monitoring and management capabilities the reasons to the bounce the server have been greatly reduced.

Session #9 : JSF 2.0: Advanced Topics by David Geary

This session covers advanced aspects of JSF 2.0. *Prerequisite: Familiarity with JSF, or other component-based frameworks. Familiarity with Ajax. This session builds on demos shown in the JSF 2.0 Introduction talk, so it is helpful, although not required, if you attend the intro talk before coming to this session.*

Session #10 : Taking Agile From Tactics to Strategy by Stuart Halloway

Teams adopting agile should begin at a tactical level, but they shouldn't end there. The Agile Manifesto operates at many different levels. Learn to apply the principles of agile at a strategic level. Otherwise you can have a great agile ground game and still lose.

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4:45 - 5:00 PM : BREAK

5:00 - 6:30 PM - Sessions

Session #11 : Semantic SOA : Meaningful Service Strategies by Brian Sletten

The goal for web services was always to reduce our burden by increasing the potential for reuse of business functionality. Somehow, we got lost along the way in a morass of confusing, unfulfilling and downright broken technologies. While we are interested in pursuing REST-based systems for managing information, we need some strategies for tying it all together sensibly. If we abandon WSDL, SOAP and UDDI, what do we replace them with? This talk will walk you through combining resource-oriented strategies with technologies from the Semantic Web to describe, find, and bind to services in dynamic, flexible and extensible ways. **Prerequisite:** *The Semantic Web: The Future Now, Give it a REST and SPARQL : Querying the Data Web would all be helpful talks to have attended*

Session #12 : The Busy Java Developer's Guide to Advanced Platform Security by Ted Neward

So you know the platform security model, and now you want to use it in new and interesting ways, like creating a custom Policy implementation, a custom Permission, or create a custom security context in which code will execute. Perhaps you even wish to make certain objects accessible only to those with the right permissions, or cryptographic key. Nothing could be easier, despite Java security's reputation as a dark and arcane place. **Prerequisite:** *The Busy Java Developer's Guide to Platform Security*

Session #13 : 7 Habits of Highly Effective Developers by Ken Sipe

Thoughts lead to words, words lead to action, actions lead to habits. In this session we'll sharpen the development saw in the process of understanding what makes a hyper-productive programmer. The focus will consist of developer habits and development processes.

Session #14 : Flex for Java Developers by David Geary

An introduction to Flex for Java developers. **Prerequisite:** *Familiarity with Flex and at least one other web application framework*

Session #15 : IZero: Starting Projects Right by Stuart Halloway

If an iteration is the heartbeat of an agile development process, then Iteration Zero (IZero) creates the heart. While you can (and should) retrospect and adjust throughout the software lifecycle, few things are as valuable as a good start. In this talk, you will learn how we run Iteration Zero at Relevance.

6:30 - 7:15 PM : DINNER

Keynote: Keynote: On the Lam from the Furniture Police - Neal Ford

Saturday, Mar. 14

8:00 - 9:00 AM : BREAKFAST

9:00 - 10:30 AM - Sessions

Session #16 : Emergent Design & Evolutionary Architecture by Neal Ford

Most of the software world has realized that BDUF (Big Design Up Front) doesn't work well in software. But lots of developers struggle with this notion when it applies to architecture and design. Surely you can't just start coding, right? You need some level of understanding before you can start work. This session describes the current thinking about emergent design & evolutionary architecture, including both proactive (test-driven development) and reactive (refactoring, composed method) approaches to discovering design. The goal of this talk is to provide nomenclature, strategies, and techniques for allowing design to emerge from projects as they proceed, keeping you code in sync with the problem domain.

Session #17 : Introduction to NetKernel : Software for the 21st Century by Brian Sletten

Imagine the simplicity of REST married to the power of Unix pipes with the benefits of a loosely-coupled, logically-layered architecture. If that is hard to imagine, it may be because the architectures available to you today are convoluted accretions of mismatched technologies, languages, abstractions and data models. NetKernel is a disruptive technology that changes the game. It has been quietly gaining mind share in the past several years; people who are exposed to it don't want to go back to the tired and blue conventions of J2EE and .NET. Not only does it make building the kinds of systems you are building today easier, it does it more efficiently, with less code and a far more scalable runway to allow you to take advantage of the emerging multi-core, multi-CPU hardware that is coming our way. Come see how this open source / commercial product can change the way you think about building software.

Session #18 : Programming Clojure by Stuart Halloway

Find out why Clojure is Java.next: * Clojure provides clean, fast access to all Java libraries. * Clojure provides all the low-ceremony goodness you know and love from dynamic languages such as Ruby and Python. * Clojure includes Lisp's signature feature: Treating code as data through macros. * Clojure's emphasis on immutability and support for software transactional memory make it a viable option for taking advantage of massively parallel hardware.

Session #19 : GWT: An Introduction by David Geary

An introduction to Google Web Toolkit. **Prerequisite:** *Familiarity with a component-based framework, preferably a desktop application framework*

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Session #20 : Architecture: Non-Functional Requirements by Ken Sipe

The agile focus of software development puts heavy focus on user requirements through user stories. However we can not lose sight of the non-functional requirements as well. The software could be written to the exact specification and desire of the user, however if it takes 5 minutes for a request response, or it only supports 2 users or it isn't secure, then we still haven't done our jobs as developers.

10:30 - 11:00 AM : BREAK

11:00 - 12:30 PM - Sessions

Session #21 : Real-world Refactoring by Neal Ford

Refactoring is a fine academic exercise in the perfect world, but we don't really live there. Even with the best intentions, projects build up technical debt and cruffy bad things. This session covers refactoring in the real world, at both the atomic level (how to refactor towards composed method and the single level of abstraction principle) to larger project strategies for multi-day refactoring efforts. This talk provides practical strategies for real projects to effectively refactor your code.

Session #22 : Advanced NetKernel : Software for the 21st Century by Brian Sletten

If you have come to the NetKernel overview talk and came away compelled but unsure how to proceed, this talk will jump right in to building real resource-oriented systems with NetKernel. We will move away from the theoretical mind-melting right into the applied mind-melting. It is difficult to make the shift away from an object-oriented model, but this talk will demonstrate several examples of how and why you may want to. It will also include a preview of what is coming in NetKernel 4. This is kind of a REST + Polyglot Programming + SOA + Architecture talk all rolled up into one. **Prerequisite:** *Intro to NetKernel : Software for the 21st Century, Give it a REST (if unfamiliar with REST)*

Session #23 : What's New in Spring 3 by Ken Sipe

The Spring Framework has led the industry in innovation for years. Starting with dependency injection and promoting testing through removal of framework dependencies. Spring 3.0 continues that innovation in a way that takes full advantage of the Java 5 platform. There are a number of significant changes to the framework. So whether you are new to the framework or an experience Spring developer, this is a great session to come up to speed on the latest from SpringSource. **Prerequisite:** *Java 5*

Session #24 : GWT: Advanced Topics by David Geary

Learn to do really cool stuff with GWT. **Prerequisite:** *Knowledge of topics covered in the GWT introduction session*

Session #25 : Producing Software Groove by David Hussman

Where software production is successful, there are people drawing out common strengths and raising awareness around unhealthy habits. These software producers, often called "coaches", possess named and unnamed skills of all types. You will learn idea for producing (coaching) the adoption and the adaption of pragmatic agility. You will learn common and uncommon practices as we work with (and get to know) several examples based on actual communities with varying degrees of experience using agile methods.

12:30 - 1:30 PM : LUNCH

1:30 - 3:00 PM - Sessions

Session #26 : The Productive Programmer: Mechanics by Neal Ford

Developers from the 1980s would be shocked at how inefficiently developers use their computers because of the advent of graphical operating systems. This talk describes how to reclaim productivity afforded by intelligent use of command lines and other ways of accelerating your interaction with the computer and bending computers to do your bidding. Stop working so hard for your computer!

Session #27 : The Busy Java Developer's Guide to the OpenJDK by Ted Neward

With the release of the OpenJDK source code, Java developers have been given a unique opportunity to peer inside the hood of the JVM, see what's there, and how Java code actually executes.

Session #28 : Programming Scala by Venkat Subramaniam

Scala is a static fully object-oriented, functional language on the JVM. While taking advantage of the functional aspects, you can continue to make full use of the powerful JVM and Java libraries.

Session #29 : Java Memory, Performance and the Garbage Collector by Ken Sipe

You are using Java, whew!!! No need to worry about memory, the garbage collector will handle that. Those who have had a memory issue in Java are not so naive any more. Often memory utilization and heap sizes are an after thought and are not recognized until the application is in production, often caused by application uptime, production request volume or production sets of data. When the OutOfMemory Error occurs, often the science of development seems to brake down and knobs are turned. First the (-mx) maximum heap space gets adjusted... More is better right. The next OutOfMemory, heads start scratching, code reviews start in earnest, and Google gets several new hits. Did you know that it is possible to get an OutOfMemory error without running out of heap space?

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Session #30 : Going Beyond "Hello Agile": Your Questions and Mine by David Hussman

If you are truly working to get value from agile methods, and you have been doing it for some time, you probably have some questions which go beyond "my first agile project." If you are looking for a place to get answers or hear where and how others are struggling, come to this session ready to ask your tough questions. I have coached many communities (of all shapes and sizes) adopt, adapt, and evolve agility beyond the first project or the first few months, and I am sure there will be no shortage of examples and experiences for you questions. Also, I am sure you will learn from others in the audience as well.

3:00 - 3:15 PM : BREAK

3:15 - 4:45 PM - Sessions

Session #31 : Open Source Debugging Tools by Matthew McCullough

Open Source is not just a suite of libraries you consume within your application, but now reaches into the space of tools to help you troubleshoot and improve your applications. Tools such as VisualVM help you analyze your heap and garbage collection cycles of both local and remote applications. Performance and load frameworks such as Selenium and JMeter expose bottlenecks, threading, and scalability concerns of everything from Java modules to Web Apps (even ones that don't use any Java). **Prerequisite:** *Basic knowledge of web services, core Java, web application design.*

Session #32 : The Busy Java Developer's Guide to Collections by Ted Neward

For so many Java developers, the java.util.* package consists of List, ArrayList, and maybe Map and HashMap. But the Collections classes are so much more powerful than many of us are led to believe, and all it requires is a small amount of digging and some simple exploration to begin to "get" the real power of the Collection classes.

Session #33 : Hacking - The Dark Arts by Ken Sipe

A live Hacking demonstration exposing the tools and techniques used by Hackers.

Session #34 : Building External DSLs by Venkat Subramaniam

Domain Specific Languages (DSLs) are languages targeted at a particular problem and domain. They have context and are fluent. They help users of applications at various levels to easily communicate with your application. Developing DSLs, however, are not easy. You could easily get dragged into using parsers and tools with steep learning curve.

Session #35 : Hands-on Agile Development by Neal Ford

BRING YOUR LAPTOP WITH YOU, BUT A LAPTOP ISN'T REQUIRED! Reading and hearing about agile practices is one thing, but actually doing it is completely different. This session puts you to work in an agile fashion, applying agile developer practices.

4:45 - 5:30 PM : BIRDS OF A FEATHER SESSION

Sunday, Mar. 15

8:00 - 9:00 AM : BREAKFAST

9:00 - 10:30 AM - Sessions

Session #36 : CSS For Developers by Nathaniel Schutta

By now, developers know they aren't supposed to use tables for layout but despite good intentions, most look at CSS as a black art. While schooled in algorithms and data structures, when it comes to CSS, most of us just copy, paste and pray. This talk will remove some of the mystery surrounding styling web applications. We'll cover the basics and show you how libraries like YUI can make things even easier.

Session #37 : Git Going with Distributed Version Control by Matthew McCullough

Many development shops have made the leap from RCS, Perforce, ClearCase, PVCS, CVS, BitKeeper or SourceSafe to the modern Subversion (SVN) version control system. But why not take the next massive stride in productivity and get on board with Git, a distributed version control system. Jump ahead of the masses staying on Subversion, and increase your team's productivity, debugging effectiveness, flexibility in cutting releases, and repository and connectivity redundancy (at \$0 cost). Understand how distributed version control systems (DVCSes) are game-changers and pick up the lingo that will become standard in the next few years. **Prerequisite:** *Basic understanding of Subversion or similar version control system*

Session #38 : Test Driven Design by Neal Ford

Most developers think that "TDD" stands for Test-driven Development. But it really should stand for "Test-driven Design". Rigorously using TDD makes your code much better in multiple ways.

Session #39 : Effective Java by Venkat Subramaniam

Java is a well established language, that has been around for more than a decade. Yet, programming on it has its challenges. There are concepts and features that are tricky. When you run into those, the compiler is not there to help you.

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Session #40 : Surviving Middle Management by David Bock

Most good developers eventually have the opportunity to be managers. Whether they call you the "project manager", "Technical Lead", "Lead Developer", or some other classic middle-management title, you become the 'goto' guy between management and developers. You're the guy who is expected to keep the project in-line, track a schedule, and occasionally answer the question "How's it going?", and perhaps still contribute at a technical level. So how do you do that?

10:30 - 11:00 AM : MORNING BREAK

11:00 - 12:30 PM - Sessions

Session #41 : Making Web Apps Suck Less by Nathaniel Schutta

We've all used web applications that had us screaming at their creators - unfortunately sometimes we're the ones being cursed. Believe it or not, there are some simple steps we can take to ensure that our users have a great experience. We'll talk about the role of testing, easy ways to make a web site perform as well as where Ajax can help give a richer experience.

Session #42 : Maintaining Project Integrity with JDepend, Macker, PMD, Maven, and other open source tools by David Bock

How many times have you started a new project only to find that several months into it, you have a big ball of code you have to plod through to try to get anything done? How many times have you been the ?new guy? on an established project where it seems like the code grew more like weeds and brambles than a well-tended garden? With a few good structural guidelines and several tools to help analyze the code, we can keep our project from turning into that big ball of mud, and we can salvage a project that is already headed down that path.

Session #43 : Pragmatic Domain Specific Languages by Neal Ford

This talk covers practical concerns for both writing and consuming DSLs, covering internal DSLs, DSL building patterns and antipatterns, and how to leverage language features to make writing DSLs easier.

Session #44 : Know your Groovy? by Venkat Subramaniam

Groovy brings the dynamic productivity to the Java platform. One of the strengths of Groovy is the seamless integration with Java—it preserves the Java semantics. However, Groovy does have some differences that can surprise you if you're not expecting.

Session #45 : Architecture and Agility Are Not Mutually Exclusive by David Hussman

Being agile does not mean living life one iteration at a time. Agile projects without a long view can run into the common design problems of the past. Planning iteration by iteration is often foolish and feeds the myth that agile projects do not think beyond a few weeks. Successful agile projects plan within iterations and across iterations. The later planning is called release planning and it is the forum where agility first engages architecture and other cross cutting concerns.

12:30 - 1:15 PM : LUNCH

1:15 - 2:15 PM : EXPERT PANEL DISCUSSION

2:15 - 3:45 PM - Sessions

Session #46 : Design Patterns in Java and Groovy by Venkat Subramaniam

You're most likely familiar with the Gang-of-four design patterns and how to implement them in Java. However, you wouldn't want to implement those patterns in a similar way in Groovy. Furthermore, there are a number of other useful patterns that you can apply in Java and Groovy. In this presentation we'll look at two things: How to use patterns in Groovy and beyond Gang-of-four patterns in Groovy and Java.

Session #47 : Internationalization and Localization in Java by David Bock

Internationalization and Localization in Java is easy, right? Everyone knows you just store your strings in some resource bundles, set the locale, wave your hands a little bit, and your application is good-to-go. Right? Maybe not... Java provides some great utilities to get started, but leaves you needing more when it comes to things like screen layout, cultural sensitivities, semantic differences in translation, use of color and iconography, and other issues.

Session #48 : Regular Expressions in Java by Neal Ford

Regular expressions should be an integral part of every developer's toolbox, but most don't realize what an important topic it is. Regular expressions have existed for decades, but many developers don't understand how to take full advantage of this powerful mechanism, either through command line tools and editors or in their development.

Session #49 : Mastering Maven 2.0 by Matthew McCullough

Maven has been on the Java build tools scene for quite a number of years, but the adoption rate in enterprises is now going through the roof. Maven can seem daunting, but this presentation will equip you with efficient techniques and tools to overcome hurdles and troubleshoot build issues with ease. We'll examine tools to help you find artifacts in central repositories, manage your corporation's internal Maven artifacts with a proxy tool such as Nexus, view and override dependency graphs, dependency management and

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multi-module best practices, create OS specific profiles, and leverage the latest Maven plugins for the top Java IDEs. **Prerequisite:** *Basic Maven knowledge*

Session #50 : Project Bootstrapping by Nathaniel Schutta

Ah, that new project smell, it's intoxicating! Full of hope, we trek off in pursuit of technical greatness. In this talk, we'll cover some of the important first steps of a new project including continuous integration, creating a testing culture and establishing low ceremony process.

3:45 - 4:00 PM : BREAK

4:00 - 5:30 PM - Sessions

Session #51 : Agile Testing by Venkat Subramaniam

How is testing done on agile projects? Do we need testers when programmers can write tests? When do we do test? If the requirements are evolving, should we postpone testing until they stabilize?

Session #52 : What Is Lean And Why Do You Care? by David Hussman

Whether it was intentional or not, the agile community has been borrowing successful ideas from the lean manufacturing for years. Lean practices, like finding and removing wasteful work, can be applied without needing special permission or certification. Ideas like kanban (visual planning aids) and kaizen (continuous learning) are simple, helpful tools that are easily applied and produce great results.

Session #53 : Meta-programming JRuby for Fun & Profit by Neal Ford

Ruby is the revenge of the Smalltalkers. Not since Smalltalk has a language had such powerful meta-programming facilities. While this may seem like a minor feature, it turns out that surgical meta-programming allows solutions to problems that are clearer, more concise, more maintainable, and take orders of magnitudes fewer lines of code.

Session #54 : iPhone Objective-C integration to Java Web Services by Matthew McCullough

iPhone development is all the rage both in the mobile entertainment, social networking, and productivity application spaces. As a Java developer, prepare yourself to be a participant in aspects of this new breed and platform of development. Hop on board with a quick start to iPhone application coding in Objective C and integration with some of our favorite Java web service back-ends such as Axis, JSR311 Jersey, Spring-WS, and more.

Session #55 : Hacking Your Brain for Fun and Profit by Nathaniel Schutta

The single most important tool in any developers toolbox isn't a fancy IDE or some spiffy new language - it's our brain. Despite ever faster processors with multiple cores and expanding amounts of RAM, we haven't yet created a computer to rival the ultra lightweight one we carry around in our skulls - in this session we'll learn how to make the most of it. We'll talk about why multitasking is a myth, the difference between the left and the right side of your brain, the importance of flow and why exercise is good for more than just your waist line.