
Introduction to Database Management Systems

Dr. Gerard Thomas Capraro will be giving the presentation on database management systems. He founded Capraro Technologies, Inc. [CTI] in July 1993. He is presently its President and Senior Scientist. Prior to CTI, Dr. Capraro was a Principal Scientist and co-founder of the Utica office of Kaman Sciences [now the ITT office at the Griffiss Park]. Dr. Capraro is currently an Adjunct faculty member at the L. C. College of Engineering and Computer Science at Syracuse University.

Dr. Capraro's related areas of experience include: Space Defense Initiative consultant to RADC for signal processor architectures, software development and satellite autonomy using Artificial Intelligence techniques, program manager for a study of data architectures for very large knowledge bases; Program Manager for incorporating AI in CFAR radar processing; served as a consultant to the USAF on the use of the Intrasystem Electromagnetic Compatibility Analysis Program on major programs; technical director and major contributor in the development and implementation of the baseline procedures for EM vulnerability testing of US Air Force weapon systems; developed the first design for automating the electronic reliability database on a state-of-the-art database management system for the USAF; and participated in the design for extending information systems with knowledge based processing capabilities.

SPECIAL WEBSITE DRAWING

Each month the webmaster, Lisa, and the editor, Donna, will pose a question, the answer of which will be found on our website [www.mvpcug.com]. See page 3 for details.

The main page will change about a week prior to the next meeting and this is where a clue to the answer will be found. You have until the day before the next meeting to send in your answer. Type the answer and your name into an email and send it to mvpcug@mvpcug.com. A drawing will be held at the main meeting. You need not be present to enter but will be responsible for picking up your prize if your name is drawn.

All members except Lisa, Donna and Bill will be eligible for this prize.

Tuesday, April 3rd — 6 - 8:30PM
New Hartford Library
Meeting Open to the Public - Free



explorer

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The MVPCUG was founded in 1981 by individuals interested in IBM compatible computers. This non-profit organization consists of volunteers whose expertise range from novice to professional.

Regular meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month at 6pm, usually at the New Hartford Library, 2 Library Lane, New Hartford. A typical agenda consists of discussion of business affairs and a demonstration of computer related products. Meetings are open to the public.

Membership fee for an individual is \$25.

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Meeting Agenda

- 5:30. Meet and Greet
- 6:00. Business Meeting
- 6:30. Program, Part 1
- 7:10. Break
- 7:20. Program, Part 2
- 8:15. Drawing for Prizes
- 8:30. Adjournment

Editorial notes . . .



My window is open and I am enjoying the sun streaming in along with the fresh air. Spring will soon be here, although it seems as if Winter never did visit for more than a day or two at a time. I do look forward to being able to sit on the porch and not have to wear a coat and gloves when I go out.

We'll all be spending more time outdoors in the coming months, but I hope that you will take the time to read this newsletter and look for the clue to our new website contest. It's easy and it's fun — so why not check out the question and see if you can find the answer. See page 3 for details. You could be the lucky winner . . .

I saw the following in a magazine and wonder how many of you will enjoy the humor —

ASCII a silly question, get a silly ANSI.

Stay connected . . . to the MVPCUG
Mohawk Valley PC User Group, Inc.
\$25 for initial sign-up - or renewal

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ NY
 Zip _____ Phone _____
 E-mail _____

Please mail this application with a check payable to MVPCUG to
M V P C U G
PO Box 586
Marcy NY 13403-0586

Minutes of March 6 , 2011

—Joe Penabad, Secretary

BUSINESS MEETING

The MVPCUG General Meeting, with 26 attendees, was called to order by President Jerry Finkelstein at 6:05 PM in the SAMMON Room of the New Hartford Library on 03/06/2012.

Bill Gorrell’s Treasurers report for the period 02/01/2012 to 02/29/2012 included: Income of 7 membership renewals of \$175, a member’s donation of \$10, door prize tickets of \$4 and bank interest of \$0.61, net income \$56.93; Expenses for Newsletter printing of \$70, door prizes of \$12.68, contest T-shirts \$50. The report was accepted with no corrections. The Web-page Newsletter contest was initiated this past month. The clues followed the March 6th date and linked you to the Computer History Museum. The Michelangelo Virus struck on this date in 1992 and coincided with the artist’s birth date. Congratulations to Lou Barile, the winner of the initial MVPCUG T-shirt contest, randomly selected from among the 5 members who submitted the correct answers. Visit the club Web site and become the 2nd Grand Contest Winner!

For the Business meeting discussion, Jerry F. introduced the conundrum precipitated by Facebook and Google, both modifying their privacy regulations. Jerry’s attempt to elicit a tutorial on the subject reflected the confusion and misunderstandings in the public arena.

PROGRAM

Our own MVPCUG member, Dee Pfohl, in the nursing profession for over 30 years, prepared an informative and detailed presentation on EMR (Electronic Medical Records). Leading this effort and based at St. Luke’s / Faxton, EMR is still in its infancy and facing many challenges. Initial efforts began in the 1990s, entering data on hip replacements and heart-related implants. Since the amount of data that can be accumulated on a patient can be astronomical and can fill a 6-inch binder in print in a short time, problems with storage become of great concern...and EMR is a valuable, efficient and credible alternative. Dee addressed the many benefits of EMR for the patient as well as the health providers including: (1) Fast interchange of information among health providers. (2) Past patient medical history, (3)

Medication: history, usage and dosage, (4) The records are available to the patient for verification, (5) Eliminates hand written, often illegible, paper reports.

This EMR concept is being practiced throughout the country; in our area this is being coordinated in a 12 county area centered in Syracuse. All these records are “secure” since they must comply with HIPPA requirements.

The MVPCUG members thanked Dee for her interesting, through, comprehensive discussion and for responding to the stream of questions that interrupted her provocative presentation.

DOOR PRIZES

[furnished with club funds]

- 4 GB Flash Drive..... Lou Barile
- 4 X 6 Photo Paper..... Rod St.Clair
- Memo Pad..... Bill Gorrell
- Copy Paper..... Stu Culp
- Bic Pens. Steve Gorrell

[Donated by Rod St. Clair]

- CD Slim Cases..... Don Jennings

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Joe Penabad, Secretary ♦

Editor’s Note: A copy of Dee’s presentation is available on our website on the Tidbits page [www.mvpcug.com/tidbits.htm]. Look for FAQs About EHR [March 2012 meeting].

~This month’s website question~

Who invented the logarithm? This invention paved the way for another invention. What was it?

The answer can be found in a link from our website—www.mvpcug.com. Hint: check out the main page.

To enter the drawing, find the answer to the question and submit it along with your name in an email to mvpcug@mvpcug.com before April 3.

All members are eligible to enter, drawing will be held at the April meeting. You do not need to be present to win, but you will have to make arrangements to pick up the prize if your name is drawn.

Sites to Visit on the 'Net

— by John Hunter

Remember Fibber McGee's Closet?

If your closet resembles the famous closet of radio character Fibber McGee, help is available to clear up the clutter. Click on www.stacksandstacks.com. This site offers organization help for every aspect of your life such as: kitchen shelf organizers, wall shelves, closet organizers, garment bags, underbed storage containers and so on. The site also offers free shipping and a clutter control blog to guide you on your way to organized living. The site offers more than 30,000 items that help you cope with the mess.

Stacksandstacks features the Oxo Good Grips Bins manufactured by the same people who make easy to use kitchen utensils. Oxo designs bins for use in the home, office, and garage, all with easy to use features.

A similar site offering help is www.containerstore.com. In addition to handy products for sale, this site offers in-house designers to assist in the design of closets, offices or any other space you need help organizing.

More Organizing

If someone you love has dresser drawers overflowing with tee-shirts, consider visiting www.campusquilt.com. This site takes 25 or 30 tee-shirts and crafts them into a unique quilt in as little as two weeks. So, a drawer full of shirts can become a comfy quilt, and your favorite person gets to remember all those tee-shirts he never wore anyway.

More Useful Stuff

For those of us without full upper and lower dentures, making sure that the toothbrush is clean may be a concern. For the bacteria-phobic, click on www.violight.com and check out the toothbrush sanitizers. UV light kills 99.9% of germs including strep, e. coli, and H1N1. The sanitizers work with both manual and electric toothbrushes. Now you can get a clean, Gleem mouth.

IPhone Apps Revisited

Smart phone users now have a handy app provided by AAA. This new app helps iPhone users find cheaper gas. The new Trip-tik allows you to compare gas prices by gas grade at nearby stations. You can also find AAA hotel and restaurant information. The best news is that you don't have to be a Triple A member to use it. The app works on the iPhone, iPad

and iPod touch and is available for download from the Apple iStore.

More Phone Apps

Travelers needing to rent a car can now do so from a smartphone or computer. The following site allows users to compare prices for all makes of cars offered for rent by all rental companies located in the city or airport of choice. Click on www.CarRentals.com and compare prices from Avis, Hertz, Enterprise and many other companies. At my visit family sized minivans ranged in price from \$42.96 per day to \$80 per day. The iPhone App Store offers the app for download. No app is offered for Android phones.

Was Einstein Wrong?

Every school kid knows that according to Einstein there is nothing faster than the speed of light. Now, however, research reported at www.wired.com/wiredscience/2011/11/neutrinos-screw-einstein seems to prove that certain neutrinos move faster than light speed. So far, CERN labs and Gran Sasso National Labs have shown that some neutrinos do indeed travel faster than light. What this all means for particle physics remains unclear, but keep tuned in for more details.

Library of Congress for Music Lovers

The Library of Congress now has more than 10,000 recordings made between 1901 and 1925 available for free download in MP3 files. The library transferred 78 rpm music from the likes of Enrico Caruso and Al Jolson to the MP3 digital format. To download some of these recordings, click on www.loc.gov/jukebox.

There are many services available for free from the federal government. It never ceases to amaze me that so few people take advantage of these services.

Virtual Art Museums

Art teachers are now able to build a gallery of student art projects at www.artsonia.com. The website features art made by school children. The site's purpose is to present student art for appreciation all over the world. At my visit, over 15 million pieces of art were available for viewing with nearly 3 million pieces added this school year. So, if you have a budding Picasso, have the school art teacher visit this site.

Did You Know?

www.nces.ed.gov recently released data that report that 1.8 million students are enrolled in distance learning.

Until next time . . .



Did You Know . . . — Donna Gorrell

. . . that you could change your cursor image? If you'd like to try something new or just want to enlarge the size of your cursor, right-click anywhere on the desktop, then select *Personalize* from the Menu [Windows 7]. Click *Change Mouse Pointers* on the left panel and then select the *Pointers* tab. Now you can change the entire cursor scheme by going to *Customize* and scroll through the options. Click OK when you've finished your selection and the cursor will change. In Windows XP, I go to my program list and find my mouse in the list, click on that and a similar dialog pops up. You can also go to *Control Panel* and click on *Mouse*. I use *Windows Standard Extra Large* so that I can find my cursor easier, but if you click on the *Browse* button at the bottom you'll be amazed at all the options.

. . . that there is a website that will convert file formats for you? If you receive a file with an unknown format go to go2convert.com. You can upload a file and the site will convert it to whatever format you'd like by showing you a drop down menu of compatible formats. Choose one of the formats and click *Convert Now*. Once the site converts it, the file will appear below the input area of the screen. Then click *Download* to save the converted file to your computer.

. . . that you could use the touch pad on Win7 laptops to resize the active program window on your screen? It should work the same way a touch screen computer works; pull at the sides of the active program [with your fingers on the touch pad] and it should resize.

. . . that there is a ton of links on our website? If you go to www.mvpcug.com/tidbits you will find so many links it is mind boggling. Lisa puts up two links of interest each month on the first page where the meeting information is posted. Look for the small box on the left hand side of the page. These links are then transferred to the Tidbits page so they are always available. Just about anything you ever want to know can be found by using our website. Every newsletter is archived so if your dog chewed up your latest copy, you can always find a replacement. ♦

Byting Remarks — Jerry Finkelstein

The day after our last general meeting *The New York Times* carried an editorial on just the topic that Dee had presented to us the night before, Electronic Medical Records. It was as if a *Times* reporter was sitting in the room with us, taking notes, and reporting for the morning edition. Either that or we, the members of MVPCUG, are right up there with the cutting edge of PC thought, the digitalization of medical records.

The New York Times editorial questioned whether computerized medical records will indeed save the health system money by reducing the number of redundant or inappropriate tests. Studies do support the values of computerization of the records. There is a new study, however, a big one, that reports that *office-based physicians* “who have access to electronic records of patient care are actually more likely to order additional imaging tests and laboratory tests than doctors who rely on paper records.”





The federal government is spending billions of dollars encouraging the use of computerized medical records. This new study, says *The Times*, serves as a cautionary note re the spending and a reminder that “there are no easy fixes for rising health care costs...” No one seems to know why the study got the results it did. One team leader suggested that “the ease of ordering tests and receiving results by computer may encourage doctors to order more tests than they would if they had to get results by phone and *interpret blurry fax images* [Italics mine].” *The Times* (and Dee) also noted that doctors' offices don't usually maintain sophisticated technology, their off-the-shelf PC may not be able to track down redundancies, their software may not help a doctor decide if a test is appropriate.

And some doctors want a readout on the tests *they* ordered. No matter that these same tests were just given a few weeks ago. Redundant? He doesn't think so. Appropriate? He thinks so. The editorial ends with advice to the doctors: “Rein in excessive use of tests.” That's it? We've heard that one before. Through the years. Lots of times. We've said it ourselves at our meeting the other night. If the digitalization of the medical records doesn't help, what does? ♦

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Data Management Systems
Tuesday ♦ April 3 ♦ 6:00 PM ♦ New Hartford Library



what's.com/ing ~ Cancer Control Month ~ April 2012						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 	2	3 Monthly General Meeting 6 PM N Hartford Library	4	5	6	7 
8 	9	10 Board of Directors Meeting 6:30 PM	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	April 6 - Good Friday April 7 - Passover April 8 - Easter April 22 - Earth Day				