

Lone Star Software Symposium

Crowne Plaza Suites Dallas

June 5 - 7, 2009

<http://www.nofluffjuststuff.com/conference/dallas/2009/06/index.html>

Fri, Jun. 05, 2009				
	1	2	3	4
12:00 - 1:00 PM	REGISTRATION			
1:00 - 1:15 PM	WELCOME			
1:15 - 2:45 PM	The Busy Java Developer's Guide to Java7 Ted Neward	Architecture and Scaling Ken Sipe	Programming Scala Venkat Subramaniam	IZero: Starting Projects Right Stuart Halloway
2:45 - 3:15 PM	BREAK			
3:15 - 4:45 PM	The Busy Java Developer's Guide to Java Platform Security Ted Neward	So you want to be an Architect Ken Sipe	Effective Java Venkat Subramaniam	Refactoring JavaScript Stuart Halloway
4:45 - 5:00 PM	BREAK			
5:00 - 6:30 PM	The Busy Java Developer's Guide to Advanced Platform Security Ted Neward	Spring 2.5/3 Without XML Ken Sipe	Cleaning up Code Smell Venkat Subramaniam	Git control of your source Stuart Halloway
6:30 - 7:15 PM	DINNER			
7:15 - 8:00 PM	Keynote: Venkat Subramaniam			

Sat, Jun. 06, 2009				
	1	2	3	4
8:00 - 9:00 AM	BREAKFAST			
9:00 - 10:30 AM	Hacking - The Dark Arts Ken Sipe	Modular Java: Intro to OSGi Craig Walls	Test Driven Design Neal Ford	Java.next #1: Common Ground Stuart Halloway
10:30 - 11:00 AM	BREAK			
11:00 - 12:30 PM	Security Boundaries Ken Sipe	The Busy Java Developer's Guide to ClassLoaders Ted Neward	The Productive Programmer: Mechanics Neal Ford	Programming Clojure Stuart Halloway
12:30 - 1:30 PM	LUNCH			
1:30 - 3:00 PM	Emergent Design & Evolutionary Architecture Neal Ford	Beyond JUnit: Powertools for Test-Driven Development Craig Walls	JSF 2.0: An Introduction David Geary	Java Memory, Performance and the Garbage Collector Ken Sipe
3:00 - 3:15 PM	BREAK			
3:15 - 4:45 PM	Real-world Refactoring Neal Ford	The Busy Java Developer's Guide to Collections Ted Neward	JSF 2.0: Advanced Topics David Geary	The Amazing Groovy Weight-loss Plan Scott Davis
4:45 - 5:45 PM	BIRDS OF A FEATHER SESSION			

Sun, Jun. 07, 2009				
	1	2	3	4
8:00 - 9:00 AM	BREAKFAST			
9:00 - 10:30 AM	High Performance Projects Srivaths Sankaran	REST : Information-Driven Architectures for the 21st Century Brian Sletten	GWT: An Introduction David Geary	Groovy XML Ninja Skills Scott Davis
10:30 - 11:00 AM	MORNING BREAK			
11:00 - 12:30 PM	7 Habits of Highly Effective Developers Ken Sipe	RESTlet for the Weary Brian Sletten	GWT: Advanced Topics David Geary	Groovy Testing Scott Davis
12:30 - 1:15 PM	LUNCH			
1:15 - 2:15 PM	EXPERT PANEL DISCUSSION			
2:15 - 3:45 PM	Construction Techniques for Domain Specific Languages Neal Ford	SPARQL: Querying the Data Web Brian Sletten	Become a Maven maven Srivaths Sankaran	Dim Sum Grails: A Sampler of Practical Non Database-Driven Grails Applications Scott Davis
3:45 - 4:00 PM	BREAK			
4:00 - 5:30 PM	Communication Skills for Geeks Neal Ford	Semantic SOA : Meaningful Service Strategies Brian Sletten	Developer Essentials Srivaths Sankaran	Web 2.0 Checklist: Deconstructing Modern Websites Scott Davis

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-Session Schedule-

(event schedule as of June 3, 2009)

Friday, Jun. 5

12:00 - 1:00 PM : REGISTRATION

1:00 - 1:15 PM : WELCOME

1:15 - 2:45 PM - Sessions

Session #1 : 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 #2 : Architecture and Scaling by Ken Sipe

Scale... what is scale... how do you applications that are scalable. How do you know if the application scales?

Session #3 : 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 #4 : 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.

2:45 - 3:15 PM : BREAK

3:15 - 4:45 PM - Sessions

Session #5 : 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 #6 : 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 #7 : 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.

Session #8 : Refactoring JavaScript by Stuart Halloway

The rise of Ajax and Rich Web Applications, plus the success of dynamic languages, has caused people to revisit the JavaScript language. Now that we take JavaScript seriously as a language, it is time to get serious about the quality of JavaScript code, through refactoring. In this talk, we will approach refactoring JavaScript in three phases: Test first, then refactor. Bring JavaScript code under test, so that you can refactor with confidence. Refactoring 101. Explore some important refactorings: composed method, extract method, introduce named parameter, and extract object Common problems. Work through three problems endemic to legacy JavaScript code: making JavaScript unobtrusive, refactoring to prototype-based inheritance, and refactoring to functional style.

4:45 - 5:00 PM : BREAK

5:00 - 6:30 PM - Sessions

Session #9 : 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 #10 : Spring 2.5/3 Without XML by Ken Sipe

Spring 3 is brand spanking new, with a number of fantastic features. With growth of large and complex Spring applications which struggle with xml manageability and with the added pressure of Guice and SEAM there is a push for less XML, with solution leaning

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towards annotations. Spring 2.5 adds to the toolset provided in Spring 2.0 to provide a development environment where XML is greatly reduced... or eliminated if you so choose.

Session #11 : Cleaning up Code Smell by Venkat Subramaniam

Projects often start out simple, but soon become complex and turn into a lose cannon. Organizations are struggling to maintain and evolve software. Poor code quality is a significant part of that problem. Improving the quality of code is critical to success of enterprise projects.

Session #12 : Git control of your source by Stuart Halloway

Git is not the next step in evolution of centralized source control, following in the footsteps of cvs, svn, etc. These tools provide centralized history of deltas, where git provides distributed history of trees of content. In this talk, you will see the advantages of the git approach: Incredible speed. Local, disconnected operation. Source control workflow customized to your team. Centralized, distributed, or layered, you can build it with git. Cheap and easy branching, tagging, and merging. Editing and refactoring your commits.

6:30 - 7:15 PM : DINNER

Keynote: \$presentation.title - Venkat Subramaniam

Saturday, Jun. 6

8:00 - 9:00 AM : BREAKFAST

9:00 - 10:30 AM - Sessions

Session #13 : Hacking - The Dark Arts by Ken Sipe

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

Session #14 : Modular Java: Intro to OSGi by Craig Walls

The secret weapon for attacking complexity in any project is to break it down into smaller, cohesive, and more easily digestible pieces. Unfortunately, Java lacks critical ingredients necessary to achieve true modularity.

Session #15 : 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 #16 : Java.next #1: Common Ground by Stuart Halloway

In this talk, we will explore and compare four of the most interesting new JVM languages: Clojure, Groovy, JRuby, and Scala. Each of these languages aims to greatly simplify writing code for the JVM, and all of them succeed in this mission. However, these languages have very different design goals. We will explore these differences, and help you decide when and where these languages might fit into your development toolkit. For more information see <http://blog.thinkrelevance.com/2008/8/4/java-next-common-ground>.

10:30 - 11:00 AM : BREAK

11:00 - 12:30 PM - Sessions

Session #17 : Security Boundaries by Ken Sipe

Security is a large concern in today's world of software development. Security is a multi-dimensional problem requiring skills at a number of different levels. This session is a security overview of a typical Java web development stack.

Session #18 : The Busy Java Developer's Guide to ClassLoaders by Ted Neward

If you've ever gotten a ClassCastException and just knew the runtime was wrong about it, or found yourself copying .jar files all over your production server just to get your code to run, then you probably find the Java ClassLoader mechanism to be deep, dark, mysterious, and incomprehensible. Take a deep breath, and relax--ClassLoaders aren't as bad as they seem at first, once you understand a few basic rules regarding their operation, and have a bit more tools in your belt to diagnose ClassLoader problems. And once you've got that, and hear about ClassLoaders' ability to run multiple versions of the same code at the same time, and to provide isolation barriers inside your application, or even compile code on the fly from source form, you might just find that you like ClassLoaders after all... maybe.

Session #19 : 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!

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Session #20 : 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.

12:30 - 1:30 PM : LUNCH

1:30 - 3:00 PM - Sessions

Session #21 : 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 #22 : Beyond JUnit: Powertools for Test-Driven Development by Craig Walls

Writing tests is more than just writing JUnit test cases and hoping that they'll pass when your project is built. If you want assurance that your code is sound and provides the desired functionality, then you'll want to test it from every angle and run those tests as frequently as possible.

Session #23 : 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 #24 : 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?

3:00 - 3:15 PM : BREAK

3:15 - 4:45 PM - Sessions

Session #25 : 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 #26 : 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 #27 : 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 #28 : The Amazing Groovy Weight-loss Plan by Scott Davis

"The central enemy of reliability is complexity." (Dr. Daniel Geer) Java is a powerful programming language. A smart developer can do nearly anything with Java. So the next question is, "How quickly can it be done? How many lines of code does it take to do common tasks?" Groovy greases the wheels of Java by decreasing the complexity of the language while preserving the raw power. At first glance, you might think that this talk is simply about how Groovy drastically reduces the lines of code you need to write. What this talk is really about is bringing simplicity, clarity, readability, and yes, beauty to your source code.

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

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Sunday, Jun. 7

8:00 - 9:00 AM : BREAKFAST

9:00 - 10:30 AM - Sessions

Session #29 : High Performance Projects by Srivaths Sankaran

Unsuccessful projects dominate the landscape of IT projects by a wide margin. Retrospectives are common occurrences and the advent of newer project delivery techniques hasn't proven to be the miracle cure. Some projects have lemon written all over them at the time of arrival and others just wither away for want of proper care and feeding. This talk introduces you to a variety of project problems and how to address them. You will learn techniques that will get you off on the right foot and habits that will ensure smooth progress throughout the project's lifecycle. The net result will be a project that hits its target and a customer that is happy.

Session #30 : 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 #31 : GWT: An Introduction by David Geary

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

Session #32 : Groovy XML Ninja Skills by Scott Davis

"XML is like violence: if it doesn't solve your problem, you aren't using enough of it." (Anonymous) XML is everywhere. Whether you are dealing with local configuration files (web.xml, struts-config.xml) or remote web services (SOAP, REST, RSS, Atom), the modern software developer needs to be able to request, slice, and dice XML with ease. That requires a set of razor-sharp tools that reduce the inherent complexity of the problem, not multiply it. Once you see XML tremble in fear at the awesome power of Groovy, you'll wonder what you ever did without it.

10:30 - 11:00 AM : MORNING BREAK

11:00 - 12:30 PM - Sessions

Session #33 : 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 #34 : 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:** *REST (unless you are very comfortable with REST)*

Session #35 : GWT: Advanced Topics by David Geary

Learn to do really cool stuff with GWT. **Prerequisite:** *The GWT: Introduction session is not a prerequisite for this session, but it will help if you have some familiarity with GWT.*

Session #36 : Groovy Testing by Scott Davis

"Tests don't break things; they dispel the illusion that it works." (Anonymous) In this era of "Test-First" and "Test-Driven" development, the modern software engineer knows that testing is no longer an optional part of the process. You need to have the best tools at your fingertips: a set of utilities that maximize your results with a minimum of effort. Groovy offers Java developers an optimal set of testing tools.

12:30 - 1:15 PM : LUNCH

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

2:15 - 3:45 PM - Sessions

Session #37 : Construction Techniques for Domain Specific Languages by Neal Ford

This talk covers language techniques in Java, Groovy, and Ruby on how and why to create DSLs, and also covers the very important topic of implicit context, and how language constructs can allow you to write less verbose and more expressive code.

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Session #38 : SPARQL: Querying the Data Web by Brian Sletten

The human-friendly Web is about nicely-formatted, accessible content for users to browse. There is an emerging Data Web that relies on technologies from the Semantic Web stack to link increasingly rich connections between various data sources. SPARQL and RDF are the main tools for expressing and using this connectivity. This talk will introduce you to one of the practical and accessible aspects of employing these ideas on the Web and in the Enterprise. **Prerequisite:** *The Semantic Web: The Future, Now and Rich Web Pages* : *Publishing Semantic Content with GRDDL and RDFa* would both be helpful but are not required

Session #39 : Become a Maven maven by Srivaths Sankaran

Wouldn't it be nice if you didn't have to worry about mundane project administrivia? What if all your build, deployment, configuration and documentation problems just disappeared? We will see how you can do just that with Maven. This session will introduce you to Maven. It will teach you how to use it to set up your project & effortlessly manage dependencies. You will learn how easy it is to tailor it for your specific needs. Using Maven, developing professional documentation including reports from several popular quality and metrics gathering tools is a snap. By the end of this session, you will be a true Maven maven.

Session #40 : Dim Sum Grails: A Sampler of Practical Non Database-Driven Grails Applications by Scott Davis

"The proof of the pudding is in the eating. By a small sample we may judge of the whole piece." (Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra) Most Grails tutorials demonstrate how easy it is to build simple CRUD (Create/Retrieve/Update/Delete) applications. While skinning a database with a web front-end is undeniably one beneficial aspect of Grails, isn't the only thing Grails is good for. As you'll see here, Grails can be used to build a wide variety of web applications. You won't see a single HTML table with "edit" and "delete" links, I promise.

3:45 - 4:00 PM : BREAK

4:00 - 5:30 PM - Sessions

Session #41 : Communication Skills for Geeks by Neal Ford

Software is fundamentally a communications game, and good skills differentiates between good and great developers. This session describes communication techniques and skills to people who skipped English 102 to hack some code. I talk about effective communication techniques for presentations, documentation, memos, and how to sell your technical ideas to a non-technical crowd.

Session #42 : 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 #43 : Developer Essentials by Srivaths Sankaran

Creating great code gets harder every day. But using the right tool, and embracing tried & tested habits can greatly improve your productivity. This session will focus on such tools and other quality enhancing techniques. You will also learn specific habits that will help you shine and elevate you above the masses.

Session #44 : Web 2.0 Checklist: Deconstructing Modern Websites by Scott Davis

"The challenge of modernity is to live without illusions and without becoming disillusioned." (Antonio Gramsci) There are plenty of sarcastic "Web 2.0" checklists out there -- be perpetually in BETA, when in doubt add rounded corners, etc. While we can all laugh at the superficial aspects of the Web 2.0 revolution, there are plenty of serious aspects to it as well. Is your website mash-up friendly or hostile? Do you tell your visitors when things change (via RSS or Atom syndication), or do you expect them to check in daily for updates? Is your website a silo or a part of a larger ecosystem?