



NEODBUG

ELECTRONIC NEWS:

Jan / Feb 2002

Official Newsletter of the Northeast Ohio Database User Group

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CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

I hope all of you had a great Holiday Season. Some of us were not buried by the snow and ice, thankfully. This year it was especially difficult for me to come back after vacation. Once again, I feel honored to be returning as a member of the Board of Trustees and Chairman. I will work hard to continue the fine work performed by the 2001 Board. I want to thank the members of 2001's Board of Trustees for all of their hard work. There was a lot accomplished during last year, including:

- Last year, NEODBUG hosted presentations covering Oracle as well as IBM databases, continuing our coverage of any database product able to reside in mixed environments. The Internet even crept into our presentations and had an impact with presentations such as "Database Web Integration" by Mike Sneizak.
- We were also able to bring in speakers such as:
 - Bonnie Baker, an internationally known consultant and trainer with two presentations: "Things I Wish They'd Told Me 8 Years Ago, Part V" and "DB2 Explain Explained." This was our first Special Educational Meeting and it was a rousing success.
 - Claude Williams Jr., a Senior DB2 Systems Consultant with Computer Associates, presenting: "What's New in DB2 V7"
 - Patrick Gannon, a consultant with IBM's Silicon Valley Lab working for the DB2 for S/390 Porting Center and Services Group presenting a white paper and discussion on *DB2 Piecesize in Regards to Database Contention and an in-depth* discussion on two DB2 V7 topics: "Online Subsystem parameters and History Statistics."
 - Willie Favero, then a principal consultant at BMC Software and now with IBM Corporation, talking about "DB2 for OS/390 Locking."
 - Greg Miller, Director of Technical Support for North America at CDB Software, Inc., with a presentation entitled: "Fully Automated Utilities: Not Just A Thing Of The Future!"
 - Todd Burch, Director of Solutions and Strategy for CDB Software presenting "Color Your REORG Intelligent".
 - Jeff Mucher, a DB2 UDB Systems Consultant for Quest Software, presenting "Oracle vs. DB2 Unix/ Windows Examining Architectural Differences."
 - Phyllis Groezinger, a DB2 Level 2 technical consultant for IBM giving a presentation is titled: "Inside the Blackbox of Remote Processing."

NEODBUG held its 9th Annual Database and Data Warehouse Tools Fair at Executive Caterers at Landerhaven in association with the North East Ohio Oracle Users Group. There were 17 vendors who participated and we had nearly 189 Pre-registrations and around 140 attendees. Quite a strong showing in a year that was weak for IT, in general and software sales, in particular. This was our 5th Tools Fair to feature a Keynote Speaker: Mike Sneizak, an Enterprise Software Consultant with BMC Software. Feedback received from the Tools Fair confirms the Board's belief that this event is considered very valuable to our membership. The strong attendance even in a down year is the proof.

- All of our efforts to cut our expenses have proven to be successful. While our expenses have increased again, we have been able to hold the line for both annual corporate fees and the quarterly meeting fees for 2002.
- Ceased mailing the newsletter and moved to an email-only notification system for meetings,
- Slightly changed our format for the February meeting into a Special Training Class, taught by Bonnie Baker. The pricing for this class was at a large discount for the membership and we used the profit from this meeting to help build the NEODBUG coffers and decrease or postpone any future increases. The goal was to add this as an "extra event" in 2002.

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CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

For 2002, NEODBUG will be changing, no improving, the offerings that we provide for members of the organization. In addition, the Board of Trustees made some decisions for 2002. These include the following:

- Add the Educational meeting as an extra event for 2002. We hope that this becomes an annual event. The pricing for this class remains discounted for NEODBUG members and we will use the profit from this meeting to help build the NEODBUG coffers and postpone any future increases in our fees. This year, we are bringing Sheryl Larsen to present "Advanced & Complex SQL." The costs for the meeting are:
 - \$199 for Pre-registered Members, \$225 at the door.
 - \$225 for Pre-registered Non-Members, \$250 at the door.
- We are offering two (2) ways to reduce the cost for this Education. First, there is a \$30 credit offered for every 5th pre-registered attendee from the same company. Second, if you have coupons for prepaying 2002 meetings fees, you can apply one of them for \$30 off the price of the class. More details of the class will be sent out in the next week.
- Continue the individual membership level for people whose companies won't approve a corporate membership at the same cost as well.
- NEODBUG is online at www.neodbug.org. While maintaining a website is a challenge, we will be redesigning the site to provide more useful information in addition to the newsletter and links to Websites for various database vendors covered by our organization. We'll let you know when it is complete.
- We will continue to issue email blasts with information about the upcoming meetings, events, IDUG information, etc. This is our only way of communicating with you, so if you have not given us your email address, and there are many of you that have not, please let us know that you would like to be added to that list. Just send an email to neodbug@sps-solutions.com a request to be added to the mailing list.
- We will be accepting email registrations for our regular meetings. However, your registration for any meeting is not confirmed until we receive payment. If payment is not received before the meeting, you will be charged the "at the door" rate for the meetings. We are required to pay for reserved, but unused, lunches and must guarantee the number of attendees to the hotel three (3) business days before the meeting.
- Remember, NEODBUG is still the only *independent* users group dedicated to presenting information about heterogeneous databases. The Board has voted to maintain this status.

None of these accomplishments could have occurred without the support and assistance of the 2001 Board of Trustees. I would like to especially commend the efforts of Kirk Bailey and Carmen Rosa for their relentless efforts to provide an exceptional program for database issues at each and every quarterly meeting. I would like to thank Jim Szabo and Al Solnick for their efforts to keep us on track and under budget during 2001, Bill Moran and Phil Sherman for their good council.

I am saddened at the decision of Theresa Bottiggi not to return to the Board of Trustees. She served us well for several years. We will miss her guidance and tireless efforts to ensure our tools fairs were a success. We wish her good luck in her new endeavors.

NEODBUG

Chairman - Michael James
Secretary - Jim Szabo
Treasurer - Al Solnick

Members of the Board of Trustees for 2001:

Carmen Rosa	Philip Sherman	Bill Moran
Kirk Bailey	Barry Noble	Sue Birgeles

Meeting Fees for 2002 have not changed:

Note: If your company or you are members of NEODBUG:
\$30 pre-registered and \$40 at the door.

If your company or you are NOT members of NEODBUG:
\$40 pre-registered and \$50 at the door.

By this time the Primary Contact at each member company should have received the invoice for 2002 corporate dues. If you have not received these, please contact either Al Solnick or myself to get one. There is only ONE Primary Contact for each member company. *All checks for either Annual Membership Dues or Quarterly Meeting Fees must be made out to:*

**NEODBUG
35000 Chardon Rd., Suite 200
Cleveland, OH 44094**

If your company is reluctant to purchase a NEODBUG corporate membership, inform them that this year, there are the 3 normal meetings, 1 Special Education Event and, hopefully, a Tools Fair. Also, please reflect on one of the responses to the question of the "Name three reasons you attend NEODBUG meetings":

"I consider NEODBUG as a requirement to be able to perform my job."

We are researching whether or not we will sponsor the tools fair for 2002. Our show organizer, Fox Productions, is unable to commit to holding this year's event. **I would like your feedback on whether each of you find value in the tools fair and would like to attend in 2002. This is the only time we allow "commercials" and demos of vendor software to be presented to you. Please email your thoughts about Tools Fairs to neodbugquestion@sps-solutions.com.** We really read your thoughts. Watch for future NEODBUG newsletters and email blasts. We will keep you informed of events as they unfold.

For our February meeting, the Agenda Committee has once again put together a "killer" agenda. We are opening the day with Bryan Smith, a Senior Technical Staff Member with IBM, will present "*DB2 for z/OS Trends and Directions (V7 and beyond)*" and "*Query Parallelism on DB2 for z/OS*".

Bryan has been with IBM for 12 years. Before that, he worked as an IBM customer at the County of Riverside, CA. He joined IBM in the DB2 for MVS Utilities Development group and has since worked in development in the areas of hardware compression, query parallelism, and query compilation. Bryan has worked closely with the Transaction Processing Council's series of benchmarks. In 1999, Bryan took a one-year temporary assignment in Poughkeepsie, NY to help build and run the IBM Design Center for e-transaction processing where he was responsible for all database issues in the design center. Currently, Bryan is working as the CTO of the Data Management Tools group focusing on strategic technical issues including some of the Self-Managing And Resource Tuning (S.M.A.R.T) activities in Data Management. Bryan is a frequent presenter at technical conferences and has received seven software patents in relational database.

After lunch, we have a company talk titled: "*What the Heck is that Explain Plan Trying to Explain?*" presented by Lateefah Hafeez, of KeyBank. This presentation was given at Oracle World 2001 last fall. Yep, here it is, another technical "*expert*" attempting to explain the Explain Plan in terms that any reasonably intelligent individual can understand. However, since she is not exactly a technical expert and being reasonably intelligent may be stretching the parameters a bit, she will make a heroic attempt to share what she has learned about the Explain Plan.

This presentation explains the Who, What, Where, When, Why, and How of the Explain Plan. The focus is to help the novice DBA use the Explain Plan to assist them in tuning their databases, as well as helping them to provide much needed support to their clients (those pesky users). So, my warning to you is, if you can spell *access path*, you are probably too advanced for this paper.

After listening to this presentation, you should be on your way to knowing:

- *How to interpret the output from the explain plan.*
- *What the different joins mean*
- *How changes in the environment affect the performance of the databases.*
- *How to manipulate the access paths to optimize their queries.*

We'll close out the day with Chuck Hoover presenting "*Understand the DB2 for z/OS Sort.*" His presentation includes the correct ordering of result sets is a fundamental function within the relational data model. Sorting is also used for two joining access paths and for eliminating duplicate rows when requested by the DISTINCT and UNION clauses. Finally, sorting is involved with GROUP BY and for creating indexes. Understanding how the DB2 sort works is important for the proper configuration of the sort work area and the physical disk workspace to support sorting.

- The phases of the sorting process in general
- A walk-through of a DB2 sort
- Decisions to be made in configuring resources for sorting
- How to analyze the sort activity in your shop and to tailor the sort to your needs
- A final comparison between the DB2 sort and DFSORT.

Chuck Hoover is semi-retired and works as a consulting database engineer specializing in DB2 for OS/390 in the areas of data base design, capacity planning, performance forecasting, SQL optimization and system tuning. He has written a series of DB2 books and white papers for, and distributed by, the Compuware Corporation.

This year, Chuck completed 40 years in information processing with IBM and Compuware. He has specialized on database for the last 30 years having started with the release of IBM's Information Management System (IMS)/360 Version 2. His experience with the relational model extends for over 20 years and on DB2 since the early installation program for Version 1 Release 1 in 1983. He has conducted seminars and given technical presentations on every continent except for Africa and Antarctica. He is a regularly featured speaker at the SHARE Technical Conference and the International DB2 User Group Conferences.

This first meeting of 2002 will be on **FEBRUARY 7, 2002** at the Hilton Inn South on Rockside Road. **The deadline for pre-registration is Friday, February 1st.** So don't delay. **As always, registration is on a first come, first served basis.**

I hope all of you can attend.

Michael P. James
Chairman

TREASURER'S REPORT

NEODBUG's year-end financial report for 2001 is listed below.
We started 2001 with a net worth of \$ 2930.61

ASSETS

Checking Account	\$ 4,543.09
Savings Account	\$ 1,866.92
TOTAL	\$ 6,410.01

LIABILITIES

Membership Prepayment	\$ 0.00
TOTAL	\$ 0.00

NET WORTH **\$ 6,410.01**

2001 INCOME

Corporate Memberships	\$ 3,055.00
Individual Membership	\$ 25.00
February Meeting	\$23,901.00
May Meeting	\$ 2,591.00
August Meeting	\$ 150.00
November Meeting	\$ 1,510.00
Miscellaneous/ Interest	\$ 350.00
TOTAL	\$31,582.00

2001 EXPENSE

February Meeting	\$20,809.97
May Meeting	\$ 3,234.70
August Meeting	\$ 0.00
November Meeting	\$ 3,114.25
Overhead/ Miscellaneous	\$ 943.68
TOTAL	\$28,102.60

NET INCOME (LOSS) **\$ 3,479.40**

In 2001, the NEODBUG Board decided to send the NEODBUG newsletters exclusively via email, a move that saved us over \$2000 in printing and postage costs. With additional income gained from the Bonnie Baker Education Meeting, we saw our net worth increase by \$3,479.40, making us financially healthier than in the past.

Corporate Membership invoices have been mailed to the contact person at each company. Contact and mailing list names (including e-mail addresses) are on the back of the invoice and need to be filled out and returned with the invoice so we can keep our newsletter mailing database current. If your contact person has not yet received your invoice, please call me at 216-689-0139 so I could fax you a new one. **Memberships will be late and will increase if received after 02/28/2002.** Remember, Corporate Memberships play a large role in keeping this organization afloat, so please be diligent in sending them in. Thanks for your support.

Alan P. Solnick
Treasurer





UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2002

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>City</u>
01/28-01/31/2002	SQL Server Conference - PASS 2001 No. America (Rescheduled)	Denver, CO
2/14/2002	NEODBUG Quarterly Meeting	Independence
2/17 - 02/22/2002	TDWI World Conference-Winter 2002	New Orleans, LA
March 2002	NEODBUG Special Educational Meeting	Independence
04/09-04/13/2002	Microsoft Tech-Ed 2002	New Orleans, LA
04/14-04/18/2002	The International Oracle Users Group Americas (IOUG-A) Live!2002	San Diego, CA
04/21-04/25/2002	CA World	Orlando, FL
05/12-05/16/2002	IDUG 2002 — North America (DB2)	San Diego, CA
05/12-05/17/2002	TDWI World Conference-Spring 2002	San Diego, CA
5/23/2002	NEODBUG Quarterly Meeting	Independence
June 2002	Gartner Storage Conference 2002	Palm Desert, California
06/17-06/21/2002	Oracle Development Tools Users Group	Las Vegas, NV
08/05-08/09/2002	Sybase TechWave '2002	San Diego, CA
08/18-08/23/2002	'TDWI World Conference-Summer 2002	Las Vegas, NV
August 2002	NEODBUG Tools Fair	Landerhaven
8/28-8/29/2000	MidWest Oracle Users Group	UIC Chicago Campus, Chicago, IL
Oct 2002	IDUG 2001 — European Conference	Florence, Italy
11/03-11/08/2002	TDWI World Conference—Fall 2002	Orlando, FL



Do you want to Web-enable your back-end applications? Does your company need to bring up a data warehouse to gain additional savings from your supply chain?

Is your organization compliant with all of your software licensing agreements? Are you aware of the effect that design considerations have on Software Licensing? Are you a Lawyer or Accountant so you can understand the language that resides in your Vendor purchase contracts?

S&P Solutions is not afraid to ask the hard questions...and suggest the right solutions.

When you are asked to sell your products over the Internet move applications to the web to or more effectively control the costs associated with Supply Chain Management (B2B e-commerce), all of these opportunities become much greater challenges. What if you need to get your company's applications on to the Web, create a corporate data warehouse or understand the software license implications of an application deployment project, we can help you meet these challenges and win! Because our roots are in providing IT Consulting Services, we look for true solutions to these issues.

S&P Solutions, Inc. (SPS) is a Cleveland-based Information Technology consulting company, founded in 1983, with a goal of providing creative enterprise solutions to Fortune 1000 companies. Since that time, SPS has become one of the premier IT Services and Software Sales companies in Northeast Ohio.

We specialize in providing quality:

**Applications Development
Data Warehouse Development
Network Management Services
Database Reviews/Evaluations
Customized Services**

**Database Design and Management Services
Systems Management Services
Systems Integration Services
Website and e-Commerce Development Services
Software Asset Management Services**

Software Sales

If you are tired of hearing only "what consultants think you want to hear", let SPS take a fresh look at your biggest challenges.

**S&P Solutions, Inc.
35000 Chardon Rd., Suite 200
Cleveland, Ohio 44094
(440) 918-9111
(800) 978-9113
Fax (440) 918-1429
www.sps-solutions.com**



AGENDA

February 7, 2002

8:30 - 9:00

Registration

9:00 - 9:15

Opening Remarks

Michael James

9:15 - 10:30

“DB2 for z/OS Trends and Directions (V7 and beyond)”
IBM Corporation

Bryan Smith

10:30 - 10:45

BREAK

10:45 -12:00

“Query Parallelism on DB2 for z/OS”
IBM Corporation

Bryan Smith

12:00 - 1:00

LUNCH

1:00 - 2:00

“What the Heck is that Explain Plan Trying to Explain?”
KeyBank

Lateefah Hafeez

2:00 - 2:15

Break

2:15 - 3:45

“Understand the DB2 for z/OS Sort.”
Compuware Corp

Chuck Hoover

3:45 – 4:00

Closing Remarks/Door Prizes

Michael James

Location:

**Hilton Cleveland South
6200 Quarry Lane
Independence, Ohio 44131
(216) 447-1300**

REGISTRATION FORM

NEODBUG Quarterly Meeting

FEBRUARY 7th 2002

Hilton South Cleveland, 6200 Quarry Lane, Independence, Ohio

R.S.V.P: Checks and registration forms are encouraged to be sent early due to limit seating.

Cost: If your company is a member of NEODBUG: \$30.00 pre-registration or \$40.00 at the door.
If your company is not a member of NEODBUG: \$40.00 pre-registration or \$50.00 at the door.

Yes, I will be attending the quarterly meeting; a check for \$ _____ is enclosed for a total of _____ reservations.

YOUR NAME	TITLE	PHONE & EMAIL ADDRESS
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In addition to myself, the following persons will be attending:

GUEST NAME	TITLE	PHONE & EMAIL ADDRESS
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Company Name: _____

Company Address: _____

Mail this form and your check payable to:

NEODBUG no later than FEBRUARY 1ST 2002 to:

NEODBUG
35000 Chardon Rd.
Suite 200
Cleveland, OH 44094

NEODBUG CHARTER

STATEMENT

The NEODBUG was formed to promote a public forum for the discussion and awareness of database usage in the Northeast Ohio Data Processing Community.

PURPOSE

- 1) To establish channels for the education and communication of information to and from members in the field of information processing.
- 2) To conduct conferences, meetings, discussion groups, forums, panels, lectures, and other programs concerned with the development and exchange of information among members;
- 3) To encourage and strengthen participation of all qualified users;
- 4) To promote the acceptance of database as the standard database technology for mainframe computers;
- 5) To encourage the development of database compatible products; and
- 6) To provide a forum for the promotion of excellence in information processing through recognition of those individuals who, judged by their peers, put forth the highest effort and succeed in best utilizing the database relations technology within their enterprise.

ORGANIZATION

The NEODBUG consists of an Executive Committee, composed of Officers as follows: Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Meeting Facilitator, Special Interest Group (SIG) Coordinator and Advisory Board Members. Companies can enroll a total of five (5) representatives to NEODBUG for the annual corporate fee.