Who is this Dr. Surly?!

Dr. Surly is… well… a doodle, really… or a bit of imagination? … or… let's go with a symbol.

Yeah, that's it.

Dr. Surly is a symbol of Embedded Software developers who are fed up with poor quality. He's a symbol of those who have grand ideas of what they can build with C, but find those dreams shackled by the chains of bugginess and unmaintainability.

Dr. Surly is plotting (to take over the world, of course). He's made a lot of mistakes in his past, and he's not about to make those mistakes again. So he's iterating. He's improving his practices and using new tools.

He's an inspiration to us all, really.

When you think about it, what better mascot is there than a Mad Scientist anyway? They're incredible smart. They're focused. They're driven. They're experimenters. They're willing to look a little silly to get things done. They're ready to take risks to accomplish their goals.

Sure, some might call them "evil," but we prefer to think of them as just misunderstood.

So, Dr. Surly is, for this class (and for the community at Throw The Switch), a symbol of everything we are striving to be. We hope that this class encourages you to let out *your* inner mad scientist.

Sincerely,

Mark & Mike,
The (admittedly biased) Mad Scientists