THE PERL REVIEW
NEWS & INFO

YAPC.tv launches with YAPC::EU 2008 videos

http://yapc.tv

If you missed YAPC::EU in Copenhagen (*http://www.yapceurope2008.org/ye2008*), or even if you were there, you can watch many of the talks, including the lightning talks, on YAPC.tv. Andrew Shitov uploaded the videos to Blip.tv and organized them under YAPC. tv. You can watch the embedded videos or download them as Flash video or MPEG files. The presentations that you can see include Dave Cross's "Ye Compleat History of Ye Perle Mongers of Olde London Towne", Jonathan Worthington's "Putting Types To Work In Perl 6", and Damian Conway's keynote address. Andrew is adding more videos as he processes them.

mod_perl users survey

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=bQyb2RFCBuVb0P52yha CMg_3d_3d

During YAPC::NA this year, Fred Moyer and Adam Prime put together a survey for mod_perl users in an effort to determine who is using which versions on which platforms and what features they are using. They also want to get general feedback that the mod_perl developers can use for future plans. The last question in the survey asks people if they'd be willing to attend a low-cost mod_perl workshop. If you want such a workshop, fill out the survey!

Artistic License wins appeal in US Federal Court

http://www.cafc.uscourts.gov/opinions/08-1001.pdf

In its first legal challenge, the Artistic License 1.0, the license for `perl` and most CPAN modules, has so far prevailed. On August 13, The Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit vacated the decision of the District Court for Northern California in *Jacobsen v. Katzer* (see *http://jmri.sourceforge.net/k/index.html*), which held that the Artistic License did not allow for copyright infringement remedies. The Appeal Court upheld the Artistic License and returned the case to the lower court. Jim Brandt of The Perl Foundation explained the case (*http://news.perlfoundation.org/2008/03/tpf_support_of_artistic_licens.html*). Now there is legal precedent that when someone violates one of the terms of the Artistic License, the violator loses the license and infringes on the copyright. The Perl Foundation released a statement on the decision (*http://news.perlfoundation.org/2008/08/perl_foundation_statement_on_t.html*).

Testing poll

http://www.polldaddy.com/survey.aspx?id=8f62e4d34fae178a

Curtis "Ovid" Poe created a poll to collect information about Perl programmers' testing habits, including what level of testing they do, how much of their code they test, and what could help them to test better. This poll was a warm-up for a more detailed future poll to gather feedback for the future of Perl testing practices.

UPCOMING CALENDAR

See *The Perl Review* Community Calendar at *http://www.theperlreview.com/community_calendar*

SEPTEMBER 18-19
Italian Perl Workshop
Pisa, Italy
http://conferences.yapceurope.org/ipw2008/

SEPTEMBER 26
Far East Perl Workshop
Vladivostok, Russia
http://fe2008.perlrussia.ru/

OCTOBER 11-12
Pittsburgh Perl Workshop
Pittsburgh, PA
http://pghpw.org/

OCTOBER 18-20
Belorussian Perl Workshop
http://event.perlbelarus.org/minsk2008/

NOVEMBER 1-2
Third Russian Perl Workshop
Rostov-on-Don
http://rpw2008.perlrussia.ru/

NOVEMBER 7-8
Twin Cities Perl Workshop
Vienna, Austria & Bratislava, Slovakia
http://conferences.yapceurope.org/tcpw2008/

NOVEMBER 29
London Perl Workshop
http://conferences.yapceurope.org/lpw2008

DECEMBER 2-5
OSDC::AU
Sydney, Australia
http://www.osdc.com.au/2008/

FEBRUARY 25-27
German Perl Workhop
Frankfurt/Main, Germany
http://www.perl-workshop.de/en/2009/

Strawberry Perl Portable 5.10 Alpha release.
http://use.perl.org/articles/08/07/05/1338257.shtml

Adam Kennedy, working under a grant from The Perl Foundation (*http://www.perlfoundation.org/perl_on_a_stick*), released an early version of his Portable Perl by passing out USB thumb drives at OSCON. Relocatable binaries is a new feature in Perl 5.10, so your perl binary and its library directories do not need to stay in the same place. Although Perl 5.10 has this feature, it needs the support to configure itself when it is moved. Adam created the `Portable::` namespace (*http://search.cpan.org/dist/Portable/*) to highjack `Config.pm` and other parts to let Perl use the right paths once it is moved, as it would be passing around a thumb drive.

Auto-detect CPAN mirrors
http://search.cpan.org/dist/CPAN-Indexer-Mirror/

Adam Kennedy released `CPAN::Indexer::Mirror` to implement mirror reporting in the Perl Authors Upload Server (PAUSE). By generating *mirror.yml* and *mirror.json* files containing a list of fresh mirrors, CPAN clients using `Mirror::YAML` (or `Mirror::JSON`) can download one of those files to get a list of fresh mirrors. The information in the *mirror.yml* comes from CPAN's *MIRRORED.BY* file (*http://www.cpan.org/MIRRORED. BY*) that contains details information on each mirror, including it's location, bandwidth, and update frequency. So far this has not made it into the CPAN toolchain, so for a little while longer you still have to manually choose mirrors when you set up `CPAN.pm` for the very first time.

TPF grants biweekly updates
http://news.perlfoundation.org/2008/08/running_grants_biweekly_re-port.html

In August, Alberto Simões, the Grants Secretary for The Perl Foundation, started bi-weekly reports of all open grants, He'll write a short report for each grant on the first and third Fridays of each month. This reporting keeps grantees motivated, helps grant managers to track progress, and keeps the community informed about each project.

Perlsphere aggregates Perl news and blogs
http://www.perlsphere.net

Earle Martin started Perlsphere, a new aggregator for Perl news, blogs, and journals. It aggregates much of which you can find on Plant Perl (*http://planet.perl.org*). To add your feed to the site, visit Perlsphere, find the contact information, and send Earle a message.

Devel::NYTProf 2 is the best Perl profiler ever
http://blog.timbunce.org/2008/07/15/nytprof-v2-a-major-advance-in-perl-profilers/

Tim Bunce released version 2 of `Devel::NYTProf`, first released in March by Adam Kaplan as part of his work at the New York *Times*. Shortly after its first release, Tim started to enhance the module to handle multiple levels of profiling, including line, subroutine, and block levels. The previous popular profilers only provided one level, and none of them provided block-level profiles.

Test::More and Test::Builder in Google Code
http://test-more.googlecode.com/

Michael Schwern moved `Test::More`, the major Perl testing module, and `Test::Builder`, which most `Test::` modules are built on, to Google Code. The modules are now in a public subversion repository and has several committers, as well as its own mailing list.

Calling CPAN Testers: time for an upgrade
http://use.perl.org/~dagolden/journal/37377

David Golden released a new versions of `CPAN::Reporter` and `Test::Reporter` that have two majors changes: module authors will not receive report notices in email, and any failures in the make stages will be marked as UNKNOWN rather than FAILs. CPAN Testers should upgrade to `CPAN::Reporter` 1.17 and `Test::Reporter` 1.50.

Perl on the Google App Engine
http://code.google.com/p/perl-appengine/

Brad Fitzpatrick, a Google employee, is working on integrating Perl with the Google App Engine, which only supports Python right now. The App Engine allows anyone to run their web applications using Google's infrastructure. An account is free, comes with 500MB of storage, and offers enough CPU and bandwidth to handle small websites. To run on the App Engine, they need to harden Perl so it doesn't have certain features the App Engine forbids, such as writing files, opening sockets, or forking. Work is in its early stages and there is no use when it might be available.