



NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Published nine times per year (September – June) by the Minnesota Information Professional Society. We welcome materials for publication (articles or news). Submit materials on disk or via E-mail to:

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NOTE MEETING INFORMATION

MEETING PLACE:
Holiday Inn – Bloomington
35W at 94th
Phone (612) 884-8211

Meeting Times:
3:30 PM Networking Event
5:00 PM Social Hour
6:00 PM Dinner
6:45 PM Meeting & Program
8:00 PM Adjourn

For Reservation Call:
Raj Ulagaraj
by October 11th and choose:
Roast Sirloin of Beef, Honey
Glazed Ham,
or Grilled Chicken Supreme

Tel: 651-554-8189, or
rulagaraj1@cs.com

\$25 Members
\$30 for non-members

Note: \$5 cost increase.

Meeting NOTICE

Tuesday, October 15, 2002

Meeting of
**Minnesota Information
Professional Society**

Speakers Topic:
**“.NET and J2EE: War of
The Frameworks”**

Speaker:
Brian Hase

Speaker Topic

The cost of developing, delivering, maintaining, and supporting IT systems is growing. At the same time, organizations are demanding more and more from IT resources and personnel. The network economy is pushing organizations to build systems that incorporate legacy applications, automate processing between business applications or business partners, and give customers the innovative on-line services they demand. If such demands are to be met, seamless interoperability between applications within organizations and between their business partners is a requirement.

Seamless interoperability between heterogeneous systems is the "holy grail" of the IT architecture world. In pursuit of this "holy grail" it is increasingly evident that the

greatest cost IT departments face is not the cost of the systems themselves but the "glue" that holds them all together. To respond to these imperatives, the software vendors in both cooperative and unilateral initiatives have developed "enterprise frameworks".

Enterprise frameworks are modularized, component-based systems that specify standards, protocols, services, API's, application models and, in some cases, server platforms for developing and integrating multi-tiered applications. Over the past few years, vendors have positioned themselves mainly around one of two camps: Microsoft, which recently released the .Net framework, and all other software vendors, most of whom have moved their offerings to the J2EE (Java 2 Platform Enterprise Edition) standard. IBM, BEA, Sun, Oracle, and most open source offerings are built upon the J2EE standard. However, simple as it may seem this is not a one front war. Software vendors, open-source initiatives, standards communities, and consortiums are weaving an intricate dance to position themselves with the right technology offerings at the right time in the hopes of setting the standards to which their proprietary or favorite platforms are most applicable.

This talk will explore the technologies, the vendors, and the business climate that has led to this war of the frameworks

Speaker Profile

Brian Hase is co-founder and vice-president of Halley's Fifth, a locally-based technical services company founded in April of 2001. Halley's Fifth specializes in e-commerce development using agile methods in Java application server environments. Halley's Fifth works with firms such as Target, Imation, and Minnesota Public Radio. Before founding Halley's Fifth, he was Director of Consulting Services at Systems Consulting Group of St. Paul. He led practices focused on the IBM platforms, WebSphere and Domino.

Mr. Hase began his IT career as a programmer analyst working in mainframe environments. In the late 80's, he moved to desktop and client-server application development using Visual Basic and Smalltalk. In his career he has had the opportunity to explore many diverse areas of information technology ranging from groupware to object-oriented databases (OODBMS). His current interests are in agile development methodologies, enterprise frameworks, and the newest abstraction of object-oriented or component-based systems, web services.

Mr. Hase received his undergraduate degree in 1984 from Augsburg College in Minneapolis. In 1998, he received the degree of Master of Science in Software Engineering from the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul.

Pre-Dinner Networking Event

Speakers Topic:
**"Make it Happen Before Lunch
- Cutting to the chase for getting
into the organization of
your choice"**
Speaker:
Peter Simpson

Peter Simpson is a Process Analysis, Systems Integrator, and Manager. Peter has a MBA from Pep-

perdine University in 1976. Peter specializes in processes improvement and technology. He has participated in engagements involving the review of existing data processing installations, systems and office automation feasibility studies, development of systems plans, and the design and development of computer systems. Peter also gives seminars for clients on integrated office systems. He has worked with small, medium and large organizations as well as government and non-profit agencies in various roles to include consulting and management.

Vice President's Letter

As we start the MnIPS new year and I start my first year of serving as an elected member of a board of a professional organization I have been thinking about my role and where I can add value to the organization and its members. Having been out of work for six months over the past year it seems where I can contribute the most is in the area of networking and volunteerism. These areas were the most valuable to me in my search and I hope to be able to help others in similar situations of job transition.

Not having a network when I started my transition I feel I learned some very valuable lessons along the way that I've been able to share and would like to continue to share with others through the support of the MnIPS organization. From a volunteer perspective the organization has been a great way to get involved, learn new things, and discover hidden talents.

Bill McTeer, the MnIPS Webmaster, and I have worked together to establish two areas on the website that we hope will be helpful to anyone interested in networking and volunteering. Please visit our website at <http://www.mnips.org/doc/memserv.htm>

[#Volunteer](#) for more information on MnIPS volunteer opportunities and responsibilities of volunteers and the organization. There are also documents that will give more detailed information on some of our committees. From a networking perspective go to our website at <http://www.mnips.org/doc/network.html> for information on networking tips and resume & interview tips.

I look forward to seeing you all in the coming year. Come visit us at our networking events and stay for the dinner meetings or come early to a dinner meeting and attend the networking event. You can look forward to meeting interesting, fun people, learn more about a variety of related IT topics from our speakers, and have a great time.

-- Sylvia J. Wiebe, MnIPS Vice President

WHAT IS ANTICIPATORY THINKING?

By Earl C. Joseph, Walden University Professor and Futurist

When you anticipate the future, your thinking should be based upon some evidence that supports your forecast (not just your opinion). Sometimes your anticipations are based upon forecasts that extend current trends into the future; at other times they could be based upon alternatives to the trends or judgments from experts in the field you are anticipating.

We normally divide our forecasts into three domains: Possible (what could happen in the future), Probable (most likely futures), or Preferable (most desirable futures). Forecasting methods can further be divided into two categories: Exploratory (determining what's possible) or Normative (determining likely standards for the future).

Anticipatory thinking involves a number of ways of looking at the future, and assists us in programming our minds to understand developing futures, such as:

- Thinking along extrapolated (into the future) trend lines
- Considering what's expected to change in the future – in what direction and at what magnitude of change
- Identifying forces operating to cause future change
- Identifying issues (probable threats and opportunities) that could cause further change for avoiding (or easing) the threats or for capitalizing on the opportunities
- Identifying probable breakthroughs or turning points that could emerge, which radically develop a new trend set or directions
- Identifying possible alternatives to the developing trends
- Identifying plans by business, government, or non-government organizations that are allocating resources to create certain futures
- Applying forecasting tools/methods (trend extrapolation, Delphi analysis, etc.), to open one's awareness of emerging futures
- Searching for more positive and desirable futures for society than current and past existing conditions

- Becoming aware about what others are forecasting for the future.

When we do anticipatory thinking, supported by such evidence, and then make decisions, take actions, and map out plans based upon the evidence, we become future thought leaders for creating "better" futures.

Donate a Cellular Phone!

Almost everyone has an old cellular phone gathering dust somewhere in your home office. Why not donate it to a community program that provides mobile communication tools for domestic violence victims?

Please bring your phones for donation to the monthly MnIPS meetings from September through November, 2002. A receipt for donation will be provided to each donor.

Any portable cellular or PCS phone is accepted, excluding bag phones or vehicle-installed models. We will take the phone's battery or charger, if available. All donors should deactivate the wireless service of any donated phones before turning them in.

If you have any further questions, please email Krisan Partridge, who is spearheading this initiative at: kpartridge@kep-consulting.com

With apologies to Jeff Foxworthy:

1. If a **laptop** to you in 1950 was a portable PC, and not a resting place on Santa....then you could be an Earl Joseph.
2. If a **vacuum tube** to you in 1950 was a part in a Univac, and not on a Hoover upright....then you could be an Earl Joseph.

3. If **Windows** to you in 1950 was a future operating system, and not a windshield....then you could be an Earl Joseph.

4. If a **Tower** to you in 1950 was a portable mainframe, and not a skyscraper....then you could be an Earl Joseph.

5. If a **Cell Phone** to you in 1950 was a portable phone, and not a prisoner's luxury....then you could be an Earl Joseph.

6. If **Distance Learning** to you in 1950 was a future online class, and not listening to a sermon in the back pew....then you could be an Earl Joseph.

7. If a **Network** to you in 1950 was a future grouping of computers, and not a place to watch TV....then you could be an Earl Joseph.

8. If **Java** to you in 1950 was a future programming language, and not a cup of coffee....then you could be an Earl Joseph.

9. If the **March 2000 MnIPS meeting info** looked so good then, that you reprinted it in the MnIPS newsletter a year later, despite the obvious changes....then you could be an Earl Joseph.

Thanks Earl, for your contributions to ACM, MnIPS, Metro State, Walden University, and the Twin Cities computer industry in general. – by Dennis Cummings

Thanks Dennis and all MnIPS members for honoring me at the September MnIPS meeting, it was greatly appreciated. – Earl C. Joseph

MnIPS Officers 2002

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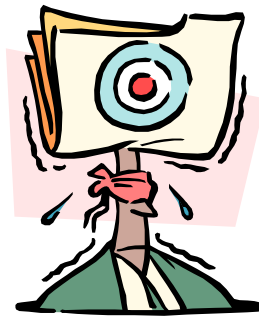
DINNER MEETING

Tues., Oct. 15, 2002 3:30-8:00 PM
TOPIC: ".NET and J2EE: War of The Frameworks"

NOTE: Meeting Location

Holiday Inn Bloomington
35W & 94th (1201 W. 94th St.)

**"WHAT!?! NOW I MUST
CONSIDER THE
FUTURE IMPACTS AND
CONSEQUENCES OF
WHATEVER I DESIDE
OR DO!"**



by Earl C. Joseph