MUUGLines

The Manitoba UNIX User Group Newsletter

Volume 32 No. 7, March 2020 Editor: Katherine Scrupa

Next Meeting: January 14th, 2020

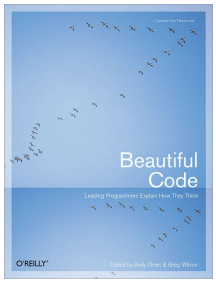
Free Switch Asterisk Clone - Troy Denton

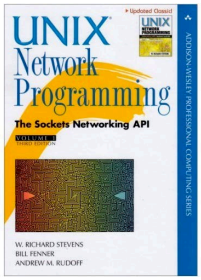
"FreeSWITCH is a Software Defined Telecom Stack enabling the digital transformation from proprietary telecom switches to a versatile software implementation that runs on any commodity hardware. From a Raspberry PI to a multi-core server, FreeSWITCH can unlock the telecommunications potential of any device. Combined with our hosted cloud platform, SignalWire, FreeSWITCH can interconnect with the outside world and scale to any size."

March Door Prizes:

We'll have our usual e-book giveaway, as well as these printed books:

- Beautiful Code
- Unix Network Programming, by W.R. Stevens





Goodbye, Larry Tessler. Goodbye, Larry Tessler.

The mathemetician-turned-computer scientist who gave us Ctrl-C and Ctrl-V has passed away. Larry joined the Xerox Palo Alto Research Center in 1973, where he developed user-friendly interfaces. In 1980, he joined Apple and worked on the Lisa computer and other projects.

https://www.cbc.ca/news/technology/tesler-copy-paste-obit-1.5470453

Where to Find the Meeting:

University of Winnipeg,
Room 1M28 Manitoba Hall

This month we have been moved back to the University of Winnipeg's Manitoba Hall, on the east side of the University Complex. Closest entrance is on Ellice Avenue, between Spence and Balmoral.

Doors are usually open by 7:00 pm with the meeting starting at 7:30 pm. Parking is available on the surrounding streets. See uwinnipeg.ca/maps for further information about parking and access to the campus.

Important Newsletter News: MUUGLines No Longer Snail-mailed

This issue of MUUGLines, MUUG's monthly newsletter, will be the last issue that is mailed out to members in paper form. However, that doesn't mean we aren't still publishing! The electronic version of it will continue as normal: it will be emailed to members who have requested it, and posted on the muug.ca website.

A small number of paper copies of new newsletters will be brought to each meeting for anyone who wants one. Going forward, back issues will be available as well, assuming there are leftovers from prior months.

This decision was made by your MUUG board after reaching out to the modest number of members who were still receiving paper copies. Those that responded were, without exception, OK with the idea of abandoning postal delivery.

For at least a decade, mail preparation and postage costs have been one of MUUG's top ongoing expenses. In addition, the number of members opting for the paper copy has steadily declined, as more people have opted for the email copy. By eliminating the costs involved, MUUG will be able to improve its bottom line while maintaining the low yearly dues amount. The reason we are continuing to print paper copies at all is that the actual printing and paper costs are relatively negligible, a few members expressed interest, and it helps in the promotion of MUUG to visitors.

To aid in this transition, in one month all members who were still receiving paper copies will be switched instead to email distribution. If you are one of these members and don't want to receive an email copy, or you want any other change made to your membership options or details, email your request to membership@muug.ca.

Remote Code Execution Vulnerability in OpenSMTPD Library

CVE-2020-7247 was reported January 20th. It affects Linux and BSD distributions using a version of OpenSMTPD from May 2018 to February 2020. (Lesson learned: patch infrequently?) The attacker's code will run with root privileges, can can be exploited remotely over the Internet.

Though the vulnerability appeared to have some limitations with string length and restricted characters, researchers at Qualys were able to get around it by taking notes from the Morris Worm (1988). The vulnerability can be abused by executing the body of the mail as a shell script in Sendmail.

Patch OpenSMTPD 6.6.2p1 was made available January 29th.

https://www.zdnet.com/article/rce-in-opensmtpd-library-impacts-bsd-and-linux-distros/

https://www.openwall.com/lists/oss-security/2020/02/24/5

https://cve.mitre.org/cgi-bin/cvename.cgi?name=CVE-2020-7247

Anti-Competition Complaint Filed Against Rogers and Bell

A competitor to Rogers and Bell, telecom company TekSavvy filed a complaint on February 21st with the Competition Bureau, alleging its competitors are engaged in price manipulation.

From the article:

> In 2019, the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) found that Bell and Rogers had violated rate-setting rules more than 50 times from 2016 to 2019 and had inflated rates sometimes by more than 900 per cent. The CRTC issued an order calling for the correction of these inflated rates and the repayment of the amounts unjustly taken from competitors and other projects.
>
> Bell and Rogers were successful in staying execution of the order. In their appeal of the CRTC decision, the companies argue that its enforcement would have catastrophic effects on their businesses.

https://www.canadianlawyermag.com/news/general/complaint-filed-against-bell-canada-and-rogers-for-anti-competitive-conduct/326683

In Progress: CRTC Hearings About Cellular Competition and Pricing

The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) is currently holding a public hearing to review the choice and affordability of the mobile wireless market for Canadians. The CRTC will also assess whether regulatory measures may be required to facilitate the deployment of 5G network infrastructure in Canada.

Follow @fanCRTCProfling for tidbits, links and sometimes saucy commentary:

> "Sasktel says competition is paying off. No market intervention required" [1GB/$65]

By comparison:

> "In Quebec it is 4-gigs of usage *NOT 2* for 35$" [fizz.ca]

OpenMedia has also reported on the hearings, noting:

> Telus CEO Darren Entwistle claimed Telus would withhold $1 billion of network investment over the next five years and fire 5,000 of its employees if Mobile Virtual Network Operators (MVNOs) are given wholesale access to Telus networks.

See video, agenda, and full transcripts of the CRTC sessions below:

https://www.cpac.ca/en/programs/crtc-hearings/#

https://crtc.gc.ca/telecom/eng/hearings/2020/ag18_02.htm

https://crtc.gc.ca/eng/transcripts/2020/index.htm#tt0218

https://openmedia.org/en/press/hostage-taking-big-telecom-cant-be-allowed-crush-affordable-wireless

Microsoft and Its Customers Learn a Big Lesson about Certificate Management

Microsoft Teams became unavailable after its certificate expired. Service was restored approximately three hours later.

This mistake is especially surprising because their System Center Operations Manager can monitor for things like certificate expiration.

https://www.theverge.com/2020/2/3/21120248/microsoft-teams-down-outage-certificate-issue-status

EU Passes Legislation Requiring Mobile Device Manufacturers to Use a Charging Cable Standard

The aim of the regulation is to reduce elecronic waste. The vote passed 582-40.

The guidelines will apply to both wired and wireless chargers.

https://www.techspot.com/news/83811-eu-moving-ahead-push-common-charging-standard-after.html

Nine-year Sudo Flaw Hands Over Root Privileges to Any User

CVE-2019-18634, is the result of a stack-based buffer-overflow bug found in versions 1.7.1 through 1.8.25p1 when pwfeedback is enabled. It affect versions from 2009 to 2018.

To check pwfeedback status:

```
sudo -l
```

If pwfeedback is listed in the outputted "Matching Defaults entries," the sudoers configuration is vulnerable on affected sudo versions. The following is an example of output that indicates a vulnerable sudo configuration:

```
$ sudo -l

Matching Defaults entries for millert on linux-build:

    insults, pwfeedback, mail_badpass,
    mailerpath=/usr/sbin/sendmail

User millert may run the following commands on
linux-build:

    (ALL : ALL) ALL
```

Disabling pwfeedback involves using the visudo command to edit the sudoers file and adding an exclamation point so that

Defaults pwfeedback

Becomes:

Defaults !pwfeedback

https://arstechnica.com/information-technology/2020/02/serious-flaw-that-lurked-in-sudo-for-9-years-finally-gets-a-patch/

Google Announces OpenSK, Open-source Impementation for Security Keys

OpenSK is written in Rust and supports both FIDO U2F and FIDO2 standards. The Nordic Chip Dongle was chosen as initial reference hardware because it supports all major transport protocols for FIDO2, including NFC, Bluetooth Low Energy, USB, and a dedicated hardware crypto core.

To get started, make your own developer key by flashing the OpenSK firmware on a Nordic Chip Dongle (approxamitely $11 USD).

OpenSK runs on TockOS. Google has submitted its additional contributions to the TockOS GitHub repo.

https://security.googleblog.com/2020/01/say-hello-to-opensk-fully-open-source.html?m=1

https://www.tockos.org/documentation/design

Wine Major Version Reached: 5.0!

After a year of development and 7,400 changes, Wine 5.0 is now released. Notable features are:

- Builtin modules in PE format.
- Multi-monitor support.
- XAudio2 re-implementation.
- Vulkan 1.1 support.

https://www.winehq.org/news/2020012101

Thank You, LES.net

A big thanks to Les.net for providing MUUG with free hosting and all that bandwidth! Les.net (1996) Inc., a local provider of VoIP, Internet and Data Centre services, has offered to provide a 10% discount on recurring monthly services to MUUG members. Contact **sales@les.net** by email, or +1 (204) 944-0009 by phone, for details.

https://les.net/

$1,000 Worth of Free Credit Card Processing!

Ever wanted to start accepting credit cards for your own needs?

Now it's FREE!

Sign up with Square (the credit card processor that MUUG uses at our monthly meetings) with the referral link below and ***both you and MUUG*** will receive $1,000 in free processing for the next 6 months (180 days).

You must use the following referral link for MUUG to receive the credit:

https://squareup.com/i/MANITOBAU1

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