

CAST 2013

E Expo **X** Extended Session **K** Keynote-Closing **M** Meal-Break **P** Plenary **R** Registration

S Session **G** SIG Meeting **C** Social **T** Tutorial **W** WebCAST

AUGUST 26 • MONDAY

8:00am – 9:00am **M** **Breakfast** Grand Terrace (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)
Rising Sun Buffet

- Chilled Orange Juice
- Seasonal Whole Fruit
- Fresh from our Kitchen Cheese Omelets (Diced Ham, Sautéed Mushrooms, Onion, Tomato, Green Pepper)
- Smoked Beef Hash
- Home-Baked Scones & Muffins with Butter
- Coffee, Tea or Milk

8:00am – 9:00am **R** **Registration** Capitol Promenade (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)
Volunteers: Dawn Haynes

9:00am – 6:00pm

T Coaching Testers [FULL]

Hall of Ideas E (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)

*Facilitors: griffin jones**Speakers: Anne-Marie Charrett*

This tutorial teaches you how to coach software testers. In particular, it focuses on coaching testers on skill and developing a questioning mindset.

A lot of tester training focuses on explaining definitions. It explains testing by pointing to a test methodology, or test case template.

Experienced testers know though, that there is more to testing than this. Give two testers the same test, one tester will find great bugs while the other struggles to find anything beyond the superficial.

This is because great testing requires great skill. Part of that skill is learning the ability to ask useful questions.

The coaching that I do, focuses on improving skill through questioning and practice to develop a deep understanding of testing and how to perform it.

Specifically coaching can help:

- Sharpen your reasoning
- Explain your actions while testing
- Defend your reasoning
- Understand and deal with ambiguity
- testing concepts

The coaching model that I use is being developed by myself and James Bach. It uses Socratic questioning to probe the students knowledge, challenging them to think deeper and through practice come to a greater understanding of what testing is as well as how to test in a better way.

The intent is for the tester to leave coaching feeling enthusiastic about testing, with the motivation to continue self-learning.

The tutorial will examine the coaching model. In particular we will look at the following:

- Socratic Questioning
- Coaching Task
- Managing a coaching session
- Evaluating Coaching

Testers will have the opportunity to observe, analyse and practice and steer coaching sessions throughout the day.

This workshop is suitable for experienced testers and test managers who want to learn how to coach testers either remotely or in a team environment.

9:00am – 6:00pm	T	End to End agile Testing <i>Speakers: Paul Holland</i> <i>This tutorial offers ideas on how to approach testing a product from beginning to reporting using a flexible methodology.</i> You have just been assigned to a new testing project. What do you need to do? How can you organize yourself to develop a plan and start testing? How will you report on your progress? This tutorial is designed to show you multiple methods of approaching new test projects that should enable you to plan, test and report effectively and efficiently. This approach was developed through much trial and error over a 5 year span as a practical implementation of the Heuristic Software Test Model from Rapid Software Testing concepts. Multiple ideas will be shown and the participants will be able to select the methods that can be directly applied or adapted to their own environments. You will be instructed during hands-on testing of a product from the software being handed to you through to your final report. You will start by creating three raw lists (Product Coverage Outline, Potential Risks, and Test Ideas) that will help ensure high levels of product coverage and also assist, later on, in reporting your test activities. These lists will be referenced to create your initial list of test charters. The use of “advanced” test management tools (Microsoft Excel and Whiteboards with sticky notes) will be discussed and how these can be used to create useful test reports without using “bad metrics” (e.g.: pass/fail counts of test cases, % of test cases executed vs. plan). You will be able to look forward to your next testing project with these new ideas on how to improve your preparation, your testing, and your test reporting.	Hall of Ideas F (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)
9:00am – 6:00pm	T	High Powered Visual Test Design <i>Speakers: Robert Sabourin</i> Many testing organizations are in a rut. Some testers spend a lot of time completing templates generating repetitive ineffective tests while important bugs slip right by. There is little time available to test increasingly complex solutions being developed. Visual test design techniques enable testers to create powerful test cases with less effort. Visual test design is about focusing on what really matters to customers, developers and all project stakeholders The test design approaches covered include a blend of classical test design methods using applied discrete math, a smattering of statistics and some experience based software engineering techniques. Core to all of these methods is the creation of visual images used to represent and communicate testing focus. The course starts with using mind maps to identify test variables, and then moves on to visual models used to isolate critical test values using domain analysis, equivalence partitioning and boundary conditions. Storyboards are used to elicit and design usage scenario based tests. Control flow testing is used to isolate critical pathways to test in project workflows, data flows and even source code. Business rules are tested using simple and complex multiple variable decision tables. Transactional and embedded systems are testing with a blend of state model and state table approaches. Interdependent multiple variable testing is approached from two perspectives using Pareto charts for identifying commonly used transaction pathways and then with pairwise combinations using orthogonal arrays. Delegates will have a chance to apply many of the methods explored in the class by designing and implementing powerful visual tests for Edgy the Lego® MindStorm robot. Real world case studies and detailed examples help you get started right away. Rob also shows how some simple tools can help generate powerful visual test designs (blending commercial, free and open source tools).	Hall of Ideas H (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)

9:00am – 6:00pm	T Software Test Attacks for Mobile and Embedded Devices <i>Facilitors: Markus Gärtner</i> Hall of Ideas G (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703) <i>Speakers: Jon Hagar, Jean-Ann Harrison</i> Today's expectations for many software testers include addressing mobile and embedded devices. Unfortunately for many companies, churning out complex or critical mobile and embedded applications while keeping pace with emerging technologies is fast becoming the norm rather than the exception it was just a few years ago. Competitive pressures place a burden on software testing resources to succeed with shortened project schedules, minimal strategic planning and/or staff new to mobile and embedded software. In the style of James Whittaker's Books on breaking software, Jon Hagar and Jean Ann Harrison will provide specific in depth test attacks aimed at uncovering common mobile-embedded software bugs. The session provides an opportunity to gain a basic introduction to a series of attacks which are based on industry error taxonomy. Exercises to test for bugs within software on real devices will give attendees hands-on testing experience. Attacks are applicable to software systems include: mobile-smart phones, medical systems, automotive devices, avionics systems, and industrial devices. The tutorial is hands on, so bring your mobile devices (smart phones, tablets or any mobile device). Also, we will provide some devices (robots and games) so attendees can practice some attacks. The goal of the session is to give attendees practical test attacks for use on their future mobile and embedded software projects.
10:30am – 10:50am	M Break Capitol Promenade (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)

12:30pm –
1:30pm

M Lunch - Deli Buffet
Deli Buffet

Grand Terrace (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)

- House Salad with Creamy Ranch and Fat-Free French Dressings
- Home Style Potato Salad
- Sliced Turkey, Ham, and Egg Salad
- Assorted Wisconsin Cheeses
- Sliced Tomato, Onion and Crisp Lettuce
- Bakery Fresh Kaiser Rolls, Breads and Condiments
- Potato Chips

3:30pm – 4:00pm

M Break - Cup Cakes
Piece O' Cake

Capitol Promenade (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)

A yummy assortment of Cupcakes with Chilled Wisconsin Milk and Fresh Brewed Colombian Coffee

7:00pm – 9:00pm

S Tester Roundtables: Bring Problems, Discover Solutions at CAST [FULL]*Speakers: Matt Heusser, Peter Walen*

Hall of Ideas E (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)

Testers, leads and managers are expected to overcome problems that do not have clear solutions. That's just a part of the job. You are at a conference where your manager sends you and tells you to come back with solutions, or at least ideas, for fixing these problems.

Some problems have common solutions and some of the common 'solutions' often fail. If you can bring in an outside perspective, you may be able to see if these solutions can help your specific organization. In this exercise we provide participants with a whole room full of perspective and the tools to work through a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) analysis. We then break into small groups and work through a round of problems.

This session does several things. You get the chance to express what the *real* problems you are facing are right now. You meet with others who are also having problems. Then, you discuss possible solutions to these problems – things you did to overcome a problem similar to theirs and, just maybe, talk with people who have dealt with problems similar to yours. Finally, you will meet and confer with people very intensely and possibly build a basis for sharing of ideas, future collaboration and meeting some of the cool people attending CAST this year.

You might not come away with a solution to your specific problem from this workshop. You *will* come away with a tool you can *use at the office on Monday* to help organize, frame and direct problem-solving, even when information is limited and the time pressure is strong.

Register Now (limited to 24, must be attending CAST to register)

9:00pm –
11:30pm**C Meet-Up**

State Street Brats (603 State St, Madison WI 53703)

Stop by State Street Brats for socializing or arrive early and get some dinner.

E Expo **X** Extended Session **K** Keynote-Closing **M** Meal-Break **P** Plenary **R** Registration
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AUGUST 27 • TUESDAY

8:00am – 9:00am **M** **Breakfast** Grand Terrace (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)
Dairyland Buffet

- Chilled Orange Juice
- Seasonal Fresh Fruit Tray
- Thick Cinnamon French Toast 9Served with Warm Blueberry Compote Warm Syrup and Whipped Butter)
- Fluffy Scrambled Eggs
- Sausage Links
- Petite Muffin Assortment with Butter
- Coffee, Tea or Milk

8:00am – 9:00am **R** **Registration** Capitol Promenade (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)
Volunteers: Dawn Haynes

9:00am – 9:25am **P** **Welcome** Madison Ballroom AB (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)
Speakers: Paul Holland, Benjamin Yaroch

9:25am – 10:45am **K** **Keynote - A House Divided: Lessons Learned from Argument** Madison Ballroom AB (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)
Speakers: Jonathan Bach

Can't we all just get along?" is the famous rhetorical question from Rodney King, lightning rod for a series of 1993 riots in Los Angeles. Police officers who'd beaten him with clubs a year earlier during a traffic stop were pronounced Not Guilty, fueling race rage to no one in particular, and L.A. communities were set ablaze by its own citizens.

In software testing, the riots are invisible, but the rage is out there. Maybe you've heard "testing is dead"; "automation will find better bugs"; "don't bother testing, our customers will"; "we're moving to a Center of Excellence model", or "our certified testers are 'elite'". Maybe your outrage is smoldering, triggered by bad management, bad metrics, unethical practices, and an industry that seems bent on replacing testing skill with the latest open-source automation platform.

If there's anything that's ever been out there that made you want to argue, but held you back, come vent with Jon in this keynote. As the brother to James Bach -- software testing's most prominent lightning rod -- Jon's short answer to the rhetorical "can't we get along?" is "well, no, we can't". There are good reasons for this: debate forms identity; argument fuels scrutiny; and being "contrary" reveals new problems and opportunities. The basis of the CAST conference was to provide a higher degree of scrutiny and debate – to welcome and foster critical thinking and challenges to speaker content.

In this keynote, Jon talks about the power of conflict at work and in the software testing community. If "a house divided against itself cannot stand", then let Jon tell you his opinion on why "good fences make good neighbors.

10:45am – 11:05am	M	Break	Capitol Promenade (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)
10:45am – 4:45pm	E	Expo Open	Capitol Promenade (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)
11:05am – 12:20pm	S	Exploratory Automated Testing <i>Speakers: Doug Hoffman</i> Director at Large	Hall of Ideas G (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)
<p>When most people think of automated tests they picture automating what human testers do in running their tests. Sometimes this is what we desire, but it isn't the most powerful way to use test automation. ETA is a testing approach that uses the power of the computer to look for bugs that functional testing misses. Unlike regression tests that do the same thing each time they run, exploratory tests do something different each time. The key to this type of testing is the test oracles – checking for abnormal behavior.</p>			
11:05am – 12:20pm	S	Walking skeletons, Butterflies and Islands - an agile testing journey <i>Facilitors: Markus Gärtner</i> <i>Speakers: Claire Moss</i>	Hall of Ideas F (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)
<p>So you think you're an agile tester? So did I! As it turns out, I've experienced different varieties of "agile" development and the shifting definition of testing in those milieux. I went from a separate quality department to being involved in most of the sprint activities as a member of the software product team. Even then, as the team changed and as our situation changed, my testing responded to these changes, becoming a more collaborative experience.</p> <p>We'll talk about the skills to develop to become a Rockstar Tester in the shifting world of agile software development, which takes flexibility, intellect, judgment, skill, and cooperation with the folks on your team.</p> <p><i>And then there are the minor details of your product's context!</i></p> <p>If that intrigues you, come hear the story of how I let go of being "the lone tester" and became the testing teacher and coach for my team. Bring your curiosity and some tough questions for me. The don't call it Open Season for nothing!</p>			
11:05am – 12:20pm	S	What is software engineering and craftsmanship? And why should I, as a tester, care? <i>Speakers: Matt Barcomb, Jim Holmes</i>	Hall of Ideas E (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)
<p>This session is will focus on practical tips for keeping automated tests more flexible and maintainable. Attendees will learn key ideas from software engineering and craftsmanship movements (such as abstraction, the Single Responsibility Principle, Don't Repeat Yourself and Clean Code) and then apply them to test design and automation.</p> <p>We'll finish out this session with examples of how testers can further use these concepts to become an effective pair with coders throughout the development lifecycle. You'll leave this session with practical knowledge on applying software craftsmanship principles to test automation--and you'll be a step further to the elusive goal of being a generalizing specialist on a truly cross-functional team.</p>			

11:05am –
12:20pm

S Transforming an entire corporate testing organization

Speakers: Brian Demers, Paul Holland

Madison Ballroom AB (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)

The entire approach toward software testing was drastically transformed at a major health insurance company over the past year. In 2010, Brian Demers was hired to guide “transformational change” in the testing department at Premera Blue Cross based near Seattle, WA.

Brian explains the successes and failures that he had over the past three years. He talks about what worked, what didn't work and the steps that eventually brought him to his decision to train his entire test department and their management in a different approach to software testing.

Paul Holland, an independent software consultant and teacher, was brought in to help Brian with the transformation. Paul taught the Rapid Software Testing class to the ~70 testers, four test managers, and the test director. He helps Brian explain this success story from the viewpoint of the facilitator and teacher.

Brian and Paul explain how the test teams were trained, how the teams were involved after the training to get their buy-in to the implementation, what improvements have been seen and how difficulties were overcome.

12:20pm –
1:30pm

M Lunch - Heart of Italy Buffet

Board of Directors: Benjamin Yaroch

Heart of Italy Buffet

Grand Terrace (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)

- Traditional Caesar & Caprese Salads
- Parmesan Chicken atop Tomato Ragout
- Baked Rigatoni Alfredo.
- Assorted Pizzas with
- Fresh Wisconsin Parmesan Cheese
- Fresh Vegetable Blend.

1:30pm – 2:45pm S **How to find good testers in the rust belt** Hall of Ideas G (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)

Speakers: Erik Davis

This is an experience report from a test manager discussions the hiring of testers over the past eight years in a tertiary market with details on what has and has not worked for me (so you can get ideas that might work for you). If you don't happen to work in one of the top 10 tech markets and you still need to hire testers, this session is for you.

This session will offer the following key takeaways:

- Why there aren't enough testers out there (who know they are testers).
- The pros and cons of different backgrounds (yes, including CS majors) and why each made good candidates for me.
- Why hiring based on abilities and mindset over credentials and degrees can lead to good candidates in the door, why this likely means "losing" more people to other departments, and why it's OK to stop being so greedy.
- Ways to change your "getting applications in" process or "How to keep HR from throwing out all the good candidates".
- Why you need to get out and hunt down candidates instead of hoping they find you.

1:30pm – 2:45pm S **Utter failures and lessons remained unlearned** Madison Ballroom AB (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)

Speakers: Ilari Henrik Aegerter

In an ideal world we would happily go along and collect experiences. These experiences would lead to learning and every mistake creates a lesson learned upon which we fine-tune our actions.

My experience, however, is that I sometimes utterly fail. There are times where I don't even know what the lesson is I could learn from. The state I am in is one of confusion. Confusion can either be paralyzing or a starting point for a deeper learning experience, which is not a straightforward matter but a complex long-term path.

During this session I will explore some of my own failures and identify patterns that lead to them. I also want to include the experiences of the audience and engage in a discussion about failures and what came out of them.

1:30pm – 4:15pm	X	Building and running a company focused on exploratory and context-driven testing [EXTENDED] <i>Facilitors: griffin jones</i> <i>Speakers: Pradeep Soundararajan (IN)</i> <p>In this talk, I will be sharing my personal experience of how I have been building and running my company focused on context driven and exploratory testing successful so far, which is obvious from the title. However, the non obvious things I would be sharing are</p> <p>How money can trouble the vision of being context driven? (and how I fixed it) [so that future tester entrepreneurs don't need to fall into the same trap] How we told our customers "We don't do scripted testing"? (and still continue to get business)</p> <p>How I made bold decisions of pulling out of a business when it does not align to context driven testing? (How it meant more business) How to help customers understand the value we are bringing to them? (and how we need to improve on it) The challenge of creating context driven testers (and how we are solving it)</p> <p>How I see the context driven testing community is changing? (and not changing, too)</p> <p>What unity can do to this community? (and why we aren't there yet)</p> <p>What is this community doing wrong? (and why I think I need to present at CAST)</p> <p>I don't just have these questions but also answers to it, presented in a form of story mixed with presenting live examples. Here is how I think about it - this presentation is a reflection of what the context driven testing community has done to me and how I am taking the impact to the world.</p>	Hall of Ideas E (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)
1:30pm – 4:15pm	X	Human-Scale Test Automation [EXTENDED] <i>Speakers: Michael Hunter</i> <p>I've spent the last ten years implementing automation stacks of one form or another. Most of them have been useful. Some have even continued until be useful after I left the team. In helping all these teams converge on a stack that works for them, I've found two constants: every stack is different, and finding the right stack is hard! All those implementation details get in the way, even when we're confident we've abstracted them all away. In this workshop we'll experience this firsthand: we'll figure out the "right" set of customer actions, implement them in an automation stack where we are the various components, and then execute a few test cases and see what we learn.</p>	Hall of Ideas F (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)

3:00pm – 4:15pm

S Exploratory combinatorial testing

Hall of Ideas G (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)

Speakers: Justin Hunter

The promise of Combinatorial Test Design is that, when used thoughtfully, it often results in:

- Increased variation between tests (which helps find more bugs),
- Decreased repetition between tests (which improves tester productivity)
- Very efficient coverage of user-specified thoroughness goals (which helps testers maximize both their thoroughness and efficiency).

The reality is rarely so straightforward. Particularly when Exploratory Testers try to apply this test design approach.

In this presentation, Justin Hunter:

- Expands upon concepts that have been laid out by Jon Bach and Rob Sabourin
- Acknowledges "the elephant in the room" (e.g., that practitioners often use Combinatorial Test Design methods to try to create highly-detailed test scripts, which is a repugnant goal for Exploratory Testers)
- Describes practical ways that testers have successfully blended Exploratory Testing strategies and Combinatorial Test design
- Highlights some of the significant challenges that Exploratory Testers face when applying Combinatorial Test design

Key ideas/outcomes you want to share with the attendees:

- Combinatorial test design strategies can be used in many more places than Exploratory Testers probably realize
 - These strategies can successfully be applied at the "test charter" level in addition to the test case level
 - Combinations can create engagement through priming effects
-

3:00pm – 4:15pm

S Teaching the Next Generation: Developing the SummerQAMP Curriculum

Imagine that you have a group of students, between the ages of 16-24. Imagine that these students have traditionally come from backgrounds and environments where technology and science has not been a prominent factor in their lives. Now imagine an initiative aimed at helping those same students being given an opportunity to participate in an internship program where they test software. What would you want to have them learn? How quickly? In what format? What can we do to have these interns be both excited about what they learn, and want to carry that knowledge forward as a career?

Actually, we don't have to imagine. This program exists, and is happening now. The program is called SummerQAMP, and the participants are 16-24 year old students, many from non technical backgrounds, looking to develop skills towards software testing and quality assurance. AST and the Education Special Interest group took the lead in working with the SummerQAMP program to develop the training materials. We are, right now, actively creating the materials to be used for 2013. Through numerous revisions, a lot of collaboration, and comparing notes with many software testing professionals, we sought to answer one over-arching question..."What did we wish we knew about software testing when we were younger?"

This talk looks to share the decisions we made, the materials we chose to use, the questions we asked and the answers we found, as well as both the positive and negative feedback we received in the process. Our hope is that these materials can be used as a model to help teach the next generation of software testers, and go beyond just the SummerQAMP participants.

4:15pm – 4:45pm

M Break - Milk and Cookies

Capitol Promenade (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)

Sponsors: Jean-Ann Harrison, Matt Heusser, Anna Royzman, Peter Walen

Fresh Baked Homemade Assortment of Brownies, Bars and Cookies with Chilled Cartons of Wisconsin Milk and Fresh Brewed Colombian Coffee.

4:45pm – 6:00pm S **5 Unconventional traits of extraordinary testers** Hall of Ideas F (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)

Speakers: Heather Tinkham

There are a lot of ways to get training in testing skills, strategies, and tools, and there are a lot of very capable testers out there. However, there are some testers who stand out from the crowd of even the experienced and trained, regardless of changes in technology or domain. These are professionals who are not only leaders, but also innovators and enablers. They stick in your head as remarkable in their approaches and their accomplishments. What do they do that is so different?

If we look at findings from the fields of psychology, organizational behavior, art, and medical innovations, a number of counterintuitive traits turn out to be quite valuable. These characteristics of extraordinary testers are not typically part of the traditional skill sets we talk about, for testers, yet they have been shown to provide great value in these other fields:

- Understanding the value of being wrong
- Daring to disagree
- Being able to “See by forgetting the names of things”
- Benefiting from ignorance
- Building acceptance across users and teams

These are not things that make us comfortable and they are not easy. They are part of what many testers may feel uneasy about despite believing they are vital to our contributions to our projects.

We will look at evidence from recent TED talks, artist biographies, and popular science writers that explain how these traits can be used to take your confidence and influence as a tester to new levels, or help you come to terms with the tremendous value you can get from the traits you already have in these directions!

Key ideas:

Understanding the value of these unconventional traits, both for yourself and for other testers, and for building team soft skills How these traits contribute to project success and support critical non-traditional testing influence, particularly in “agile” / “nimble” environments here to find these traits in unexpected people and places.

4:45pm – 6:00pm S **Making learning my top priority** Hall of Ideas E (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)

Facilitors: Ilari Henrik Aegerter

Speakers: Erik Brickarp

In this experience report I will talk about how actively trying to prioritize learning helped me overcome the fear of failing, as well as skyrocketed my development as a tester. It's a story that starts with me bailing out from a major test conference, scared of being perceived as a lousy tester, and ends with me being a presenter on a similar conference one year later. I will walk you through my actions and decisions. Actions like setting up a development plan and adding small challenges to all my learning activities. Decisions like not accepting my own excuses. It's been an amazing adventure so far, I hope I can inspire and help you experience it too!

4:45pm – 6:00pm	S	Testing under Pressure <i>Speakers: Geoff Loken</i> For most of us, testing shares more in common with emergency response than with airplane maintenance. In a perfect world we'd check the torque on every bolt, and leave the runway with 100% certainty every flight. Most testers don't have that luxury; we're thrown at problems, and have to solve them as quickly as we can, with whatever tools we have. We're expected to quickly understand new contexts, to deal with high pressure, low resources, and rapidly evolving situations. I'll be comparing my experience as a firefighter to my experience with testing. We have to imagine the worst case: we enter a scene with little or no information, an urgency of action, and limited resources. It's imperative to get in and out quickly, to prioritize the critical, high impact response, and to handle whatever unexpected challenges the job is going to throw at you. Every situation is different, and there's never enough information, so how do you prepare for the unknown?	Hall of Ideas G (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)
4:45pm – 6:00pm	S	Tailoring Your Testing Timespan <i>Facilitors: griffin jones</i> <i>Speakers: Geordie Keitt</i> We all want to test with "brain engaged", right? But what engages your brain? Software testing offers a range of problems and goals of all sizes. Sometimes you can feel like the job is too small and claustrophobic, or else vast and confusing. The right size problem engages your brain at maximum capacity. The timeframe of the goals you share with your boss, your <i>timespan of discretion</i> , determines how you feel. You may need tighter feedback loops and more oversight, or larger goals and more discretion. Your team may need different size goals to suit each individual's capacity. This session will help you discover the timespan of your testing, see if it works for you, and tailor your shared goals to find the right size ones to strive toward. With these ideas you and your team can stay "brain engaged".	Madison Ballroom AB (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)
6:00pm – 8:00pm	C	Reception	Grand Terrace (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)
6:15pm – 7:15pm	W	'CAST Live' <i>Speakers: Paul Holland, Benjamin Yaroach</i> "CAST Live" is a show broadcast live each evening following the close of the conference. CAST Live is hosted by Benjamin Yaroach and joining Ben this year will be Paul Holland. Each night Ben and Paul will recap that days events, interview influential testers, and discuss all things testing. Join our live studio audience in Ballroom AB or via the webCAST.	Madison Ballroom AB (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)
6:15pm – 8:00pm	P	Lightning Talks <i>Volunteers: Dawn Haynes</i> Want to do a lightning talk? A lightning talk is 5 minutes or less, no slides, just you and the audience. All we need is your name, email address, and talk title. Best 3 talks take the main stage on Wed afternoon. Propose a Talk Now Stop by the registration desk when you get to Madison.	Grand Terrace (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)

8:00pm – 9:00pm	S	Experience Report Primer - An ER on ERs <i>Speakers: Robert Sabourin</i> Simply put this is an experience report (ER) on experience reports. Rob Sabourin will share an approach used to construct many different types of experience reports. See examples of short five minute lightning talks, framed professional conference experience reports and open ended peer conference experience reports. Rob will demonstrate by example sharing experience reports about experience reports. If this is the first conference you've attended that uses the ER method then this primer will help you understand the dynamics of an ER. If you plan to give an ER in the future this session will provide insights into ways you can better share your story and help your audience draw wonderful lessons from your experience.	Hall of Ideas E (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)
8:00pm – 10:00pm	C	Testing Competition <i>Sponsors: Michael Kelly, Jason Vasquez</i> Special thanks to Michael Kelly, Jason Vasquez, and DeveloperTown for running and sponsoring this event. We will allow submissions until early AM, so you have all night to find the best bug and win possibly win a prize.	Grand Terrace (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)
8:00pm – 10:00pm	C	Testing Games Join us for a CAST tradition, tester games. Test your testing abilities with dice and card games.	Grand Terrace (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)
10:00pm – 2:00am	C	Meet-Up Join us after hours at the Great Dane Brew Pub for drinks, socializing, and games. Beer Selection	Great Dane Brew Pub (123 E. Doty Street, Madison, WI)

E Expo **X** Extended Session **K** Keynote-Closing **M** Meal-Break **P** Plenary **R** Registration
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AUGUST 28 • WEDNESDAY

8:00am – 9:00am	M	Breakfast Country Buffet	Grand Terrace (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chilled Orange Juice • Wisconsin Cheese and Chive Scrambled Eggs • Apple Smoked Bacon • Rosemary Wedge Potatoes • Homemade Biscuits and Sausage Gravy • Ketchup Compote • Coffee, Tea or Milk 	
9:00am – 9:25am	P	Welcome <i>Speakers: Benjamin Yaroach</i>	Madison Ballroom AB (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)
9:25am – 10:45am	K	Keynote - Introspective Retrospectives: Lessons Learned and Re-Learned <i>Speakers: Dawn Haynes</i>	Madison Ballroom AB (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)
		<p>Using retrospectives and extracting lessons learned are common tools teams use to evaluate a work effort and come up with ideas about what to do again, what to avoid, and what to do differently. This can be a fabulous opportunity to explore processes, team dynamics, organizational influences, external factors, personnel issues, management strategies, guidelines and procedures, tool support, skills, and anything else that contributed to the team's success or failure in achieving their goals. But far too often, lessons learned exercises are forfeited due to lack of time, priority, or interest. Even more tragic is when the time is spent improperly – playing the blame game, venting sessions with no action, gathering data for performance appraisals, etc. – retrospectives can become demoralizing, cause people to participate poorly or even avoid the exercise altogether.</p> <p>Overall, turning the critical eye toward our own work, analyzing our own failures and shortcomings, can be a difficult task. So I suggest we do it more! Especially if retrospectives and lessons learned sessions are not done or done poorly on your projects. Let's perform personal retrospectives! We can file bugs and perform assessments on ourselves. What we discover can inspire change and personal evolution (and sometimes revolution!) leading to things like establishing favored protocols, reducing unproductive habits, seeing and avoiding traps, finding skill and knowledge gaps, identifying the need for mentorship or opportunities to mentor others, or whatever else you need to become the best master craftsman you can be.</p> <p>In this session, Dawn will illustrate how she has used introspective retrospectives throughout her career to learn from her experiences – not only to improve personally, but to generate lessons learned to share in coaching and mentoring sessions, conferences presentations, consulting engagements, and training courses. What will you learn, or re-learn?</p>	
10:45am – 11:05am	M	Break	Capitol Promenade (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)

10:45am – 4:45pm	E	Expo Open	Capitol Promenade (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)
11:05am – 12:20pm	S	An Ongoing Journey of Testing Mentorship <i>Speakers: Rob Bowyer, Sabina Simons</i> <p>Rob Bowyer's experience as a life-long learner and tester suggests that the mentorship relationship is fundamental to the learning journey; whether specifically applied to personal learning, professional development or introspection and personal improvement. As a QA Manager, Rob has found himself in the role of the Mentor as well as Mentee.</p> <p>Sabina Simons, a young, enthusiastic and intelligent "first-job" tester has proven herself to be Rob's Mentee with "Rock Star" potential.</p> <p>In this presentation, Rob and Sabina share with you the highlights of their Mentoring story to date. Hear about Rob's challenges, successes & evolution as a Mentor as well as Sabina's perspective on her testing challenges and what she believes she has learned specifically due to their mentoring model, the value of that learning, the challenges she has faced and how she has evolved as both a tester and as a Mentee.</p> <p>If you are, or would like to be, a Mentor or a Mentee you will not want to miss this session. Bring your critical thinking caps for the Q & A section to pick their brains, share your similar or dissimilar experiences and/or share your tips related to what they can expect during the next chapter of their Mentorship story.</p>	Hall of Ideas F (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)
11:05am – 12:20pm	S	Elephant Whisperer inspired lessons learned in Software Testing in South Africa <i>Speakers: Cindy Carless</i> <p>A selection of lessons learned in software testing in the Financial Service industry in South Africa is compared to the experiences of a conservationist. The conservationist undertakes the mammoth task of settling a herd of badly behaved, traumatised elephants onto a private game reserve. The size and complexity of a test environment, the execution and reporting techniques used and the development of context driven and exploratory testing principles and philosophies are explored. Cindy Carless uses the deeply moving and entertaining account of settling the elephants while allowing them to remain wild to support her philosophy. She asserts that the real value of software testing is to provide meaningful information to decision makers. This information is used to determine the readiness of the software to add value to the business it is being used to support and enhance.</p>	Hall of Ideas G (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)
11:05am – 12:20pm	S	Mind Maps - a practical, lean, visual tool for test planning & reporting <i>Speakers: Aaron Hodder</i> <p>This session describes how I use mind mapping software as a lean test management tool to model the software, organise and manage the testing activities, and report on the testing story to date.</p> <p>The biggest threats to lean systems testing are the way testing artefacts are traditionally produced and the prevalence of pre-scripted tests.</p> <p>I propose an alternative using James Bach's Heuristic Test Strategy Model as the skeleton for a visual model of the software under test. By using this skeleton to ask questions and as a prompt to learn more about the application, I build a model of the application under test. I will demonstrate how I can use the map as a tool to aid with test estimation, and how it can be used to give testing transcripts context and communicate certain aspects of the testing story visually.</p>	Hall of Ideas E (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)

11:05am –
12:20pm

S What is good evidence

Madison Ballroom AB (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)

Speakers: griffin jones

By marshaling credible and persuasive evidence, influential testers answer three basic questions: How good is the product? What testing did you do? Why is the testing any good? Feeble evidence and the behaviors associated with it are common testing maladies and threats to your ability to tell a compelling story. What are the qualities of strong evidence, and the anti-patterns and risks of weak evidence?

Griffin Jones presents the different qualities and types of evidence. We review threats to the credibility and persuasiveness of your work, such as: The danger of false-negative results reported as “pass - as expected”, “Lullaby Language” as an anti-pattern of Lean’s Genchi Genbutsu (go-and-see), the danger of obsessing on efficiency and how it biases the observer. Finally, we show how over-scripted procedures can superficially conceal fatal evidentiary flaws. Be intentional and critical about the type and quality of your evidence. Leave with the skills to recognize and evaluate the dangers and risks, strengths and weaknesses of the evidence you use for your testing story.

12:20pm –
1:30pm

M Lunch - Bucky's Tailgate Buffet
Speakers: Michael Kelly, Benjamin Yaroch
Bucky's Tailgate Buffet

Grand Terrace (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)

- Wisconsin Waldorf Salad
- Home-Style Potato Salad
- Fresh Vegetable and Relish Tray
- Beer Boiled Johnsonville Bratwurst with Wisconsin Sauerkraut and Chopped Fresh Onion
- Grilled Boneless Chicken Breast
- Fresh Sliced Tomato and Crisp Lettuce
- Wisconsin Calico Baked Beans
- Condiments and Buns

We will announce the newly elected board members and the testing competition award winners.

1:30pm – 2:45pm	S	Famous software failures and what we can learn from them <i>Speakers: Peter Varhol</i> Hall of Ideas G (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703) Death, injury, and physical harm. Loss of tens or hundreds of millions of dollars. World-wide and even galaxy-wide embarrassment. These are just a few of the consequences of some of the more famous software failures over the last couple of decades. These failures have received general interest press attention in the past, but have rarely been analyzed to understand how a rigorous testing process could have had an impact on the failure. Peter examines six publicized software failures, and discusses how effective testing may have brought about a different outcome. He details the circumstances surrounding these failures, and offers lessons to testers on the importance of certain aspects of testing and evaluating the quality of critical applications. By studying known failures and their causes, we can add value to our own quality programs to help ensure we don't become a character in a future "famous software failure."
1:30pm – 2:45pm	S	Relationship Woes: Trials of Testers & CEOs Madison Ballroom AB (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703) <i>Speakers: Manuel Mattke, Dee Ann Pizzica</i> The relationship between business leadership (aka upper management) and testing teams is a challenging one. These teams often seem at odds in the struggle to deliver both quality and value. Dee Ann is a Tester. Manuel is a Business Leader. In this session we will share stories and discuss the dynamics of this often tumultuous relationship. We believe there are a number of common misconceptions and stereotypes that prevent people in these roles from communicating their needs effectively. But this relationship doesn't have to be so strained. We will tackle the problems that people in these roles face as they work together. The purpose of this session is to provide ideas for constructive communication, productive deliverables, and an improved understanding of the perspectives of the people in these vibrant and vital roles.
1:30pm – 4:15pm	X	How do you solve problems? [EXTENDED] Hall of Ideas F (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703) <i>Facilitors: Paul Holland</i> I bet you solve problems well and often. That seems to be something that testers just do. But do you know how you do it ? Do you think others do the same or solve things better than you ? We can only learn this from studying it, and that's exactly what we will do here. I will bring you some testing problems, and we will divide ourselves into groups - some will observe, some will try to solve the problems. Then we will bring it all together to see if we can learn something about how we solve problems, but there just might also be something about which problems we should solve, or even can solve. And then what ? Prepare for some fun. What can you risk to (re-)learn from this: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning problems can be frustrating but also fun • We might need some human skills, not just logic • Understanding problems is pretty much the key. Sometimes we cannot see the forest for the trees - and we need to be reminded of that pretty often.

1:30pm – 4:15pm	X	Quality Leader: the changing role of a software tester [EXTENDED] <i>Speakers: Anna Royzman</i> Hall of Ideas E (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703) 4 years ago my company reorganized into product units, and my QA manager position became obsolete. The new reality was not comfortable at first, until, some time and practice later I recognized that my test manager/strategist skills are equally important and applicable to the new role of a tester on the multidisciplinary team. That synthesis emerged into a new role of a "peer leader" which I later identified as a new trend -- through conversations with coaches and thought leaders of our industry. Quality Leader skills are in demand now, and, as I foresee, will be in even higher demand in the future. I firmly believe that an advancement of the testing profession is calling for leaders, fully versed in testing strategies, equipped with the knowledge of psychology and team dynamics, who know how to utilize all available resources to optimize product delivery. Quality Leaders are motivators and educators who can transform every team member into the quality advocate. No matter which position you hold now, if you are a member of a team that delivers software products, you will need to advance yourself in order to advance the team to the next level of productivity. To be successful in this endeavor, you have to evaluate your current position and what sets you aside, make an analysis on what the team needs and in what ways you can add most value. We will discuss what's unique about the role that makes it an ideal fit for the context-driven test professional, and what skills are needed to succeed.
3:00pm – 4:15pm	S	Testing when software must work <i>Speakers: Barbara Streiffert</i> Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) in Pasadena California develops unmanned spacecraft to explore our solar system. Each of the spacecraft is unique and its software is unique. Spacecraft are limited systems with a finite amount of power, fuel, data storage, etc. The various spacecraft have their own flight software that commands it and ground software that evaluates the commands that are sent to the spacecraft to make sure that they do not damage the spacecraft. All of this software is extensively tested because if it doesn't work, the spacecraft could be destroyed. Not only would billions of dollars be lost, but the scientific discoveries that the spacecraft would obtain are lost as well. Software testing is crucial and the lesson learned is "Test as you fly; Fly as you test". What that slogan means varies depending on the type of software involved. This presentation will discuss the various types of software and the types of testing required to be able to assert that the software is tested as you fly and the spacecraft software is flown as you test. In addition, videos of the spacecraft and its mission will be shown to help with understanding the task and to demonstrate how the various types of software are used, and tested as well as the goals/purposes of that software.
3:00pm – 4:15pm	S	Lessons Learned since the Four Schools <i>Speakers: Markus Gärtner</i> It has been 11 years since Lessons Learned in Software Testing has been published, and about the same time since the concept of the four schools in software testing came up. Since then a lot of things happened with the advent of more and more agile methodologies, online courses like the black-box software testing series, and the recent advances in web technology. But what does that tell us about the future in software testing? With the different advances in both technology and business, testers nowadays face many challenges. Some of them hint towards a difficult future in testing, some of them make testing a bright spot in the future to come. After eleven years, it's time to take a look back, and see where we struggle, and where we shine, and how to advance from here. You will learn about the concept of the four schools in software testing, where the model helped to advance our craft, and where it has not, and possible next steps for the future. You will walk away from this presentation with new things to think about.

4:15pm – 4:45pm	M	Break - Babcock Hall Sundae Bar <i>Sponsors: Jean-Ann Harrison, Matt Heusser, Anna Royzman, Peter Walen</i> Hand Scooped Babcock Hall Vanilla Ice Cream made right here in Madison. Your choice of toppings to include: Hot Fudge & Caramel Sauces, Sliced Strawberries, Spanish Peanuts, Maraschino Cherries, M&M Pieces, Fresh Banana Slices and Fresh Whipped Cream Served with Fresh Brewed Colombian Coffee	Capitol Promenade (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)
4:45pm – 5:15pm	P	Best of the Lightning Talks <i>Facilitors: Paul Holland</i> <i>Volunteers: Dawn Haynes</i> Best of the lightning talks, the top three talks from Tuesday night will take the stage.	Madison Ballroom AB (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)
5:15pm – 6:15pm	K	Lessons Learned at CAST <i>Speakers: Scott Barber, Robert Sabourin</i> Rob and Scott will share with you their lessons learned at CAST 2013. This is sure to be an energetic tour de force of this year's conference and you won't want to miss it.	Madison Ballroom AB (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)
6:30pm – 7:30pm	W	'CAST Live' <i>Speakers: Paul Holland, Benjamin Yarocho</i> "CAST Live" is a show broadcast live each evening following the close of the conference. CAST Live is hosted by Benjamin Yarocho and joining Ben this year will be Paul Holland. Each night Ben and Paul will recap that days events, interview influential testers, and discuss all things testing. Join our live studio audience in Ballroom AB or via the webCAST.	Madison Ballroom AB (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)
7:00pm – 8:00pm	G	Quality Leader SIG Panel: Lessons Learned In Software Test Leadership <i>Speakers: Anna Royzman</i> Whether you are a line manager in test, a head of the test organization or an aspiring test lead, every day you are faced with questions on how to do your job more effectively. We offer you a unique opportunity to learn from your peers who have done that successfully. Join us for the panel discussion where leaders in software testing share their insights, practices, stories of what worked and what failed, and strategies that lead them to their success. The experts will debate and answer your questions on: Leading an effective test team and test organization Hiring the right people Enabling your team for success: building a nourishing environment for learning and growing Motivating your people Strategies for managing stakeholders' expectations Software test leader's skills and qualities Career advancement in software test leadership Our panel members collectively possess over 200 years of experience in leading software testers. They are active members of context-driven testing community.	Hall of Ideas E (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)
7:00pm – 10:00pm	C	Testing Games Join us for a CAST tradition, tester games. Test your testing abilities with dice and card games.	Grand Terrace (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)
8:00pm – 9:00pm	G	Education SIG Meeting The AST Education Special Interest Group (EdSIG) is the group that develops, discusses and looks to the future of software testing education, within AST and beyond. Come join us as we look to the future and see where we want to go in 2014 and beyond. Your voice and talent can make a world of difference. Come join us and see how.	Hall of Ideas F (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)

8:00pm – 9:00pm	G Quality Leader SIG Meeting <i>Speakers: Anna Royzman</i> AST Quality Leader Special Interest Group is dedicated to build a community of context driven test leaders, and provide resources and support for advancing test management, quality advocacy and leadership skills and practices. Quality Leader SIG identifies test management as a distinct skill that needs mastering. Test managers envision and drive testing strategy on different levels through deep understanding of the context, advance their soft skills for successful collaboration with the other disciplines and stakeholders, build an extensive toolkit of test tools and methodologies, and create an environment for their people to succeed and grow. Also, Quality Leader SIG recognizes that recently changed industry landscape (such as organizational Agile transformation) introduced new challenges for testers — as well as new opportunities. Oftentimes, the single testers on Agile teams are anticipated to take on responsibilities of test managers or leads (through creating test strategy, distributing or supervising test-related activities, influencing their team members to become quality advocates, etc.), yet having to work with their peers, not direct or indirect reports. Quality Leader SIG recognizes and supports variety of different paths for career development of software test professionals. Our activities comprise of facilitating workshops for test leaders and providing the platform for sharing and exchanging techniques and stories. In the long term, we plan to create the Body of Knowledge for context driven test professionals who are accepting the leaders' role in their organizations.	Hall of Ideas E (One John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703)
10:00pm – 2:00am	C Meet-Up Join us after hours at the Great Dane Brew Pub for drinks, socializing, and games. Beer Selection	Great Dane Brew Pub (123 E. Doty Street, Madison, WI)