



Michigan DB2 Users Group (MDUG) Quarterly Newsletter

March 2010

"Keeping members up to date on changes in the DB2 Environment"

Michigan DB2 Users Group
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Upcoming Seminar: MDUG will be holding their first seminar of 2010 on Thursday, March 11th at the Crowne Plaza hotel in Novi.

The seminar will be focusing on designing for performance and on performance monitoring and tuning. Scheduled speakers are:

Susan Lawson and Rob Williams

If you can, plan to join us for the seminar as you will not want to miss out on both of these excellent speakers.

The cost for attendance at the seminar is covered by your yearly membership fee. Make sure your membership has been renewed for 2010 or make plans to pay at the seminar.

Non-members will be required to pay at the seminar. Cost is \$45 for the seminar. Credit cards are not accepted at the seminar. See Reservations section below in regard paying via credit card.

*** Reservations close at the end of the day on **Tuesday March 9th**. Directions to the hotel are available on the MDUG web site; www.mdug.org.

Training Survey: See the [News for Members](#) section for results.

Group Support: We always have a need for volunteers, but especially for the upcoming year. MDUG will need new volunteers as Pat Townsend has retired and the remaining board members need assistance with the user group's activities. Please see [News for Members](#) for how you can volunteer.

Tentative Upcoming 2010 Seminar Dates and Locations:

June 17 @ The Hotel Baronette (Novi)
September 23 @ The Hotel Baronette (Novi)
December 9 @ The Crowne Plaza Hotel (Novi)

MDUG is an affiliate of IDUG (the International DB2 User Group), and is chartered under the State of Michigan. It promotes the awareness of DB2 in solving business problems by providing a non-profit forum for presenting new functionality, features, ideas, and usage of DB2. This forum is used for communications among DB2 users in the Southeastern Michigan area, as well as bringing together others throughout the state.

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Highlights of the upcoming seminar:

In the morning, Susan Lawson will be back to provide two presentations. The first presentation will cover table and index strategies and how they impact DB2 9. Susan's second presentation will cover ways of using V8 and V9 SQL and application features to help reduce the number of trips we make across the address spaces in DB2 z/OS.

In the afternoon, Rob Williams will be presenting on two topics. The first topic will provide an overview on performance tuning and managing batch cycles faced in large scale data warehouses with complex batch schedules. The second presentation will cover improvements in table partitioning in 9.5 and 9.7.

If you can, plan to join us for the seminar as you will not want to miss out on both of these excellent speakers

March 11, 2010 - Seminar Agenda

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:15 am – 9:00 am | Check In / Continental Breakfast |
| 9:00 am – 9:05 am | Welcome and Opening Remarks |
| 9:05 am – 10:25 am | "Table & Index Design Strategies: Looking Forward to DB2 9"
Speaker: Susan Lawson (Yevich, Lawson, & Associates) |
| 10:25 am – 10:40 am | Break |
| 10:40 pm – 12:00 pm | "Quit Calling DB2 So Much!"
Speaker: Susan Lawson (Yevich, Lawson, & Associates) |
| 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm | Lunch |
| 1:00 pm – 2:15 pm | "Performance Tuning and Managing Batch Cycles"
Speaker: Rob Williams (One Point Solutions) |
| 2:15 pm – 2:30 pm | Break |
| 2:30 pm – 3:45 pm | "Table Partitioning"
Speaker: Rob Williams (One Point Solutions) |

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Last Seminar: Feedback from the last MDUG seminar, held on Thursday, December 10th, is available in the [News for Members](#) section of this newsletter. Presentations are still available online at: www.mdug.org.

Presentation Abstracts

Table and Index Design Strategies: Looking Forward to DB2 9

This presentation takes a look at table and index design strategies we have practiced over the years and see how they are impacted by DB2 9. We also look at how we can move forward with current designs and also are able to take advantage of the new features.

Quit Calling DB2 So Much!

In this presentation will look at ways reducing the number of calls you make to DB2 z/OS via exploitation of V8/V9 SQL features for SQL call reduction. The quantity of SQL calls made can sometimes be more detrimental to performance than poor quality SQL. Don't be fooled by low response times per statement and high buffer pool hit ratios! So, here we'll look at ways of using V8 and V9 SQL and application features to help reduce the number of trips we make across the address spaces in DB2 z/OS.

Performance Tuning and Managing Batch Cycles:

This presentation looks at design, optimization, and challenges faced in large scale data warehouses with complex batch schedules. It's aimed at both DBA and developers of batch jobs. This presentation will also give an overview the Infosphere SQL Warehousing tool.

Table partitioning:

Table partitioning simplifies the management and improves the performance of rolling in and rolling out data. This presentation digs deep into how range partitioning is implemented, design considerations, and gotchas. Improvements in 9.5 and 9.7 will also be analyzed along with reflections on existing projects currently on their way to implement this feature.

Speaker Biographies

Susan Lawson (Yevich, Lawson, & Associates)

Susan Lawson is an internationally recognized consultant and lecturer with a strong background in system and database administration. She currently works with several large clients to help development, implement and tune some of the world's largest and most complex DB2 databases and applications. She also performs Performance Audits for many clients to help reduce costs through proper performance tuning. Her other activities have included authoring articles, presenting at user group meetings, and authoring white papers. She is an IBM GOLD Consultant for DB2 and z/Series, and has authored the IBM 'DB2 for z/OS V8 DBA Certification Guide', 'DB2 for z/OS V7 Application Programming Certification Guide' and 'DB2 9 for z/OS DBA Certification Guide'. She is also the co-author of several DB2 books including 'DB2 High Performance Design and Tuning' and 'DB2 Answers'.

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Rob Williams (One Point Solutions)

Rob Williams is an Advanced Certified DB2 DBA who has been working with DB2 on LUW for the last 9 years. For the last year and a half he has been working as a primary production engineer for a large scale (42 Terabyte) data warehouse using data partitioning feature for one of the top 5 banks in Canada. He is also the webmaster of idug.org and currently nominated as an IBM Data Champion. Rob has presented at a number of DB2 local and international user group meetings and is very well-respected in the community.

Rob works for One Point Solutions, a Michigan-based company focused on IBM database technology. He has worked for customers such as Metrosplash, Bekins, Pokerstars, State of Vermont, and Seabourne Cruises.

Presentation Handouts:

Many of the seminar presentations should be available in Soft copy prior to the seminar and will be posted on the MDUG web site as they are made available. These presentations **should** be downloaded and printed from the MDUG web site www.mdug.org and brought to the seminar as these speakers will not be bringing hard copies to the seminar. Please check the web site for the presentations prior to the seminar.

Seminar Logistics:

Seminar onsite check in begins at 8:15 am and the seminar will begin at 9:00am. The cost of the seminar is covered by the yearly membership fee, if you are a member, and includes a continental breakfast and lunch. The cost for non-members is \$45 and covers the continental breakfast and lunch.

Maps and directions to the Crowne Plaza hotel are available at the MDUG web site:

www.mdug.org

Registrations:

You can register yourself and/or your site/Company attendees by sending an email with your full name, company name, and registration count (if making reservations from more than yourself) to reservations@mdug.org. Please include the name of all attendees in the email message and the ***type of membership; corporate, individual or vendor*** that you will be attending under. Confirmation is available upon request only. Reservations for the seminar will close at the end of day on Dec. 8th (Tuesday before the seminar). Seating may be limited, so please respond early to guarantee you a spot. As this is the first seminar of the year, make sure your membership has been renewed for the year before attending the seminar.

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News for Members:

1. Seminar Feedback (based on 26 evaluations turned in) from the December 2009 Evaluations (used for Planning purposes):

Responses by Potential Future Topic

21	Advanced SQL
16	Stored Procedures
13	DB2 for Application Programmers
9	Performance Tips for DB2 w/CICS
8	DB2 Disaster Recovery
8	Data Warehousing using DB2
7	Analytical Processing w/DB2
7	DB2 Web Connectivity
5	DB2 for System Programmers
5	DB2 Page Internals
5	DRDA and DB2 Connect
4	Using DB2 w/PeopleSoft & SAP
2	Other (XML,OSC; Data Studio)
1	DB2 UDB for non-OS Platforms

1. The "Advanced SQL" was the overwhelming most requested topic.
2. The majority of responses from the evaluations suggested a half-day seminar, preferably as a morning session. Other responses were pretty split on preference for attending an evening type seminar. MDUG sponsoring training days were generally favored. Also favored was a training day requiring an additional charge. SQL optimization was mentioned a few times as topics that would interest people.
3. Ratings for the December speakers indicated a favorable response.

2. December 2009 Seminar Speakers Feedback

Rating based on a scale of 1 – 5 with 5 as the highest rating.

Dave Simpson – SQL Optimization & Access Paths: What's Old & New

Topic Value	Session Content	Speaker	Material Covered	Handouts	Visuals
4.65	4.65	4.92	4.73	4.14	4.40

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Paul Wirth – Exploring IBM Downloadable No-charge Features for Databases

Topic Value	Session Content	Speaker	Material Covered	Handouts	Visuals
4.04	4.09	4.43	4.09	3.88	4.05

Training Survey

Thanks to all of you who responded to the recent survey concerning technical training. We realize that the time frame was short for responding, so to those of you who took the time to do so, we really appreciate it. Based on your feedback, we will not be sponsoring training in March this year. But we are tentatively planned to coordinate a training class for December, most probably the day before or after the December MDUG seminar. We will be asking for additional input in regard to training, via a new survey site that should be available prior to the June Seminar.

3. MDUG Membership

There are four types of memberships; Individual, corporate, vendor and shared.

Memberships are annual and run from January through December. MDUG accepts payment directly in cash or check and through the mail by check. Credit cards are accepted only through [PayPal](#) and must be coordinated with MDUG and cover the additional cost of processing. Contact a MDUG Director at a seminar or through admin@mdug.org for details. All memberships are contingent on payment of the annual membership fee

Membership forms along with membership details can be downloaded from the MDUG web site www.mdug.org by clicking on the [Membership and Fees](#), then clicking on the left side of the [Home Page](#).

Inquiries on the status of corporate/company memberships should be sent to the MDUG email box at admin@mdug.org email box at admin@mdug.org. If your need an invoice for the year, email MDUG at admin@mdug.org, and we will email you one.

4. Visit our Website

Please take a few minutes to visit our website (www.mdug.org) and give us your feedback. We are trying to make the website more useful to MDUG members. Send your feedback to admin@mdug.org.

We are also making plans to enhance the Web site. If you have ideas or would like to help out, please send your ideas, etc. to admin@mdug.org.

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5. Group Support

The group has always had a need for volunteers to assist in the operation of the User Group and right now is especially in need of new volunteers. Consider helping out in the background, with supporting the web site, taking reservations, management of the group emails, group coordination, providing onsite support at the seminar, handling evaluations, speaker introductions, to name just a few of the activities where the group needs your help. We hope you will talk to one of the red ribbon wearers at the seminar about how you can volunteer or by sending an email with your contact information to admin@mdug.org asking where you can help out or just that you want to discuss volunteering with someone on the board. We will call you back to discuss how you can help out.

Without your support, not just your attendance, the User group may not be able to continue to meet your expectations.