

.net MAINE DEVELOPER NETWORK

www.maine-devnet.org

Newsletter #2

Welcome to the second issue of the Maine Developer Newsletter. This newsletter is intended to keep you informed of the meetings of the Maine Developer Network user group.

The Maine Developer Network is a user group focused on bringing quality .NET resources to the developers in the State of Maine.

Smart Client Software Factory

At our last meeting Shawn Robichaud spoke about the Smart Client Software Factory guidance package he has been using for a project he's been working on. Shawn is really excited about this framework and has written an article about SCSF which is included in this newsletter.

Last Meeting

At our last meeting Mark Blomsma spoke Implementing Application Logic in .NET 2.0 and also about developing applications using Windows Workflow Foundation, which is part of the .NET Framework 3.0. The Powerpoint presentations and sample code to both sessions can be downloaded via www.maine-devnet.org.

More is Better

More and more developers are signing up on our web site. If you know of anyone who would be interested in our user group, is a software developer and lives in Maine, then please forward him or her this newsletter and tell him about our group. We'd love to have as many people as possible come to our meetings, and the larger and stronger our community the more we can do for you guys!

Speakers and/or Authors

Do you have something you wish to share with the members of our user group? Come speak at one of our meetings, or send in an item for our

newsletter. Just send an email to mark.blomsma@maine-devnet.org.

Meetings are Free!

Meetings of the MDN user group are open to everyone. We do ask that you please **send us an email to let us know that you're coming**. This will allow us to make sure we arrange a location that will hold you all.

See you at our next meeting!

The MDN-Team

Dave Vincent, Scott Woodruff, Shawn Robichaud and Mark Blomsma.

Upcoming meeting

The next meeting will be held on the 5th of April 2007 at the Deering Building in Augusta, ME.

The meeting will start at 1:30pm and finish at 3:30pm.



Our guest speaker is Chris Bowen. Chris is the Microsoft Developer Evangelist for the New England region. He'll be talking about developing applications using Windows Communication Foundation, part of the .NET Framework 3.0

1:30pm to 3:30pm – Windows Communication Foundation by Chris Bowen.

Windows Communication Foundation (WCF) is Microsoft's unified framework for building secure, reliable, transacted, and interoperable distributed applications. Learn how to leverage the new features in Windows Communication Foundation (WCF) to make a smooth transition to service-orientated development. The capabilities exposed through this new addition to the .NET Framework will enable the core building blocks of connected systems such as data & service contracts, security, reliability, administration, and management.

Maine Event Calendar

The following events will be held in Maine in the near future:

- April 5th 2007, Augusta:
[MDN user group meeting](#)
- ...

Short News

By Mark Blomsma

Here is a short overview of what has been happening with .NET and what is soon to come:

- Windows Vista has shipped and comes with the .NET Framework 3.0 installed.
- .NET 3.0 = .NET 2.0 + WF + WCF + WPF
- WCF = Windows Communication Foundation
- WF = Workflow Foundation
- WPF = Windows Presentation Foundation
- .NET 3.0 does not contain changes to C# (or VB.NET) and is based on C# 2.0.
- The next version of Visual Studio, codename 'Orcas' is scheduled to be released in Q4 of this year.
- Visual Studio 'Orcas' will come together with .NET Framework 3.5.
- The .NET Framework 3.5 will contain (amongst many things) C# 3.0.
- In the same timeframe as Orcas there will also be a release of Team Foundation Server and the whole Team System suite.

A Recipe for complex Smart Client Success!

By Shawn Robichaud

Many developers these days struggle to cook up high quality smart client applications to meet the needs of the ever-evolving business. The folks from Microsoft have heard your heard your cry for help and created a team of patterns and practices folks to solve the problem. The talented team came up with a fully configurable Software Factory called the Smart Client Software Factory or SCSF for short. The SCSF team has a website at

<http://www.codeplex.com/smartclient>.

According to their website "the Smart Client Software Factory helps architects and developers create composite smart client applications based on the [Composite UI Application Block](#). A composite smart client application is made up of a number of discrete, independent, yet functional pieces. These pieces are integrated together within a host environment (such as a Windows Form application) to form a fully coherent smart client solution."

SCSF uses Guidance Automation to automate complicated repetitive development tasks. Guidance Automation Extensions know as "GAX" runs within Visual Studio and is used to create automation packages. Developers can utilize SCSF built in packages known as recipes to decrease coding time and increase code quality. Experienced developers can even create and distribute their own recipes for use by inexperienced team members.

The SCSF has an increasingly large developer community following. Currently the SCSF is available for the .Net 2.0 framework. Construction is underway to support the new .NET 3.0 framework. The SCSF website provides weekly drops of their progress for evaluation

and input. A vast amount of samples and code examples for the SCSF are available at the following locations:

- Appraiser Workbench- SCSF package
<http://www.codeplex.com/smartclient>.
- BankBranch Workbench- SCSF package
<http://www.codeplex.com/smartclient>.
- CAB Petshop-
<http://geekswithblogs.net/kobush/archive/2006/02/19/70044.aspx>
- The Cabana Project-
<http://www.ideablade.com/Cabana/cabana.html>

Directions to the Deering Building

From I-95 North or South

If coming from the south, take Exit 109 (Augusta) bear to the right and merge onto Western Avenue (you will be heading East).

If coming from the north take exit 109A, bear to the right and merge onto Western Avenue (you will be heading East).

Follow Western Avenue to rotary -- take second exit off rotary (you will go across a bridge).

Bear right after bridge (this will be a right just before another rotary) -- this is Route 9: Stone Street which becomes Hospital Street.

Follow Stone Street through one set of lights.

After the light you will go by houses, the State Police Headquarters on the right, and a field with a parking lot -- take a right just past the field/parking lot (the first entrance into the AMHI Complex) -- this drive is at the light.

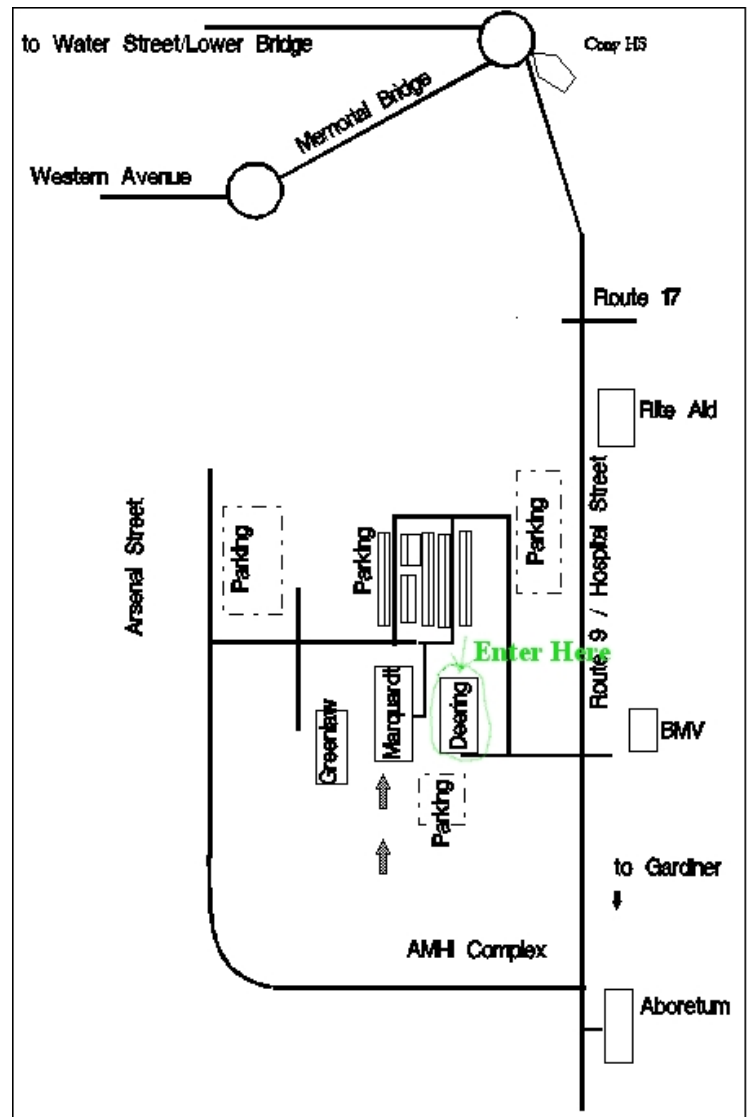
Take first right off the entry to the complex. Deering Building is on your left.

There will be parking to your right, or follow the

road around the corner and park anywhere you can find a space.

Please use the lower parking lot entrance to the building.

The meeting will be held in room 319.



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