



Michigan DB2 Users Group (MDUG) Quarterly Newsletter

September 2009

“Keeping members up to date on changes in the DB2 Environment”

This is a revised version of the newsletter that was to have been sent out earlier. It didn't get sent out earlier because this has been one of the most challenging seminars we have ever put together as things keep changing. Please note the changes from the email sent out in regard to the seminar earlier.

Upcoming Seminar: MDUG will be holding their third seminar of 2009 on Thursday, September 17th at The Hotel Baronette in Novi. Directions to the hotel are available on the MDUG web site; www.mdug.org.

Highlights:

In the morning, Mike Sniezek from BMC address XML and ITIL in regard to DB2. Susan Lawson from Yevich, Lawson & associates will be one of the afternoon's speakers addressing SQL. John Sheppard from IBM will cover the IBM InfoSphere Warehouse V9.7 Update in the afternoon as well.

The original IBM speaker who was to cover "How to Enable an Oracle Application using the Features of DB2 9.7" will not be able to present due to illness.

The training that was to be given on Friday, Sept. 18th by Susan Lawson has also been canceled.

The cost for attendance at the seminar is covered by your yearly membership fee. Non-members will be required to pay at the seminar. Cost is \$45 for the seminar. Credit cards are not accepted at the seminar.

Group Support: We always have a need for volunteers, but especially now for the upcoming year. Pat Townsend who has been providing the behind the scenes effort to find and coordinate speakers is retiring at the end of the year, this time for real. We will miss her. Carol Little will be taking over this task. MDUG will need some new volunteers to take over the areas that Carol was handling, such as group emails, coordination, and registrations. Please see [News for Members](#) for how you can volunteer.

2009 Remaining Seminar Dates and Locations:

December 10 @ 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 through out the state.

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September 17, 2009 - 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 "DB2 9 – XML and the Unprepared DBA"
Speaker: Mike Sniezek (BMC)
- 10:25 am – 10:40 am Break
- 10:40 pm – 12:00 pm "What a DBA Should Know about ITIL"
Speaker: Mike Sniezek (BMC)
- 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm Lunch

Track 1

- 1:00 pm – 2:15 pm IBM InfoSphere Warehouse V9.7 Update
Speaker: John Sheppard (IBM)

Track 2

- 1:00 pm – 2:15 pm "Using V8/V9 Explain Tables for Query Tuning"
Speaker: Susan Lawson (Yevich, Lawson, and Associates)
- 2:15 pm – 2:30 pm Break
- 2:30 pm – 3:45 pm "V8/V9 SQL Challenges & Solutions"
Speaker: Susan Lawson (Yevich, Lawson, and Associates)

Last Seminar: Feedback from the last MDUG seminar, held on Thursday, June 11th, is available in the [News for Members](#) section of the newsletter. Presentations are still available online at: www.mdug.org.

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Presentation Abstracts

DB2 9 – XML and the unprepared DBA

DB2 9 supports native XML, which means that you can deal with an XML data type as opposed to just storing XML in mechanisms such as large objects. During this presentation, you will learn the steps needed to connect to DB2 9, create objects, and manipulate data.

What a DBA should know about ITIL

Database Administrators should be used to information technology standards by now. Where ITIL differs is it not a database or operating system standard it is a process management standard. ITIL is an integrated set of best-practice recommendations that uses common definitions and terminology. Where does the DBA role fit into this process management standard?

Using V8/9 Explain Tables for Query Tuning

DB2 z/OS V8 and 9 have introduced us to many new EXPLAIN tables. This session will introduce users some of the new EXPLAIN tables to be used for advanced query analysis, and demonstrate how SQL queries can be used to gather and analyze this information. The session will also include information about using the DSN_STATEMENT_CACHE_TABLE to perform analysis on the dynamic SQL cache.

V8/V9 SQL Challenges and Solutions

This presentation will look at some of the performance features in V8 and how they have been successfully used in our applications and databases to meet some of our current performance challenges. Those challenges, of course, being performance and availability. We will discuss some of the things we still desire in terms of application and database performance and take a look at V9 to see what features are available to further improve our performance and availability of our applications. We will look at how we may take advantage of those features.

IBM InfoSphere Warehouse V9.7 Update.

IBM® InfoSphere Warehouse makes it easier to discover business opportunities hidden in your data. It provides a comprehensive platform to design, optimize, and grow departmental data marts and enterprise data warehouses. InfoSphere Warehouse extends the DB2 platform with integrated functionality and tooling that delivers superior scalability and availability, comprehensive design, build, and management tooling, and business analytics. The presentation will cover the key enhancements delivered in the latest release, Version 9.7.

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Speaker Biographies

Mike Sniezek (BMC)

Mike Sniezek career in Information Technology began in 1976 and is currently a Senior Product Manager with BMC Software. He has worked with relational technology since 1984, specializing in database technology as a consultant and lecturer. Mike has presented at International and local conferences topics related to relational database architecture, distributed technology and the Internet.

Susan Lawson (Yevich, Lawson, and 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'.

John Sheppard (IBM)

John Sheppard is a Senior IT Specialist with IBM Information Management, located in the Detroit area. John has 20 plus year of IT experience and is a member of IBM's BI Best Practice Team. He also serves as a member of MDUG board of directors.

Presentation Handouts:

Susan's presentations are available in Soft copy and have been posted on the MDUG web site. As others are made available they will be posted as well. Any presentations so posted **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 Hotel Baronette are available at the MDUG web site: www.mdug.org

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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 Sept. 15 (Tuesday before the seminar). Seating may be limited, so please respond early to guarantee yourself a spot.

News for Members:

1. Seminar Feedback from June 2009 Evaluations (used for Planning purposes):

Responses by Potential Future Topic

12	DB2 for System Programmers
11	Performance Tips for DB2 w/CICS
10	DRDA and DB2 Connect
10	Stored Procedures
9	DB2 Web Connectivity
8	Data Warehousing using DB2
7	Advanced SQL
7	DB2 for Application Programmers
6	DB2 Disaster Recovery
4	Analytical Processing w/DB2
4	DB2 Page Internals
2	Using DB2 w/PeopleSoft & SAP

1. The DB2 for System Programmers was the most future requested asked for topic.
2. Overall rating of the hotel (e.g. The Baronette) had one of the highest ratings in recent memory.
3. Ratings of all of the June speakers indicated a very favorable overall average response.

2. June 2009 Seminar Speakers Feedback

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

Ed Woods - Understanding the Importance of Workload Manager and DB2

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Topic Value	Session Content	Speaker	Material Covered	Handouts	Visuals
4.54	4.57	4.96	4.56	4.54	4.70

Ed Woods - Understanding the Impact of the Network on DB2 Performance

Topic Value	Session Content	Speaker	Material Covered	Handouts	Visuals
4.59	4.48	4.93	4.63	4.50	4.67

Bob Harbus - Overview of DB2 9.7

Topic Value	Session Content	Speaker	Material Covered	Handouts	Visuals
5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	4.43	5.00

Bob Harbus - DB2 9.7 PL/SQL Support Overview

Topic Value	Session Content	Speaker	Material Covered	Handouts	Visuals
4.56	5.00	5.00	5.00	4.43	5.00

Bill Arledge - Ins and Outs of Distributed Processing in DB2 for z/OS and Exploring the DB2 Directory

Topic Value	Session Content	Speaker	Material Covered	Handouts	Visuals
4.28	4.28	4.56	4.28	3.88	4.33

Bill Arledge - Ins and Outs of Distributed Processing in DB2 for z/OS and Exploring the DB2 Directory

Topic Value	Session Content	Speaker	Material Covered	Handouts	Visuals
4.50	4.57	4.50	4.64	3.58	4.43

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 an MDUG Director at a seminar or through admin@mdug.org for details. All memberships are contingent on payment of the annual membership fee

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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.

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.

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, and not just your attendance, the User group may not be able to continue to meet your expectations. .