

# USENIX notes

## USENIX MEMBER BENEFITS

Members of the USENIX Association receive the following benefits:

**FREE SUBSCRIPTION** to *;login:*, the Association's magazine, published six times a year, featuring technical articles, system administration articles, tips and techniques, practical columns on such topics as security, Tcl, Perl, Java, and operating systems, book reviews, and summaries of sessions at USENIX conferences.

**ACCESS TO ;LOGIN:** online from October 1997 to last month:  
[www.usenix.org/publications/login/](http://www.usenix.org/publications/login/).

**ACCESS TO PAPERS** from USENIX conferences online, starting with 1993:  
[www.usenix.org/publications/library/proceedings/](http://www.usenix.org/publications/library/proceedings/)

**THE RIGHT TO VOTE** on matters affecting the Association, its bylaws, and election of its directors and officers.

**DISCOUNTS** on registration fees for all USENIX conferences.

**DISCOUNTS** on the purchase of proceedings and CD-ROMs from USENIX conferences.

**SPECIAL DISCOUNTS** on a variety of products, books, software, and periodicals. For details, see [www.usenix.org/membership/specialdisc.htm](http://www.usenix.org/membership/specialdisc.htm).

**FOR MORE INFORMATION** regarding membership or benefits, please see [www.usenix.org/membership/](http://www.usenix.org/membership/) or contact  
[office@usenix.org](mailto:office@usenix.org)  
Phone: 510 528 8649

## USENIX BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Communicate directly with the USENIX Board of Directors by writing to [board@usenix.org](mailto:board@usenix.org).

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## Summary of the USENIX Board of Directors Meetings

by Tara Mulligan

The following is a summary of the actions taken by the USENIX Board of Directors from March 3, 2004, through June 27, 2004.

### FINANCES

Funds were allocated to engage a consultant for market research on regional training-only events.

USENIX agreed to collect donations on behalf of the Open AFS Council of Elders and disburse them according to the wishes of the Council.

USENIX will be a bronze-level sponsor of the Fifth Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing Conference (October 2004).

The Board encouraged the staff to come up with a proposal and plan to create a resource for the most important legal issues in IT that system administrators should be aware of and a best practices for dealing with those issues.

### CONFERENCES

Early Bird registration fees for non-members for the 2004 LISA Technical Sessions will be as follows:  
1 day: \$400; 2 days: \$700; 3 days: \$795.

It was agreed that the student non-member registration fee for OSDI '04 would be \$290.

### NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 16, 2004, at the LISA conference in Atlanta, GA.

By Peter H. Salus

In September 1984, USENIX held one of its first workshops: Distributed UNIX. It was in Newport, Rhode Island. About 80 “UNIX hackers” attended. A report on the meeting appeared in the November 1984 ;login.

The report was by “Veigh S. Meer.” I have asked many of “the usual suspects” but have not ascertained whose alias this was. If anyone is willing to admit to it, please write me. The statute of limitations is long past.

The report was divided into three parts: a chronological narrative of the presentations, a summary of the state of the art, and “my personal view of the future.”

As you might expect, this last is what has driven my wish to give credit to the author. The “personal view” is really interesting, particularly from a 20-year perspective:

What do we need in the future? I doubt either the NASA and Livermore experience (multiple Crays) or the UCSD or Toronto configuration (hordes of students and almost no hardware) is typical of the future. Suppose the standard 5M workstation (1 Mips CPU, 1 Mpixel display, 1 Mbit network, 1 Mbyte main memory, and 1 mouse) becomes routinely available as an individual terminal. In that case, distribution for load sharing is not going to be interesting; remote files will be interesting. More important, however, is that putting several CPUs in the station will be fairly cheap. What should they do? Well, they could handle communications, so maybe efficient protocols will become less important.

They could also handle caching, a favorite technique to improve performance. But most important, we need a way to use multiple processors in local environ-

ments, to improve the performance of individual jobs.

UNIX was designed as a uni-processor operating system; C was designed as a single-thread procedural language; and I think we need some research that starts from other premises. Otherwise something else is going to be the operating system of the future.

Wow! Twenty years ago. C'mon, Meer! Come out and let us know who you are.

IN MEMORIAM: CHARLES “CHUCK” YERKES



Chuck Yerkes  
December 31, 1963–  
August 26, 2004

USENIX/SAGE  
member #30530

“Shoes, shirt, sober . . . pick two”: a typically irreverent quip from the ever-ebullient Chuck to a former manager.

Chuck Yerkes was funny, brilliant, and sometimes eccentric, but when it came to computers, he was known for his intelligence, great knowledge, and utter dedication to technology “done right.” Chuck never hesitated to offer his professional opinion, usually served up with a humorous anecdote and with the intended result of someone gaining information they needed.

Chuck worked for nearly 20 years in the computer industry, including stints as an audio/visual technician (read “sound guy”), as a core member of the Internet team at J.P. Morgan in the early 1990s, for several years as a technical consultant for Sendmail, Inc., and most recently as a consultant at PeopleSoft.

Chuck was passionate about open source and UNIX, and his enthusiasm for reliable computing caught on with those he worked with. He, along with his long-time partner, Valerie Acton, had been a USENIX and SAGE member since 1993. He

attended many USENIX conferences, and in early August helped staff the USENIX membership booth at LinuxWorld. A resident of Berkeley, CA, on August 26 he was involved in an accident while on his way home from work on his motorcycle, and did not survive.

Those who knew him personally, professionally, via the SAGE-members mailing list, or through other electronic mailing lists will remember Chuck for his generosity, kindness, and spirit. Our sincerest sympathies go to Val and to Chuck's family and friends. Chuck brought a bright spark to the world. We will miss him.

[This tribute was contributed by Tara Mulligan, a former co-worker of Chuck's.]

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

By Tara Mulligan  
Member Services Manager

Thank you, USENIX and SAGE members, for your ongoing support! With your help, USENIX continues to offer the highest level of conferences and publications to the advanced computing systems community. We have a terrific slate of conferences lined up for the remainder of 2004 and for 2005, and we look forward to seeing you at one or more. See our Conference Calendar: <http://www.usenix.org/events/>.

The current membership of USENIX is 6,200, with 2,770 USENIX-only members, 3,050 USENIX/SAGE dual members, and 380 SAGE-only members. For the first time in a few years, our membership is increasing.

SAGE MEMBERSHIP

With the recent change in governance, we would like to take this opportunity to assure members that SAGE benefits and renewals will continue as they were. Some members of the SAGE community are exploring the possibility of creating

SAGE as a separate entity from USENIX. We will keep you posted on any new developments.

#### RENEWALS

In January 2004, we implemented an electronic renewal system. Under the current system, two months prior to the expiration of your account, we send you an electronic notice of impending expiration, with a link to a page with your information pre-loaded for renewal. If you do not respond to that first electronic notice, in the month prior to your account expiration we send a traditional paper renewal notice. Should we still not hear

from you, in the month after your account expiration we send an electronic past-due notice. We hope that does the trick, but if not, we'll leave you alone thereafter.

Members are encouraged to renew at any time, using their former membership login. USENIX continues to send you *;login:* for a three-month grace period after expiration. Try online renewal at <http://www.usenix.org/membership/>.

#### MEMBERSHIP CARDS

Since we are sending membership information electronically and offering purchase of membership renewals and new memberships

online, USENIX is ceasing to send printed membership cards. Instead, we provide an online membership card pre-filled with your information, which you can print on your own whenever you wish.

As always, please feel free to email any questions you may have to us at [membership@usenix.org](mailto:membership@usenix.org).

## COMING SOON: ;LOGIN: SURVEY

USENIX will soon be conducting an online survey about **;login:**. Watch your mailbox in October for the URL. Spend just a few minutes to help us make **;login:** even better.

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**PROFESSORS, CAMPUS STAFF, AND STUDENTS—  
DO YOU HAVE A USENIX REPRESENTATIVE ON YOUR CAMPUS?  
IF NOT, USENIX IS INTERESTED IN HAVING ONE  
AT YOUR UNIVERSITY!**

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The USENIX University Outreach Program is a network of representatives at campuses around the world who provide Association information to students, and encourage student involvement in USENIX. This is a volunteer program, for which USENIX is always looking for academics to participate. The program is designed for faculty who directly interact with students. We fund one representative from a campus at a time. In return for service as a campus representative, we offer a complimentary membership and other benefits.

A liaison's responsibilities include:

- Maintaining a library (online and in print) of USENIX publications at your university for student use
- Distributing calls for papers and upcoming event brochures, and re-distributing informational emails from USENIX
- Encouraging students to apply for travel stipends to conferences
- Providing students who wish to join USENIX with information and applications
- Helping students to submit research papers to relevant USENIX conferences
- Providing USENIX with feedback and suggestions on how the organization can better serve students

In return for being our “eyes and ears” on campus, liaisons receive a complimentary membership in USENIX with all membership benefits (except voting rights), and a free conference registration once a year (after one full year of service as a campus liaison).

To qualify as a campus representative, you must:

- Be full-time faculty or staff at a four year accredited university
- Have been a dues-paying member of USENIX for at least one full year in the past

For more information about our Student Programs, see  
<http://www.usenix.org/students>

USENIX contact: Tara Mulligan, Scholastic Programs Manager, [tara@usenix.org](mailto:tara@usenix.org)