

NEODBUG

E L E C T R O N I C

Newsletter of the Northeast Ohio Database Users Group

March Education Event with Tony Andrews and David Simpson of Themis

NEODBUG is pleased to bring you another educational event, with our speakers Tony Andrews and David Simpson of Themis. This event will occur on Thursday, March 15, 2012. We will divide the day into two timely topics: *Cross Platform SQL – Dealing with Complex Queries* and *Advanced Query Tuning with IBM Data Studio on DB2 for z/OS*.

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Tony Andrews
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David Simpson
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In the morning, get ready to go deep with Structured Query Language (SQL) and become a power user. Whether you are being asked to solve complicated problems with SQL or you need to read and understand complex SQL that is already written, this course is for you! Come prepared to master SQL across multiple database platforms in this fast paced course. We begin with an in-depth discussion of joins and move quickly to more complex operations involving set processing, grouping, subqueries, table expressions, recursion and more. Examples are provided for the following platforms with discussion of the relevant differences:

- DB2 for z/OS
- DB2 for Linux, Unix & Windows
- Oracle 10g & 11g
- Microsoft SQL Server

Topics covered include:

- Complex joins
- Multiple query blocks
- Table expressions and views
- Set operations
- Advanced grouping
- Solving complex problems with SQL
- Managing transactions and units of work
- Temporary data

See a short excerpt video of this course at
www.youtube.com/watch?v=qJ6v7ZjX-zM

In the afternoon, get ready for a deep dive into DB2 for z/OS optimization. This course is for the DB2 for z/OS development professional who desires to understand the fundamental issues associated with performance for SQL applications. Emphasis is placed on new considerations for the latest releases of DB2 and the use of IBM Data Studio as an optimization tool. Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to understand:



February, 2012 issue
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Register for the meeting at www.neodbug.org/2_1/register.html

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- **When different types of access paths are desirable**
- **The new statistics available in the latest releases of DB2 and their impact on access path selection**
- **New optimization techniques available with the DB2 9 optimizer**
- **How to use the information provided by IBM Data Studio to improve the performance of DB2 applications**

Topics covered include:

- **Optimization goals and tools**
- **Access paths with IBM Data Studio**
- **Filter factors & performance**
- **Predicate types**
- **Case studies in optimizer problems**
- **Design for performance**
- **IBM Data Studio features**
- **Top 35+ tuning tips for DB2 SQL developers (and more)**

See a short excerpt video of this course at www.youtube.com/watch?v=LLs-gTKpgLs.

Tony Andrews is a Themis consultant and trainer, with more than twenty-three years experience in the development of relational database applications. Most of this time, he has provided development and consulting services to Fortune 500 companies and government agencies. He has written literally thousands of queries and programs during his development years, and has served as a database analyst. For the last ten years, Tony has been splitting his time between performance and tuning consulting engagements and training. His primary focus is to teach today's developers the ways of RDMS application design, development and SQL programming—always with a special emphasis on improving performance. He is a current IBM Champion and regular speaker at many user group and International DB2 Users Group (IDUG) events.

David Simpson is currently a senior technical advisor at Themis Inc. He teaches courses on SQL, application programming, DB2 administration as well as performance and tuning. He has supported transactional systems that use DB2 for z/OS databases in excess of 10 terabytes. David has worked with DB2 for 16 years as an application programmer, DBA and technical instructor. David is a certified DB2 DBA on both z/OS and LUW. David was voted Best User Speaker and Best Overall Speaker at IDUG North America 2006. He was also voted Best User Speaker at IDUG Europe 2006.

This meeting will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel and Conference Center, on Rockside Rd. at I-77 in Independence.

The cost for the meeting is:

- \$199—preregistered employees of NEODBUG member companies
- \$225—preregistered employees of NEODBUG non-member companies
- \$225—at-the-door registration of NEODBUG member companies
- \$250—at-the-door registration of NEODBUG non-member companies

Registration includes all educational materials and lunch. There are two ways to reduce the cost for this education: there is a \$40 credit offered for every fifth preregistered attendee from the same company, and/or a \$20 credit per coupon if member companies purchased prepaid meeting fee coupons.

Register for the meeting at www.neodbug.org/2_1/register.html. Your registration is not confirmed until we receive payment. We are required to pay for reserved but unused lunches and must guarantee the number of attendees to the hotel three business days before the meeting, so make sure you register and attend. Substitute attendees are allowed. Preregistration closes three business days prior to the meeting.

Register for the meeting at www.neodbug.org/2_1/register.html

Chairman's Corner By Michael James

I hope all of you had a great holiday season. This year it was especially difficult for me to come back after vacation (I took 10 days off – it was great). And the Browns are (not) in the playoffs again and we lost our last 6 games! Oh well, there's always next year! We have a new offensive coordinator coming in, though! Sound familiar? The Cavs? We are an up-and-coming team waiting to happen. It is a nice mix of rookies and experienced players. The expectations are mixed about the team for 2012. At least the weather was mostly mild in early winter, 2011. In 2012, it begins with a blast!

Once again, I feel honored to be returning as a member of the Board of Trustees and Chairman of NEODBUG for 2012. I will work hard to continue the fine work performed by the last year's Board. I want to thank the members of 2011's Board of Trustees for all of their hard work. Our 2012 Board welcomes two new members – Kerry Quast from Westfield Group and Tim Brown from Medical Mutual.

The Year in Review

Last year, NEODBUG hosted presentations covering DB2 with an eye towards V10 and continued our coverage of any database product able to reside in mixed environments.

For our February education event, we brought in Sheryl Larsen, president and founder of Sheryl M. Larsen, Inc. (www.smlsql.com), a consulting practice specializing in DB2 systems analysis and advanced education. Sheryl's topic was *SQL Performance in 2011 for the z/OS Audience*. The pricing for this class was at a large discount for our membership and while we did not profit from this meeting, we nearly broke even.

For May's meeting, we invited John Iczkovits from IBM and Mike Thomas from Erie Insurance to speak to you. John, a Consulting IT Specialist with the IBM Advanced Technical Skills Group, presented *SMS is Now Mandatory for DB2 V10! SMS Best Practices for DB2*. Mike, a security consultant, presented *IT Risk and Security Architecture for Cloud Environments*.

In August, we invited Tony Andrews of Themis, Keith Tidball and Lori Zaremba from Progressive Insurance and Paul Wirth of IBM to present to the group. Tony, a consultant and trainer, presented *Top 25+ DB2 SQL Tuning Tips for Developers*. Lori and Keith, application developers, presented a member company talk *Application Development Success Stories for DB2 z/OS Performance Issues*. We ended the day with Paul's presentation *DB2 10 for z/OS Temporal*.

November's meeting brought our annual elections and our membership approved the slate of candidates that was presented. As for the education part of the day, Robert Catterall and Brent Gross of IBM were our speakers. Robert, a DB2 specialist, gave us two presentations: *DB2 for z/OS Stored Procedures—Trends and Technology* and *Key Application Enablement Features of DB2 for z/OS Versions 9 and 10*. Brent, from IBM's Information Management Development, also delivered two presentations: *DB2 Connect Configurations* and *Application Development Best Practices for .NET and ODBC for DB2 and DB2 Connect*.

The Board's agenda committee (Kirk Bailey, Jim Budka and Bob Vargo) deserve an extra round of applause, as these programs were some of our strongest—on our meeting evaluation forms, some of you noted that the meeting you attended was “the best meeting ever” and “awesome”. Thanks for the kind words!

Last year, for every meeting you attended, you received one chance to win an iPad 2. We had our drawing and awarded our prize at the November meeting.

Corporate Membership

If your company is reluctant to become a NEODBUG corporate member, inform them of the \$10/attendee discount they would receive for our three quarterly meetings and the \$26/attendee discount they would receive at our education event—there is not a better deal for DB2 and general database education!

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Register for the meeting at www.neodbug.org/2_1/register.html

Contact Us

If you have any comments about our programs or anything else, please email the Board of Trustees at info@neodbug.org to share your thoughts and suggestions. We really read your thoughts. Watch for future NEODBUG newsletters and email blasts. We will keep you informed of events as they unfold.

IDUG News

The International DB2 Users Group is accepting presentation abstracts for the IDUG DB2 Tech Conference in Denver, Colorado, May 14-18. This is your opportunity to share your DB2 experience and expertise with an audience of your peers who rely on or are considering incorporating DB2 in their shop. If your presentation abstract is selected to be delivered at the conference, you will receive one complimentary conference registration. Check the IDUG website for more information.

March Education Event

Read about our great program in our cover story. The deadline for pre-registration is Monday, March 11th at 12:00 noon—don't delay. As always, registration is on a first come, first served basis.

I hope to see all of you there.

Michael P. James
Chairman

Five Reasons to Attend IDUG 2012 – North America May 14-18, 2012 in Denver, CO

- It is difficult for technology managers and senior data management technicians to find meaningful training that can provide both breadth and depth in targeted technologies. The IDUG conference(s) have proven, for many DB2 professionals, to deliver the best value as a training alternative to pure depth training (e.g. a 4-day class on database performance tuning). The quality and quantity of educational value of the IDUG conferences has been consistent and cost beneficial, over the years.
- The presentations are conducted by a mix of DB2 users, IBM developers, vendors and consultants. There are also keynote sessions that give broad coverage of where DB2 is going in the future.
- In addition to the conference content, there are ongoing opportunities to discuss technology with DB2 developers, customers, and vendors across a broad continuum of database, tool, and related product issues. For example, in a single venue, you can see demonstrations of competing vendor products and talk one-on-one with experienced vendor implementation experts.
- In special interest group (SIG) sessions, attendees can swap implementation tips and techniques and listen to others describe the proper and improper ways to use DB2 in ways they might be considering. As one past conference attendee described to a colleague, the value of the networking opportunities alone exceeds the price of admission.
- IBM provides complimentary DB2 certification testing throughout the conference, so attendees can go test their knowledge of DB2. This is a very valuable service, as the tests cost approximately \$125 per test if done at a testing center.

Find out more at www.idug.org.

Register for the meeting at www.neodbug.org/2_1/register.html

NEODBUG Treasurer's Report

NEODBUG's year-end financial report for 2011 is listed below. We started 2011 with a net worth of \$18,986.03.

ASSETS

Money Market Account	\$ 12,529.91
Checking Account	\$ 2,771.38
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 15,301.29

LIABILITIES

Membership Prepayment	\$ 0.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 0.00

NET WORTH \$ 15,301.29

2011 INCOME

Corporate Memberships	\$ 1,370.00
Feb Education Meeting	\$ 2,146.00
May Meeting	\$ 450.00
August Meeting	\$ 1,340.00
November Meeting	\$ 1,030.00
Interest	\$ 39.59
Membership Prepayment	\$ 240.00
TOTAL INFLOWS	\$ 6,615.59

2011 EXPENSE

Feb Education Meeting	\$ 2,263.92
May Meeting	\$ 1,147.11
August Meeting	\$ 2,730.91
November Meeting	\$ 2,703.85
Web-site/Overhead	\$ 1,454.54
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	\$ 10,300.33

NET INCOME (\$3,684.74)

In 2011, NEODBUG had a net loss of \$3,684.74. This was due mostly to the Board's decision to cut the registration fees in half for our three regular meetings. The good news was that we had the highest attendance at our meetings in years. Because of that, the Board has decided to continue the reduced registration fees in 2012.

- NEODBUG members will be charged \$20.00 per person pre-registration/\$30 at-the-door.
- Non-NEODBUG members will be charged \$30.00 per person pre-registration/\$40 at-the-door.

Corporate/individual 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 216-514-4435 or e-mail me at alan.solnick@mmoh.com so I could e-mail you a new one. Memberships will be considered late and will increase in cost if received after 03/15/2012.

A NEODBUG individual membership exists for independent contractors and employees whose company does not wish to become a corporate member. Call or e-mail me if you would like more information on individual membership.

Corporate memberships provide meeting discounts, so please be diligent in sending them in.

Alan P. Solnick, Treasurer

Register for the meeting at www.neodbug.org/2_1/register.html

Upcoming Database Events

DATE	EVENT/LOCATION/ORGANIZATION WEBSITE
01/20/2012	Northeast Ohio Oracle Users Group (NEOUG) business meeting—Independence, OH www.neooug.org
02/12-17/2012	The Data Warehouse Institute (TDWI) World Conference: Data Strategy for Your Enterprise—Las Vegas, NV www.tdwi.org
03/15/2012	Northeast Ohio Database Users Group (NEODBUG) education event—Independence, OH www.neodbug.org
03/21-23/2012	Enterprise Architecture and Data Warehousing 2012 Featuring Bill Inmon—New York, NY www.dmforum.org
03/26-29/2012	SQL Server Connections—Las Vegas, NV (DevConnections) devconnections.com
04/22-26/2012	COLLABORATE 12: Technology and Applications Forum for the Oracle Community—Las Vegas, NV (Independent Oracle Users Group) (Oracle Applications Users Group) www.ioug.org www.oaug.org
04/29-5/3/2012	Enterprise Data World 2012—Atlanta, GA edw2012.wilshireconferences.com
05/06-11/2012	TDWI World Conference: Validating Your BI/DW Direction—Chicago, IL www.tdwi.org
05/10/2012	NEODBUG quarterly meeting—Independence, OH www.neodbug.org
05/14-18/2012	International DB2 Users Group (IDUG) DB2 Tech Conference—Denver, CO www.idug.org
06/11-14/2012	Microsoft TechEd North America 2012—Orlando, FL northamerica.msteched.com
07/29-08/03/2012	TDWI World Conference: Big Data Tipping Point—San Diego, CA www.tdwi.org
08/16/2012	NEODBUG quarterly meeting—Independence, OH www.neodbug.org
09/16-21/2012	TDWI World Conference: Agile—Boston, MA www.tdwi.org
09/30-10/04/2012	Oracle Open World—San Francisco, CA www.oracle.com/openworld
10/01-05/2012	IBM System z Technical University—Las Vegas, NV www.ibm.com
10/21-25/2012	IBM Information On Demand—Las Vegas, NV www.ibm.com
11/04-09/2012	IDUG DB2 Tech Conference—Berlin, Germany www.idug.org
11/06-09/2012	Professional Association for SQL Server (PASS) Summit—Seattle, WA www.sqlpass.org
11/11-16/2012	TDWI World Conference: Emerging Technologies 2013—Orlando, FL www.tdwi.org
11/15/2012	NEODBUG quarterly meeting—Independence, OH www.neodbug.org

Register for the meeting at www.neodbug.org/2_1/register.html