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WSTPA News

"Driving a Technology Future for the West Sound"**Spring 2007**

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President's Corner: A Member Speaks



by Doña L. Keating

[Doug Rauh of Unified Industries was a scholarship recipient for Netdesk's RAMP Membership. His article below is a testament to the value our association brings to the region. Enjoy!]

I would like to thank the WSTPA and Netdesk for an opportunity I never expected to get in my life time. Through the WSTPA, I received a Netdesk education grant. The grant provided a whole year of education and experimenting with software and networks on a virtual system. As a person who works in a one man shop I really needed to be able to communicate with individuals in my field about the changes occurring

• **WSTPA Announces New Advisory Council**

West Sound Technology Professionals Association (WSTPA) announces the formation of an Advisory Council to provide a forum for consultation and deliberation with the community, assure continued input to management decision-making, and help expand public awareness about WSTPA, its mission and resources. The advisory council represents a variety of local leadership.

"It is our hope that the council's input will significantly shape the association's activities and plans for the future," said WSTPA president and chairman Doña Keating. "We are encouraged by this new avenue for continuing community support via the involvement of our advisory council members."

"The new advisory council members introduce a wealth of technology and business experience and a diversity of perspectives," said Craig Bleile, WSTPA Secretary. "The WSTPA Board of Directors is very fortunate to be able to work with these leaders, and feel confident they will serve the community's interests well."

The following individuals were recently named to fill open primary seats on the advisory council:

- Dr. Richard Dick Strand - Dean for Business & Technology, Olympic College
- Nelson Ludlow, PhD. - Chief Executive Officer, Mobilisa
- Dan Lee - Director of Interactive Media, The Kitsap Sun
- David Nason - Chief Operating Officer, eAcceleration
- Michael Bookey - Pachena Light Consulting

[Advisory Council bios](#)

• **Upcoming WSTPA Events**

Please note: **RSVP required for all monthly meetings at info@wstpa.org**. Unless otherwise indicated, meetings take place from 5:30p-7:30p at Poulsbo Regional Library's Community Room.

- **March 15:** Follow the Money: Making the Case for Earmarks, Legislation and Grant Funds to Create New Business Opportunities. **Presenters:** Robert Thoms, U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell and Bryan McConaughy, Principal, BMCConsulting, LLC
- **April 19:** Enabling a Secure Mobile Workforce. **Presenter:** Brian Morkert of TrustCC and Charles Keating of Keating Consulting.
- **May 17:** Virtual Vortex: Why Security Risks Will Continue and What You Should be Doing About It. **Presenter:** Byron Acohido, Technology Reporter for USA Today

almost daily.

This was no ordinary year either. Can you imagine Microsoft replacing XP with Vista, Office 2003 with Office 2007, plus Exchange 2003 being split between Exchange 2007 and SharePoint Server 2007. I felt like one of those Snow Globes that has been turned upside down. Then you look at tools like Visual Studio and your head begins to spin. Several of the instructors taught classes in C# and Visual Basic simultaneously while answering questions from offsite students who were telecommuting to the class.

The classes lasted a week per subject with most containing two weeks worth of material. The class sizes were kept small and personal, with only 5 to 15 students per class. Most of students specialized in the subject being taught so the courses tended to be intense. Generally everyone in the room was fairly equal in knowledge so the goal for the week would be to push yourself to the limit.

If the course was a workshop style class there might be just three 15 minute presentations by the instructor. The rest of the 8 hour day was just you and the virtual reality built into your workstation. This would generally be a Microsoft Windows Servers 2003 built in Microsoft Virtual PC hosted on Microsoft Windows XP Pro. A tool like Microsoft SharePoint would be used to build a real world application by setting up IIS and DNS in Server 2003. Then the proof would be by testing the application with a client such as Microsoft Windows XP Pro. This client would have several tests to perform by using the Microsoft Internet Explorer browser to access the SharePoint site and manipulate some document. By this time you were ready for lunch and some recharge time, because the instructor would have another simulated opportunity for you when lunch was over.

Netdesk is not just about reading books and showing off our computer skills. Most of us could have done that at home or at work. The real advantage of Netdesk was having all these very experienced individuals in the same room where they could interact with each other. The students were a very diverse group from as far away as Germany and as close as Seattle. Many of the students were multilingual and most were very well traveled. In almost every course the average student had well over 10 years of experience. In several of the courses I would be one of the oldest and not necessarily the most

• Office Furniture for Sale

WSTPA is offering office furniture for sale (4 desks with matching credenzas, 4 chairs, a printer stand and a file cabinet). These were intended for an office but is more than we need. Stored in Bremerton.

[See furniture for sale](#)

• WSTPA Seeks Office Space

WSTPA is looking for approximately 300-500 square feet of donated office space in Kitsap County to better coordinate its efforts. If you know of anyone who may be interesting in supporting our mission with a donation of a small office space, please [email us](#) or call 206.338.6554. Rental fee up to \$200 per month considered. Space-sharing arrangement with phones and office furniture/equipment would be okay.



Projector and Screen Rental Available to Members

WSTPA is now making available to members a Dell 2200MP projector and BOXLIGHT 60" portable screen. Rental fees are: Projector - \$100 per day, and screen - \$25 per day. A deposit is required for equipment protection, as well as a signed rental agreement. [Contact us](#) for details.

• Paladin Set to Bring \$14.2M into Kitsap

Paladin Data Systems is readying to sign a contract with Raytheon Technical Services Company LLC, formalizing a five-year agreement that could earn Paladin up to \$14.2 million, if all options are exercised. The agreement, originally announced by the two companies in December, is for continuing modifications, upgrades, and support on the Aviation Maintenance Training Continuum System (AMTCS) Software Modules (ASM) that Paladin has worked on since 1999 for the Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR), headquartered in Patuxent River, Md.

"I am pleased that Paladin was selected to continue this important work for the Navy, which ultimately may change how the entire Navy tracks and manages personnel readiness," said Jim Nall, president and CEO of Paladin. "This contract will help provide and support a lot of jobs here in Kitsap County. I think it really is an acknowledgement of the quality and consistency a small, but highly skilled, organization can contribute to a much larger program, as well as proof positive of what I've always believed - that Kitsap County is the perfect business environment for successful technology firms."

[Continued at Kitsap Peninsula Business Journal...](#)

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WSTPA Business Members (* = new)

experienced. This was good ,but I would have liked to have seen many more younger individuals interested in this field of study. Some how we as the technical community need to find young individuals that are willing to work in this field we call computers. The systems we have built over the last four decades are very complicated and need lots of tender loving care or a complete rebuild. This is a very big job that must be done by specialists that follow us in maintaining data into the future.

My special thanks go to Priya Lapham for coordinating my class schedule during the entire RAMP membership. If you do not know what RAMP stands for than call Priya at 206.529.4524 or email her at priya.lapham@netdesk.com. I am sure she will be glad to explain the acronym.

Another person I would like to mention is Todd Bryant, one of the many instructors at Netdesk. Todd lives in Kitsap County like so many of the WSTPA members. I hope with experts like Todd we can convince the businesses on the West Sound they do not need to go to the East Side for computer systems support.

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This email was sent by West Sound Technology Professionals Association (WSTPA), a non-profit, tax exempt 501c(3) educational organization and technology cluster dedicated to increasing public awareness of issues affecting technology, improving education through the effective integration of technology, increasing skills and the availability of opportunities for regional technology professionals, and enhancing cooperation between business, community, and educational leaders for the adoption of technology as a tool to stimulate economic development.

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