Next Meeting: May 12th, 2015

RTFM: units

This month's RTFM segment will feature units, a versatile unit conversion tool, presented by Gilbert Detillieux.

GoAccess and Ubuntu-based Active Directory Integration with SSSD.

This month will be a double feature with Wyatt Zacharias presenting the tool GoAccess for real-time Apache log analyzing, and report generation. Adam Thompson will be presenting how to integrate an Ubuntu desktop with Windows Active Directory for login authentication using SSSD.
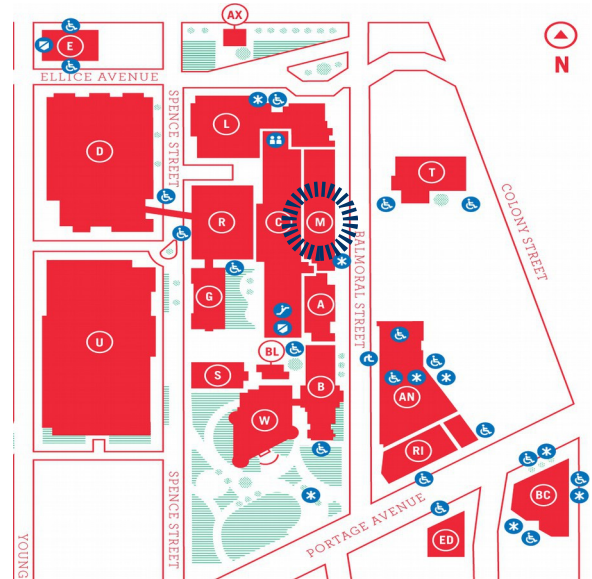
Where to Find the Meeting

Temporary New Location – Room 1M28!

This month's meeting is on the east side of campus in room 1M28, close to Balmoral Street. We usually hold meetings in room 1L08, but occasionally get relocated to nearby rooms. The room change will be conveyed via a sign on the door to 1L08. Parking is available on the surrounding streets. Please see http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/maps for further inform-ation about parking and access to the campus.

MUUG Mugs and... Stickers!

MUUG has only a few coffee mugs left!

Cobalt blue and deep laser-etched with our age old, lovable logo for only $15. They are quality mugs, made in the USA, and have a fairly large volume capacity.

Want a mug but can't make meetings? Ask on the mailing list and more than likely a board member can deliver one to you within Winnipeg.

Stickers are now available for free to all attendees of the meeting. Heavy vinyl that is waterproof and UV resistant.

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Share Your Thoughts

Please email MUUG with your comments and suggestions regarding the newsletter and the meetings. Whether it's criticisms or commendations, we want to hear from you. Specifically, what sort of material would you like to see and or hear/about.

Also, if you have a How-To or any other idea (and aren't ready to give a presentation at MUUG), an article is a great alternative! If you can write better than the editor(s), that's terrific; if you can't, submit it anyway and we'll get it into shape for publication. We know that many of you have some great ideas and lots of knowledge. Why not share?

Send an email to: editor@muug.mb.ca.

Spread The Word!

Do you have a friend or co-worker that has shown an interest in Unix, Linux, BSD, etc?

Bring them along to a meeting or at least tell them about us. The more the merrier!

Debian 8 "Jessie" Released

After almost 24 months of development, the Debian project has released its new stable version 8, codename "Jessie", which will be supported for the next 5 years.

Jessie is the first Debian release that uses the new init system, systemd. For users who still aren't ready to choke down systemd, the OS can be switched to the sysvinit system.

Jessie is running on the 3.16 kernel and includes much improved support for UEFI booting.

http://goo.gl/Giu6fQ

KDE Plasma 5.3 Beta Released

The KDE foundation has released the 5.3 beta version of the plasma desktop, with a number of new features in the window manager.

Included in the upgrade is enhanced power management options, including a new battery consumption monitor, and the ability to see which applications are consuming the most power.

5.3 makes one step closer to using the Wayland display server by allowing a nested XWayland server to be started on top of the X Server, acting as a bridge between X and KWin, making the windows appear as Wayland window.

http://goo.gl/BFOoEp

Microsoft Launches Visual Studio Code, a Cross-Platform Code Editor for Windows, Mac OS X, Linux

During its Build developer conference, Microsoft announced the launch of a new code editor called Visual Studio Code, a lightweight cross-platform code editor designed for creating modern web and applications that will run on Windows, Mac OS X and Linux. The application is still only a preview, but is available for download now.

This is the first time Microsoft has released a truly cross-platform editor, and although the full Visual Studio is still Windows only, the cross platform version may not be far off the horizon.

The editor offers built-in support for a variety of languages including JavaScript, TypeScript, Node.js, and ASP.NET. The editor features rich-code assistance, and other normal features you'd expect in a full editor such as bracket matching, syntax highlighting, and customizable keyboard bindings. It also has full support for Git, right out of the box.

http://goo.gl/sPp1SF

Fedora 22 Beta Released

RedHat's community Linux distro, Fedora 22, has been released as a beta version in preparation for it's May 26th planned release date. Following the Fedora.next initiative, three distinct versions of Fedora 22 will be released, Cloud, Server, and Workstation. Each version is meant for a specific use, however they all share the same common base packages, and the brand new Linux 4.0 kernel.

The biggest change in this release is the elimination of the yum package manager, which is being replaced with DNF.

DNF, which started as a fork of yum, addresses several of yum's issues, most notably is how the package manager handles dependency problems and works with online repositories. Users shouldn't notice any significant difference, except an increase in performance.

http://goo.gl/PvRiel

Apple iWatch Doesn't Work on Tattoos and Dark Skin

Apple's new smart watch, which boasts the ability to monitor and share the wearer's heart-rate, has been reported to have issues reading the heart-rate of individuals that have a tattooed wrist, and even those with a darker skin tone.
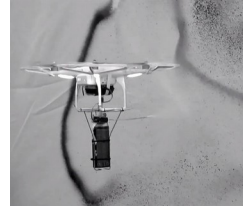
The iWatch, along with other smart devices that have the ability to monitor heart-rate, use a green led that shines into the wearers wrist, allowing the device to observe the blood flow in the capillaries in the wrist.

The ability to monitor heart-rate may seem relatively inconsequential, however when the iWatch doesn't detect that it's attached to a wrist, it locks and requires a password to unlock. Imagine having to type a combination into your regular wristwatch every time you want to check the time.

Apple has not responded to requests for comment, and although their site describes its ability to monitor heart-rate, it does not mention individuals with tattoos, and even showcases the watch on darker skin tones.

http://goo.gl/lWgFzT

The Age of Drone Vandalism Begins With a Red Squiggle

The first documented act of vandalism committed with a drone occurred during the early hours of Wednesday morning when KATSU, a well-known graffiti artist in New York City, made the first graffiti tag using a drone on one of the most viewed billboards in the city. KATSU used a stock DJI Phantom drone rigged to activate a spray can attached underneath, to spray the billboard while hovering in front of it.

The act, which was captured on video by KATSU, shows the drone making several passes with the spray can, painting red streaks on the billboard. KATSU plans to release a new version of the drone, incorporating some form of first person view to assist with flying.

http://goo.gl/uWtSIo

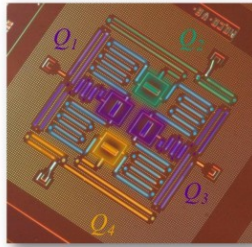## Ubuntu 15.04LTS "Vivid Vervet" Released

15.04 marks Ubuntu's latest long term support release, sporting the 3.19 kernel, a new version of glibc and more.

15.04 also jumps on the systemd bandwagon, for better or worse. The MATE spin of Ubuntu desktop has also been welcomed as an official flavour now, for those who don't wish to use the standard Unity window manager.

http://goo.gl/PrXo2M

IBM Sets a New Quantum Computing Milestone

IBM has announced two major breakthroughs towards making a practical quantum computer. The breakthroughs include the ability to simultaneously detect both kinds of quantum errors, and a new circuit design they describe as *"the only physical architecture that could scale to larger dimensions."*

The two breakthroughs are interrelated, with the new physical architecture, a square lattice of four super-conducting qubits on a chip roughly a quarter inch square allows both quantum errors to be detected at the same time.

IBM claims their new qubit design could be manufactured using standard silicon fabrication techniques once the design is finalized.

http://goo.gl/nJVkQW

RedHat joins Khronos Group

RedHat has formally become a member of the Khronos Group, who many will know as the shepherds of OpenGL.

RedHat says that, with the advancement in Graphics and GPU computing, they want a more direct input on the direction of these technologies.

http://goo.gl/YWiDg3

Rust 1.0 Enters Beta

The Rust systems programming language, developed by Mozilla Research, has been released as a 1.0 Beta. The language focuses on safety and speed, providing memory safety without garbage collection, and threads without data races. The final 1.0 release is expected to ship May 15th.
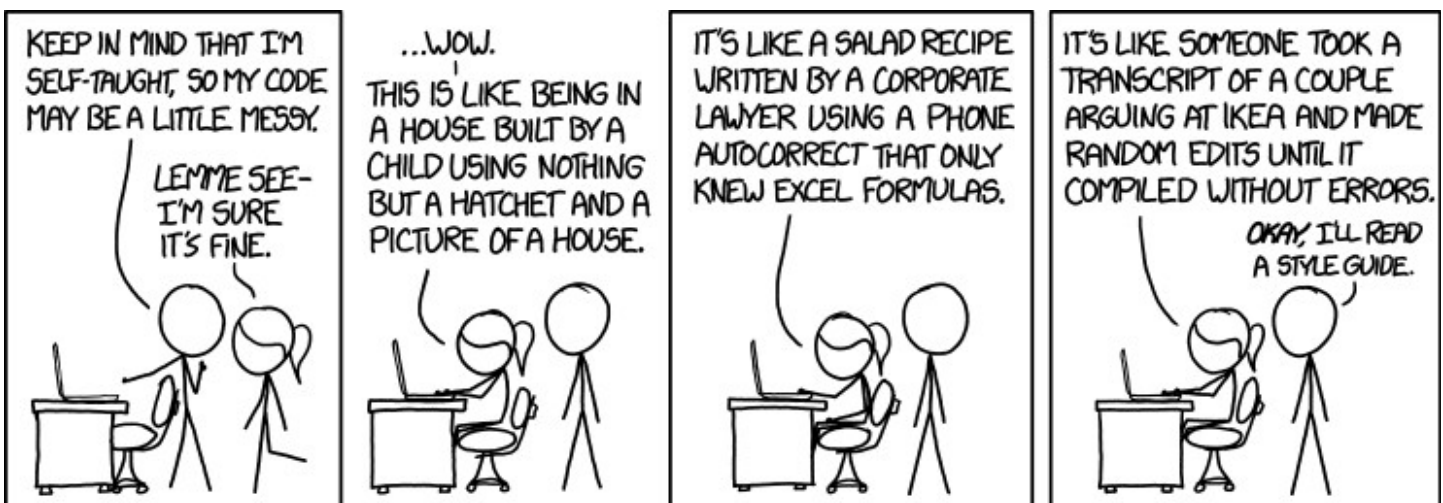
Although the 1.0 beta includes everything that will be in the final release, the developers still warn that *"Rust is a work in progress, and may do anything it likes up to and including eating your laundry."*

http://goo.gl/3jCQlw

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