

O'Reilly UK User Group Programme

NEWSLETTER

Issue 16-05

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HIGHLIGHTS

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NEWS FROM O'REILLY AND BEYOND

- New O'Reilly Newsletter Topics Available
- UFOs (Ubiquitous Findable Objects)
- User Group Members receive a special 50% discount on Learning Lab Courses--Ends December 31
- What Is Prefactoring?
- Avoid Common Pitfalls in Greasemonkey
- PHP Problems
- TCP Tuning and Network Troubleshooting
- Getting Video Out of Your New iPod--for Cheap!
- An Introduction to Tiger Terminal, Part 5
- What Is Spyware?
- Visual Studio Express 2005: Now Available
- Creating an Application from Scratch, Part 1
- Ruby the Rival
- Hibernate for Java SE
- What Is Screencasting
- Inside a Luxury Synth: Creating the Linux-Powered Korg OASYS
- MAKE's Mostly Under \$100 Gift Guide 2005
- MAKE on "Attack of the Show"
- Introducing the iPod VR

BOOK NEWS

- Books for review
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CONFERENCE NEWS

YOUR BOOK REVIEWS

YOUR NEWS

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NEWS FROM O'REILLY AND BEYOND

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General News

***UFOs (Ubiquitous Findable Objects)

The emergence of ubiquitous findable objects (UFOs) enables us to tag and track products, possessions, pets, and people as they wander through space and time. In this fascinating read, bestselling author Peter Morville illustrates the power of the future presence of UFOs with real examples, such as Plazes, Meetro, Dodgeball, GPS, RFID, flocking patterns, anomaly detection, and more. Peter is the author of "Ambient Findability."

<http://www.oreillynet.com/pub/a/network/2005/11/17/ubiquitous-findable-objects.html>

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***User Group Members receive a special 50% discount on Learning Lab Courses--Ends December 31

As an O'Reilly User Group member, you save on all the courses in the following University of Illinois Certificate Series:

- Linux/Unix System Administration
- Web Programming
- Open Source Programming
- .NET Programming
- Client-Side

This offer ends December 31st, 2005. To redeem, use Promotion Code "ORALL1" to save 50%. Each course comes with a free O'Reilly book and a 7-day money-back guarantee. Register online:

<http://learninglab.oreilly.com/>

***What Is Prefactoring?

You've probably heard of Refactoring (the process of restructuring code without changing its external behavior), but what is Prefactoring? Ken Pugh provides the answer, then covers some of the guidelines to prefactoring in the areas of Extreme Abstraction, Extreme Separation, and Extreme Readability. Ken is the author of "Prefactoring."

<http://www.oreillynet.com/pub/a/network/2005/11/15/what-is-prefactoring.html>

***Avoid Common Pitfalls in Greasemonkey

Mark Pilgrim walks through a major security concern that prompted the architectural changes in Greasemonkey 0.5, and then provides solutions to ten common pitfalls to avoid when writing Greasemonkey scripts. The hacks he describes, as well as the underlying history of the breach in Greasemonkey 0.3's security, provide a useful lesson on designing secure user scripts. Mark is the author of "Greasemonkey Hacks."

<http://www.oreillynet.com/pub/a/network/2005/11/01/avoid-common-greasemonkey-pitfalls.html>

Open Source

***PHP Problems

Noel Davis looks at problems in PHP, Emacs, ftpd-ssl, Lynx, Roaring Penguin pppoe, OpenVPN, RAR, Fedora Core X-Chat, HP-UX xterm, libungif4, and GpsDrive.

<http://www.linuxdevcenter.com/pub/a/linux/2005/11/18/security-alerts.html>

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***TCP Tuning and Network Troubleshooting

Information doesn't travel across networks in one big chunk--it goes in little packets wrapped in packets wrapped in packets. Sure, you know that, but did you know that a bit of measuring and a bit of tweaking can improve your networking performance by two orders of magnitude?

http://www.onlamp.com/pub/a/onlamp/2005/11/17/tcp_tuning.html

Mac

***Getting Video out of Your New iPod--for Cheap!

Yes, you can spend extra dollars for Apple's sleek white video cable for TV connectivity, or you can hack your own together for cheap.

<http://www.macdevcenter.com/pub/a/mac/2005/11/18/video-ipod.html>

***An Introduction to Tiger Terminal, Part 5

In Part 5, Mary Norbury-Glaser looks at how Tiger Mac OS X runs regularly scheduled commands and scripts to execute recurring jobs, like system maintenance and backups. She compares the "old" way, using the Unix tool called cron (for chronological), with the new Tiger method of using the launched daemon.

<http://www.macdevcenter.com/pub/a/mac/2005/11/15/terminal5.html>

Windows/.NET

***What Is Spyware?

As business use of the internet has grown up, so has business abuse. From this incubator emerged spyware--the grownup cousin to viruses and worms, whose intent is not simply to have fun at someone else's expense but to make money at someone else's expense. Anton Chuvakin looks at what spyware is, how it works, and what you can do to keep your systems free of spyware infection.

<http://www.windowsdevcenter.com/pub/a/windows/2005/11/22/what-is-spyware.html>

***Visual Studio Express 2005: Now Available

Microsoft's Visual Studio Express software is now available as a free download...Kevin Yank tells you why you should grab a copy to develop your ASP.NET 2.0 web sites.

<http://www.sitepoint.com/blogs/2005/11/07/visual-studio-2005-express-editions-are-free-downloads/>

***Creating an Application from Scratch, Part 1

Watch over Jesse Liberty's virtual shoulder as he documents his creation of a real-world application from scratch. In real time--that is, as he develops it.

<http://www.ondotnet.com/pub/a/dotnet/2005/11/14/creating-an-application-from-scratch-part1.html>

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Java

***Ruby the Rival

Bruce Tate's Beyond Java picks Ruby as the front-runner among languages that could succeed Java among enterprise developers. But what's so great about Ruby--and frankly, what's wrong with Java? We asked some top Java bloggers, authors, and developers what they think of Ruby's challenge.

<http://www.onjava.com/pub/a/onjava/2005/11/16/ruby-the-rival.html>

***Hibernate for Java SE

For many, Hibernate goes hand in hand with Java EE as part of their enterprise development strategy. But what if you need access to your data access objects outside of the EE container? Jason Lee offers some strategy for getting and using a Hibernate session from Java SE code.

<http://www.onjava.com/pub/a/onjava/2005/11/16/hibernate-for-java-se.html>

Digital Media

***What Is Screencasting

Whether it's for a tutorial, a how-to, or a software review, if you have a product you'd like to explain to other users, screencasting - the art of screen recording with audio narration - can be both easier and more effective than written descriptions accompanied by static screen shots. Jon Udell walks you through how to make, edit, and deliver compelling screencasts.

<http://digitalmedia.oreilly.com/2005/11/16/what-is-screencasting.html>

***Inside a Luxury Synth: Creating the Linux-Powered Korg OASYS

Defying the trend toward ever-cheaper plastic gear and soulless soft synths, this super-keyboard is designed to rock the world for years to come. Create Digital Music's Peter Kirn goes behind the scenes at Korg USA to learn how the designers finally built the dream instrument they'd been planning for 15 years.

<http://digitalmedia.oreilly.com/2005/11/09/inside-the-korg-oasys.html>

MAKE

***MAKE's Mostly Under \$100 Gift Guide 2005

MAKE proudly presents a gift guide for the holiday season with listings you certainly won't find anywhere else. MAKE staffers and pals sent in their favorite maker-friendly gift ideas for mostly under \$100, as well as Editor Phillip Torrone's personal picks...happy holidays! May all of your warranties be voided!

http://www.makezine.com/blog/archive/2005/12/makes_mostly_under_100_gift_gu.html

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***MAKE on "Attack of the Show"

MAKE Editor Phil Torrone was on G4's "Attack of the Show" sharing the PEZ MP3 player, the "Fly" pen computer, and homemade high-speed flash photography. Here's a QuickTime of the segment:

<http://downloads.oreilly.com/make/g402.mov>

***Introducing the iPod VR

MAKE wanted to see if the new iPod video would foster a new market for virtual reality/LCD goggles. Here are the photos of the iPod video, homemade battery extender, travel case, and LCD goggles:

http://www.makezine.com/blog/archive/2005/11/introducingthe_ipod_vr.html

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BOOK NEWS
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Copies of our books are available for your members to review -- send me an email with the delivery address together with the book you would like to review. When the review is published, please send me a copy or the url. I would also appreciate if you could send a copy to www.amazon.co.uk

Latest books available for review –

- [Applied Software Project Management](#)

What makes software projects succeed? It takes more than a good idea and a team of talented programmers. *Applied Software Project Management* provides you with tools, techniques, and practices that you can use on your own projects right away. It supplies you with the information you need to diagnose your team's situation and presents practical advice to help you build better software

- [C++ Cookbook](#)

Less a tutorial than a problem-solver, this practical guide shows you how to solve many of the real-world problems that C++ developers encounter, including how to parse a date and time string and how to create a singleton class. It's a trusted source of information for engineers, programmers, and researchers alike. Presented in O'Reilly's classic question-solution-discussion format.

- [The DAM Book: Digital Asset Management for Photographers](#)

In the world of digital photography, Digital Asset Management (DAM) refers to every part of the process that follows the taking of the picture, through final output and permanent storage. Anyone who shoots, scans or stores digital photographs is practicing some form of DAM, but most of us are not doing so systematically or efficiently. In *The DAM Book: Digital Asset Management for Photographers*, photographer Peter Krogh presents a solid plan and practical advice on how to file, find, protect and re-use photographs, focusing on best practices for digital photographers using Adobe Photoshop CS2.

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- [Designing Interfaces](#)

This convenient resource offers advice on creating user-friendly interface designs-- whether they're delivered on the Web, a CD, or a "smart" devices like a cell phone. Solutions to common UI design problems are expressed as a collection of patterns-- each one containing concrete examples, recommendations, and warnings. Intended for designers with basic UI design knowledge.

- [Java Enterprise in a Nutshell](#) (Third Edition)

Revised and updated for the new 1.4 version of Sun Microsystems Java Enterprise Edition software, *Java Enterprise in a Nutshell*, 3rd Edition is a practical guide for enterprise Java developers.

- [Practical Perforce](#)

Authored by Perforce's own VP of product technology, *Practical Perforce* is the ideal complement to the existing product manual, focusing less on the "how" and more on the "why" and "when." The book is not only a helpful introduction to Perforce, it's an enlightening resource for those already familiar with this versatile SCM product. Whether you're a programmer, product manager, or build engineer, you stand to benefit from the many insider tips and ideas presented in this convenient guide.

- [Quicken 2006 for Starters: The Missing Manual](#)

Quicken is one of today's most popular and convenient ways to keep track of personal finances, and *Quicken 2006 For Starters: The Missing Manual* is the refreshingly funny and sensible guide to using Quicken to simplify your finances and make the most of your money. It delivers clear explanations, step-by-step instructions, relevant advice, and plenty of real-world examples for putting Quicken to the best use.

- [Time Management for System Administrators](#)

This collection of time management tools addresses the very specific needs of embattled system administrators everywhere. Bestselling author Thomas Limoncelli shows you how to manage interruptions, eliminate timewasters, prioritize based on customer expectations, automate processes for faster execution, and much more. It's the first step to a more productive, happier you.

- [Understanding the Linux Kernel](#) (Third Edition)

This new edition covers Version 2.6 of the Linux kernel, which has seen significant changes to nearly every kernel subsystem, particularly in the areas of memory management and block devices. *Understanding the Linux Kernel* provides a guided tour of the code that forms the core of all Linux operating systems. Beyond the functioning of the code, the book explains the theoretical underpinnings for why Linux, and many other operating systems, do things the way they do.

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- [Wireless Hacks](#) (Second Edition)

Wireless technology gives us the flexibility, range, and mobility to live, work, and think differently. It also opens up a vast range of tasty new hack possibilities, 100 of which are explored in the second edition of *Wireless Hacks*, by Rob Flickenger and Roger Weeks. Completely revised and updated, *Wireless Hacks* includes over 30 brand new hacks, major overhauls of over 30 more, and timely adjustments and touchups to dozens of others introduced in the first edition. *Wireless Hacks* answers real-life networking needs with direct solutions.

****Coming Soon

- [Adobe Creative Suite 2 Workflow](#)
- [C in a Nutshell](#)
- [Dreamweaver 8: The Missing Manual](#)
- [DV Filmmaking: From Start to Finish](#)
- [Head First HTML with CSS & XHTML](#)
- [Java Enterprise in a Nutshell](#) (Third Edition)
- [Linux Server Hacks, Volume Two](#)
- [Makers](#)
- [Monad](#)
- [PCs: The Missing Manual](#)
- [PHP Hacks](#)
- [Programming MapPoint in .NET](#)
- [Running Linux](#) (Fifth Edition)
- [Running Mac OS X Tiger](#)
- [Skype Hacks](#)
- [SQL Cookbook](#)
- [VoIP Hacks](#)
- [Windows Server 2003 Security Cookbook](#)
- [Wireless Hacks](#) (Second Edition)
- [XSLT Cookbook](#) (Second Edition)
- [Zero Configuration Networking: The Definitive Guide](#)

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CONFERENCE NEWS
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***ETel Registration Now Open

Emerging telephony networks enable a new generation of powerful communication applications, which threaten established business models--but more importantly, open up new opportunities and new markets. O'Reilly's Emerging Telephony Conference, January 24-26 in San Francisco, aims to articulate this revolution, provide a framework, and spark creative discussions among enterprise managers, developers, hackers, and sponsors interested in telephony. Join us as we explore this exciting new territory and investigate its implications. <http://conferences.oreilly.com/etel/>

Receive 20% off the registration price when you use our special code

Email josette@oreilly.co.uk for details.

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To register for the conference, go to:

http://conferences.oreillynet.com/cs/etel2006/create/ord_etel06

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CONFERENCES/EXHIBITIONS TO BE ATTENDED BY O'REILLY UK
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***No conferences this month

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YOUR BOOK REVIEWS
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*** SNUG reviewed – ASP.NET 2.0, A developers notebook

<http://cs.snug.se/forums/84/ShowPost.aspx>

*** **Udruženje Linux Korisnika BiH - ULK** reviewed – Network Security Tools

<http://www.linux.org.ba/osvrti/index.php?l=14>

***MMUG Armenia- reviewed Learning PHP5

<http://users.freenet.am/~flasher/php5.html>