NEODBUG
ELECTRONIC

Newsletter of the Northeast Ohio Database Users Group

NEODBUG surges into 2020—December 5 meeting features Catterall, Simpson

At our September quarterly meeting as well as in the pages of this newsletter, the NEODBUG Board lamented that there was a chance that the organization might shut down at the end of 2019 due to lack of interest in new members taking Board positions.

GOOD NEWS, READERS!

Our appeal for "new blood" on the Board was met with a trio of enthusiastic candidates who will be introduced to you at our next quarterly meeting: *Thursday, December 5* at the Crowne Plaza-Cleveland South in Independence. They have pledged to help take NEODBUG into 2020 and beyond.

But first, we have a knockout educational program planned for you.

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We are pleased to present *Robert Catterall of IBM* and *David Simpson of Themis* at our December 5 meeting.

Robert will be our morning speaker, presenting first *"The Most Important Stuff You Should Know About Db2 12 for z/OS, in 75 Minutes"*.

Db2 12 for z/OS is packed with new features and functions, and the scope of that new functionality expands several times per year with the delivery of successive function levels - Db2 12 continuous delivery in action. It's easy to talk all day about Db2 12, and I do that on a regular basis. For this session, I've boiled down what I personally consider to be the most important Db2 12-related information into a 75-minute presentation. Z hardware and z/OS exploitation, performance enhancements, package bind possibilities, utility goodies, SQL capabilities, smarter data sharing, and more. This is my take on the best of the best of the Db2 12 story.

Presentation #2 from Robert will be *"Data-as-a-Service: the REST Interface for Db2 for z/OS"*.

Non-DBMS-specific SQL interfaces such as JDBC and ODBC have been helpful for developers, enabling them to write code that accesses relational database management systems without having to customize that code for a specific relational DBMS; nowadays, however, a growing number of developers want a data-access interface that provides a still-higher level of abstraction with regard to the particulars of a specific data-serving platform. REST – Representational State Transfer – is an architectural style that enables the use of such an interface, and Db2 for z/OS has a built-in REST interface. In this session, attendees will learn of how Db2 for z/OS REST services are created, how Db2 processes REST calls, how IBM z/OS Connect fits in the picture, and how one might determine whether the SQL path or the REST path to Db2 would be the best fit for a given application.

Robert Catterall is an IBM Senior Consulting DB2 for z/OS specialist. He started

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www.neodbug.org
info@neodbug.org

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

his IT career with IBM in 1982, and worked throughout the 1990s as a member of the Company's DB2 for z/OS National Technical Support team. From 2000 to 2007, Robert worked as a database technology strategist for CheckFree (now part of Fiserv). After working for three years as an independent DB2 consultant, he rejoined IBM in 2010. Robert is a past President of the International DB2 Users Group (IDUG), and a member of IDUG's Speakers Hall of Fame. He presents frequently at conferences and user group meetings, and blogs about DB2 for z/OS at http://robertsdb2blog.blogspot.com/. Robert last spoke to NEODBUG in May of 2016.

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After our networking lunch and a short business meeting to elect the 2020 slate of Trustees, David Simpson will present two great topics—the first is *"Query Tuning in IBM Data Studio"*.

Interpreting EXPLAIN data becomes more difficult as the complexity of SQL has grown. Fortunately there are no-charge tools available to make the most of all the EXPLAIN data that is currently available. In this presentation, we will discuss:

- A brief overview of Data Studio
- Invoking the Quick Explain
- Invoking the Query Tuner
- Reading the Access Path reports
- Examples

Our final presentation of the day will be David's *"SQL Update for Db2 11 and 12"*.

In this presentation, we'll discuss some SQL features from the last few Db2 releases that you may have missed. These features will make life easier for most SQL developers.

- Advanced GROUPing
- Piecewise DELETE
- SQL Pagination
- Enhanced MERGE statement

David Simpson is currently the Vice President of Themis Inc. He teaches courses on SQL, Application Programming, Database Administration as well as optimization, performance and tuning. He also installs and maintains the database systems used for training at Themis and works with our network of instructors to deliver high quality training solutions to our customers worldwide. David last spoke to NEODBUG at its April, 2017 education event.

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The December 5 quarterly meeting is NEODBUG's last event of the year. Have you completed your personal training plan for 2019? Remember: the cost of this meeting is low, low, low—only $25 in advance for employees of member companies (see the Treasurer's report for member companies) and $35 for non-member employees. Use the link at the bottom of every page of this newsletter to register.

A special shout-out to employees of Erie Insurance and Medical Mutual of Ohio: your company is a NEODBUG member and purchased coupons for meeting attendance that will expire at the end of this year. Don't let them go down the drain—arrange with your boss to take advantage of them– just mention that you are attending via coupon on your online registration.

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NEODBUG recently renewed its United States Post Office box lease, and was instructed by the USPS to change the ZIP+9 code that we show in our correspondence. The last four digits should be "1331", the last four digits of the box number itself. So, update your information—mail to NEODBUG at:

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

NEODBUG
P.O. Box 221331
Beachwood, OH 44122-1331

NEODBUG Treasurer's Report

Here are the current financials for NEODBUG as of October 27, 2019.

ASSETS

PayPal	$ 0.00
Checking Account	$ 7,379.84
Money Market Account	$ 4,048.00
Total Assets	$11,427.84

LIABILITIES

Membership Prepayment	$ 200.00
Total Liabilities	$ 200.00
NET WORTH	**$11,227.84**

We had a good turnout for the September 19th quarterly meeting with nineteen paid attendees from ten companies.

The following companies/ individuals have sent in their Corporate or Individual Memberships. If you don't see your company name, you will have to pay the higher, Non-Membership registration fees at the upcoming quarterly meeting. Those companies that pre-paid to send members to NEOD-BUG meetings have the number of remaining coupons next to their names. **The coupons expire 12/31/2019:**

Companies/ Individuals that have paid memberships:

BMC Software
Erie Insurance   (2 Coupons left)
Jim Szabo
Medical Mutual   (6 Coupons left)
Parker Hannifin

Al Solnick
Treasurer

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

8:30 - 9:00	**Registration**	
9:00 - 9:15	**Opening Remarks**	
9:15 - 10:30	**"The Most Important Stuff You Should Know About Db2 12 for z/OS, in 75 Minutes"**	**Robert Catterall IBM**
10:30 - 10:45	**Break**	
10:45 - 12:00	**"Data-as-a-Service: the REST Interface for Db2 for z/OS"**	**Robert Catterall IBM**
12:00 - 1:00	**Lunch/Networking**	
1:00—1:05	**NEODBUG Business Meeting Election of 2020 Board of Trustees**	
1:05 - 2:20	**"Query Tuning in IBM Data Studio"**	**David Simpson Themis**
2:20 - 2:30	**Break**	
2:30 - 3:45	**"SQL Update for Db2 11 and 12"**	**David Simpson Themis**
3:45 - 4:00	**Closing Remarks/Door Prizes**	

Location: Crowne Plaza Cleveland South—Independence
5300 Rockside Rd.
Independence, OH 44131
(216) 524-0700
www.ihg.com/crowneplaza/hotels/us/en/independence/clerr/hoteldetail

Cost: $25—employees of NEODBUG member companies, advance registration
$35—others, advance registration

$35—employees of NEODBUG member companies, at-the-door
$45—others, at-the-door

Pre-registration closes December 2, 2019.

Payment: Any credit card, if "PayPal" option specified when registering (if you have a PayPal account or not), or mail checks in advance to:

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Beachwood, OH 44122-1331

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

Upcoming Database Events

DATE	EVENT/LOCATION/ORGANIZATION WEBSITE
11/04-08/2019	Microsoft Ignite—Orlando, FL ignite.microsoft.com
11/05-08/2019	Professional Association for SQL Server (PASS) Summit—Seattle, WA www.sqlpass.org
11/10-15/2019	The Data Warehouse Institute (TDWI) Conference—Orlando, FL www.tdwi.org
12/05/2019	Northeast Ohio Database Users Group (NEODBUG) quarterly meeting—Crowne Plaza, Independence, OH www.neodbug.org
01/27/2020	Cleveland Big Data and Hadoop User Group—Cleveland State University Student Center, Cleveland, OH www.meetup.com/Cleveland-Hadoop/
02/09-14/2020	TDWI Conference—Las Vegas, NV www.tdwi.org
03/16/2020	Cleveland Big Data and Hadoop User Group—Progressive Insurance, Mayfield Village, OH www.meetup.com/Cleveland-Hadoop/
03/22-27/2020	Enterprise Data World—Boston, MA www.enterprisedataworld.com
03/23-27/2020	Postgres Conference 2020—New York, NY postgresconf.org
05/10-15/2020	TDWI Conference—Chicago, IL www.tdwi.org
06/07-11/2020	IDUG North America DB2 Tech Conference—Dallas, TX www.idug.org

Thanks to Kerry and Jim!

The 2020 NEODBUG Board of Trustees will have a different make-up, due to the retirement of two long-time members.

Kerry Quast announced her intention to leave the NEODBUG Board at the end of 2019, as she has retired from her job at Westfield Group after 22 years there. She served most recently as a database administrator responsible for Westfield's Peoplesoft Financial and HR databases running on IBM z/OS. Kerry joined the NEODBUG Board in 2012 and quickly assumed the responsibility of webmaster (webmistress?) for NEODBUG's website at www.neodbug.org. An avid golfer and traveler, we wish her good drives and good drives (get it?).

Jim Szabo also announced his intention to leave the NEODBUG Board at the end of 2019. Jim retired from his job as database administrator and manager at Key Bank back in 2005, but has stayed on the NEODBUG Board as its Secretary. Jim joined the NEODBUG Board back in 1994 (!) when he was an employee of the Federal Reserve Bank. Although he changed jobs in 1995 to Key, he maintained his NEODBUG relationship. Among Jim's accomplishments as a Board member was the successful application for 501(c)(3) not-for-profit tax-exempt status with the IRS and the development of a full-color e-newsletter. Without NEODBUG's time commitments, Jim will see more baseball games at Progressive Field and elsewhere and just "cool out on campus" at Case, where he hosts a jazz radio show.

Thanks to Kerry and Jim for their service.

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