



AITP

The Printout

The Nashville Chapter
of
The Association of Information
Technology Professionals

November 2008
Chapter Newsletter

Computer Game Development

Our November program is about computer games. Many of you play computer games, and there have been requests to have an AITP program on developing games.

Our speaker is Tyson Tune who is the Director of Technology and Development at Good Touch Software. He manages iPhone application planning, process and development for mobile applications centered on casual gaming, hobbies, and entertainment.

Tyson will discuss:

- What are computer games?
- Who develops them?
- How are they marketed?
- How long do they take to complete?
- Who are the developers?
- What should you know to develop?
- What tricks/tips are there in developing games?

In addition to his Good Touch Software work, Tyson is also a Flash Developer for MTV Networks. He integrates and develops all Flash applications, games and services for CMT.com. He supports other Flash Developers at MTV Networks brands MTV, VH1 and Logo. MTV Networks is a division of Viacom International, Inc.

and owns and operates six cable television programming networks, including CMT, which is headquartered in Nashville. Tyson has a third job of managing the Tune Design Group which does copy editing and design for websites. They also produce enterprise level web applications for large and small businesses.



Tyson was an Instructor at High-Tech Institute – Nashville for several years. He taught, among others, courses in Video Production and Editing, Graphic Design, Flash Animation and Programming, and 3D Animation. Tyson also served as the Faculty Advisor to the AITP Student Chapter at High-Tech Institute.

Tyson holds a B.A. degree in Communications from Emerson College in Boston, MA. Tyson is a native of Nashville, even graduated from Montgomery Bell Academy, but wanted to go away to college. He came back to Nashville, however, since people in Boston talked “funny.”

Tyson is married and lives in the Green Hills area. He enjoys playing video games and watching sports. Vacations are often to Singapore since his wife is from there.

This should be an interesting session on the inside look at computer gaming. If you ever have had an idea for a computer game, come and talk to Tyson about it.

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AITP Nashville Roster

| | |
|--|--|
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| Internet Information — | Web Sites |
| Chapter: | http://www.aitpnashville.org |
| Headquarters: | http://www.aitp.org |
| Region 7: | http://members.tripod.com/aitregion7 |

AITP
P. O. Box 22038
Nashville TN 37202

Dinner Reservation and Cancellation Policy

AITP members will be notified by electronic mail one week prior to the Chapter meeting. Reservations can be made by responding to the electronic notice or by calling **Mary Simpson at 615/367-8083 fax: 615/367-7775** Dinner reservations can be canceled up to 24-hours prior to the meeting without cost.

Since the Chapter pays for reserved meals, No Shows will be billed at the reservation price of \$20.00 for Members, and \$30.00 for Guests.

Members are responsible for their guests' reservations. *If you are a member and have not been receiving this notification, please contact Mary Simpson at:*

615/367-8083 fax: 615/367-7775
msimpson@genesco.com

November Chapter Meeting:

Holiday Inn Select Vanderbilt
2613 West End Ave.
Nashville, TN 37203
615-327-4707



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

In Orwell's *1984*, the government knows all and sees all. It pervades every aspect of people's lives, knowing where they go, what they do, how they spend their money, even what they think. It accomplishes this through comprehensive, 24-hour surveillance. Almost 25 years after the setting of the book and almost 50 years after being published, the technology is available to achieve such scrutiny in our daily lives. Much of this technology involves cameras, but the enabler to such invasive monitoring is radio frequency identification, or RFID, for short. Paul Reed and Hugh Kirkpatrick of Business Resources Solutions (BRS) discussed these possibilities with AITP in October. But that's not what they came to discuss. As with any tool or technology, it's what's done with it that is the difference. Mr. Reed and Mr. Kirkpatrick effectively made that point. They came to talk about the myriad of possibilities RFID gives our society to be safer, more secure, more productive; they also discussed how the characteristics of RFID help to realize those gains.

On the safety front, Mr. Kirkpatrick talked about pro football teams monitoring players' core temperatures to ensure they don't overheat. Players swallow small capsules containing sensors and RFID technology which transmits sensor readings allowing team doctors to manage a player's core temperature. These types of capsules can be similarly used by patients for certain medical examinations, thus avoiding more invasive, uncomfortable methods. Security, as well as safety, can be enhanced in hospitals by using RFID to track patients, especially infants, children, and those with dementia. Mr. Reed discussed the many and varied applications that will make us more productive such as supply chain operations, asset tracking, and manufacturing. Wal-Mart, in particular, sees the value of RFID and is committed to making it a core part of its supply chain including mandating RFID use by suppliers. The implementation has gone more slowly than planned, but has shown definite promise, for example reducing out-of-stocks by 8% worldwide. Beyond these instances briefly mentioned, there are applications in animal husbandry, postal shipping, building access, vending machines, and much, much more.

Mr. Reed and Mr. Kirkpatrick explained some of the characteristics that make RFID appropriate in so many situations. One of the most important is that RFID is not line-of-sight technology. RFID chips and antennae can be hidden for aesthetic purposes or imbedded for medical uses such as those mentioned above. Depending on the size and power of the transmitter, the receiver can be anywhere from a few inches up to several hundred feet away. Another critical characteristic is the batch capability. Imagine a shopping cart full of products each with a unique RFID signature. The contents could be identified and priced almost instantaneously without the need for scanning individual items. This certainly can lead to vast productivity gains. Finally, the secure encryption for transmission and reception is not easily counterfeited, facilitating a whole host of applications where security is a must.

As you may be beginning to realize, RFID applications are almost limitless, but are not always appropriate. Business Resources Solutions can help you determine if RFID will fit your need. But even in *1984*, you wouldn't need RFID to know that AITP Nashville is *where IT professionals meet*.

Marshall B. Messamore

AITP President

marshall.messamore@vanderbilt.edu

AITP Member Profile

ROBERT WRIGHT



Our member profile this month is on Robert N. Wright. Robert is a Supervisor in the Vanderbilt University Library system. He has been with Vanderbilt for over 15 years. Robert works the evening shift and supervises the 20 student assistants. He is responsible for security and helps with Reference, including the use of computers. Robert has extensive experience with the computer packages available in the Library and is a Library Technology Team member.

Prior to joining Vanderbilt Robert worked in computer operations for over ten years, including five years with Service Merchandise Company.

Robert joined AITP in January of 2001 and almost immediately started serving on the Chapter Board as Awards Director. He served two terms of office as Chapter President in 2004 and 2005. Robert presently is the Newsletter Editor and responsible for getting the Newsletter out. He also is a faithful helper at the Newsletter Folding Party on the last Thursday of the month although I suspect that Telse's cooking has an influence in that regard.

Robert assisted in making the three-day 2004 Region 7 Student Conference held in Nashville a success. He also helped with the February AITP Nashville Student Conferences of 2006 and 2007.

Robert has a B.S. degree in Biology from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. He has computer certification of CompTIAA+ Computer Technician and is a Microsoft Certified Professional for NT4.

Robert was raised in the Manchester area of Tennessee and lived ten years in a small town in Texas. Robert's father is a mechanical engineer and worked on Department of Defense and NASA projects. Robert's three brothers and sister are also engineers by training.

Robert and Diann Vaccaro enjoy traveling. Diann is an R.N. in the Critical Care unit of Skyline Hospital. Diann has several time-share condos, and she and Robert have spent numerous vacations in Florida, the Carolinas, Branson, MO., etc. Robert says his best vacation was at a little motel in Fort Walton Beach that was later wiped out by a recent storm.

Robert lives in the Northeast area of Nashville and helps take care of Diann's cats. He also enjoys searching the Web to keep up with the news and the political situation.

Say hello to Robert at our next dinner meeting and compliment him on his great job as Editor of the Newsletter.

Calendar of Upcoming Events 2008

| Date | Event | Location | Information |
|-------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| November 13 | Chapter Meeting | Holiday Inn Select Vanderbilt | Computer Game Development Tyson Tune, MTV Network |
| December 11 | Chapter Meeting (guest night) | Holiday Inn Select Vanderbilt | Patsy Hatfield Lawson, Front Porch Productions |

SPEAKERS

We are always interested in good speakers to make presentations at our AITP Chapter Meetings. If you know someone who is interested in making a presentation on a topic, on their company, or company's products, please contact Paul Saunders at (615) 367-1717 or Paul@SaundersSystems.com.

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AITP NEW MEMBERS

Joe Harrison
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1050 Union University Drive
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Michael Coleman
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Brandon Technology Consulting, Inc.
2501 McGavock Pike, Suite 203
Nashville, TN 37214
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Welcome to our new members!

FALL 2008 PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP PROMOTION - AITP Member Message

AITP Member Communication:

In June 2008, the Membership Committee approved the following plan for its 2008 Fall Promotion. This recruitment promotion will be the largest and most comprehensive one AITP has conducted. The promotion will run from October 1 through December 31, 2008. It features three components:

- 1) Free memberships for chapter use
- 2) Cash prize incentives for sponsoring members
- 3) Gifts for joining members

1) Free memberships for chapter use - Each chapter in good standing will receive free memberships for their use. At least one of the memberships must be a renewal. Chapters with 50 or fewer members will receive two memberships, and chapters with more than 50 members will receive three memberships.

2) Prizes for sponsoring members - Every time a member sponsors/refers a new member, s/he gets one entry into a drawing at the end of the promotion. There will be one first prize of \$500, a second prize of \$300, and a third prize of \$200.

3) Gifts for joining members - The delay from the time a member joins and the member receives a "welcome" for HQ can be several weeks. To provide a more rapid turnaround, we will send an invitation quality card and a gift to joining members within one week of their joining.

Please contact Joan Julius.

Joan Julius, Membership Director Joan.Julius@cgi.com

AITP BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

October 2, 2008

Prepared by Ella McGill

This meeting was held at VUMC Informatics.

Attendees: Mary Simpson, Marshall Messamore, Joan Julius, Beverly Gibson, Tom Clark, Paul Saunders and Ella McGill.

1. Mary Simpson is working on getting a proposed slate of officers and committee chairs together for 2009. Anyone interested in one of these positions should contact Mary at msimpson@genesco.com.
2. The Treasurer's report was reviewed and discussed. No problems were found.
3. Paul Saunders has programs set up through December 2008. We discussed possible speakers and tours for 2009. If you have a speaker or topic you would like to have at one of our meetings, contact Paul with that information.
4. Our organization is in need of a new publicity director. Please contact Mary Simpson or Marshall Messamore if you have any interest in this position beginning now through 2009.
5. Mike Eischen, our Website Coordinator, asked if the board could look into buying some software such as Front Page. The board agreed that before purchasing anything research should be done to determine what the best product is for our situation. Marshall will talk with Mike about this.
6. The membership of our chapter has dropped to 50 members. The board discussed various ways to try to attract more attendees at meetings as well as members. One suggestion was to contact former members. A 'call-a-thon' of former members will be set up at Tom Clark's office on Monday, October 6, 2008, at 12:00 p.m. Paul Saunders will provide lists of contact information for former members that can be used in this effort. Everyone who can attend will be provided a list.

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Contact Mike Eischen for more information! 367-7068

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