

MUUGLines

The Manitoba UNIX User Group Newsletter

Volume 28 No. 3, November 2015

Editor: Adam Thompson

Next Meeting: November 10, 2015

RTFM and presentation:

For this month's RTFM, Gilbert Detillieux will talk about the `getcap(8)` and `setcap(8)` commands, used to control Linux capabilities(7) as an alternative to using `setuid-root` binaries. This provides a safer way of allowing unprivileged users to execute operations normally requiring root permission.



elastic

Robert Keizer will be doing a presentation on Elasticsearch, Logstash, and Kibana. The presentation will focus on running these systems in a production environment. Elasticsearch is a highly available NoSQL distributed database which is primarily used for real-time and deep searching. When used in conjunction, these systems provide a very robust and feature-complete solution for enterprise log management.

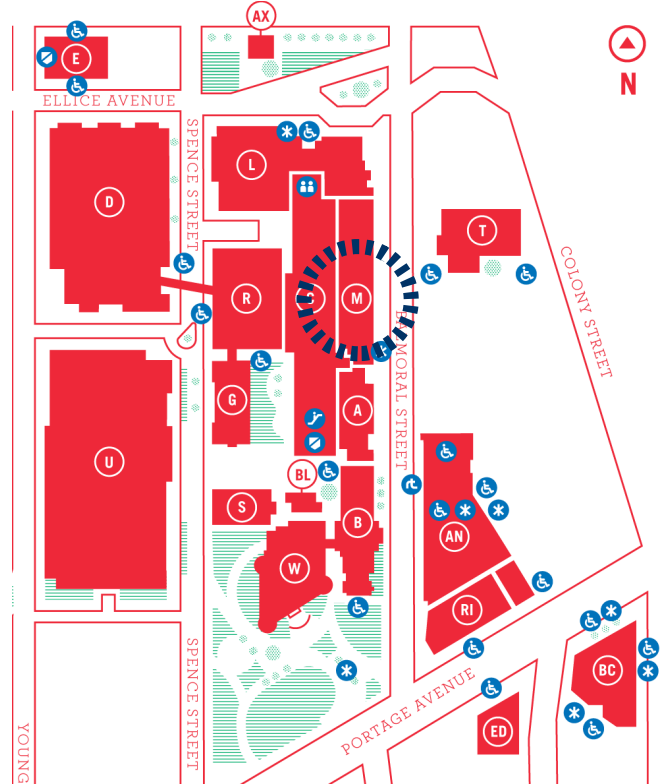
Rob will go through setting up and installing all three systems, as well as provide an overview and example of these systems.

MUUG Mugs!

MUUG still has coffee mugs, cobalt blue and deep laser-etched with our age-old, lovable logo for sale for \$15 cash. They are quality mugs, made in the USA, and have a fairly large volume capacity. Want a mug but can't make meetings? Ask on the mailing list and most likely a board member can deliver one within Winnipeg.

Where to Find the Meeting

Interim location: U of W, Room 1M28



Meetings are held in the University of Winnipeg's Manitoba Hall (marked "M" on the map), along Balmoral Street south of Ellice Avenue. We can be found in room 1M28 this year, but may occasionally get relocated to nearby rooms. If there is a change, it should be conveyed via a sign on the door to 1M28 (and 1L08, too). Parking is available on the surrounding streets.

Please see <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/maps> for further information about parking and access to the campus.

The latest meeting details are always at:

<https://www.muug.mb.ca/meetings/>

Notice of Motion

The MUUG board will present the following amendment at the Annual General Meeting on November 10th, 2015. We've had potential members under the age of 18 before, we've been inconsistent on the subject in practice, and we no longer provides resources to members where legal liability is an issue; therefore we can now dispense with this clause.

Special Resolution #2015-01 to Amend the By-Laws of the Manitoba UNIX User Group

We, the undersigned, hereby resolve that the By-Laws of this Group be amended pursuant to paragraph 12 as follows:

1. Strike section clause (b) from section 4.

Signed,

[names of attending board members in favour will go here]

Accepted and published by the Secretary on *[date voted on and accepted]*.

2015-2016 MUUG Board Elections

Adam Thompson, 2015-2016 MUUG Board Election Nomination Committee

Every November, the group holds its Annual General Meeting. The main goals of the meeting are to elect the new board, and to pass any special resolutions if required. The Board may consist of up to 9 people.

As of this writing, the following eight (8) members are allowing their names to stand for re-election.

Trevor Cordes: Owner, Tecnopolis Enterprises

Trevor Cordes has owned and operated Tecnopolis Enterprises, a computer VAR, programming and consultancy company, since 1999. Linux and open source have been the keystone of Tecnopolis since 2000 with the introduction of Linux-based appliances which today are critical to the operation of over 20 local small businesses. Trevor was President of the Atari ST User's Group in 1995 and 1997-1999, and also holds a B.Sc. (CompSci) from the University of Manitoba. His main workstation runs Fedora.

Gilbert Detillieux: Systems Analyst, University of Manitoba

Gilbert Detillieux has been working with UNIX as a programmer, system administrator, and trainer since 1980. He worked as a computer consultant specializing in UNIX, from 1983 to 1989, and is currently working as a Systems Analyst for the University of Manitoba's Department of Computer Science, where's he's worked since 1989, installing, supporting and upgrading the department's network and UNIX server infrastructure. He was co-founder and past president of the Technical UNIX User Group (now MUUG), and has been an active member of the MUUG board ever since.

Kevin McGregor: Systems Specialist, City of Winnipeg

Kevin McGregor provides server, platform and infrastructure support in the City of Winnipeg's Information Systems Department. After having briefly used UTS on an Amdahl mainframe in university in the mid-80s, he dabbled in Coherent and then converted to Linux and OpenBSD. He has been a member of MUUG since the early 90s, edited the group's newsletter for a number of years, presented various topics at MUUG meetings and has served on the board for the majority of his membership.

Katherine Scrupa: I.S. Service Desk Specialist, St. John's Ravenscourt School

Katherine is a I.S. Service Desk Specialist at St. John's-Ravenscourt school. Katherine has been using varieties of Linux at home for ten years, during which she has also been a member of MUUG. Her educational pursuits in Computer Science at U of M led her to a Network Technology CCNA program (Hons.) at Red River College in 2010, with emphasis on working with Linux, cabling, and network equipment.

Paul Sierks: Priceline Partner Networks

Paul Sierks is a software developer and system administrator currently employed by Priceline Partner Networks. He was previously employed by Quipped Interactive Learning Technologies in the same field. Many of you will know him from his enthusiasm for Arch Linux, including his presentation on that.

Adam Thompson: Senior Systems Administrator, Avant Systems Group

Adam first unknowingly used UNIX in 1988 while playing NetHack on the QNX BBS in Ottawa, which gave him a huge advantage the first time he encountered vi(1)! He first ran into UNIX professionally in 1990, and started using Linux in 1991. Adam is the author of several termcap(5) and terminfo(5) entries, deployed the first cross-platform, public, networked instant-messaging system in Manitoba, and installed the first UnixWare system in Manitoba. He has developed several UNIX/Linux courses, and has also taught RDBMS administration. Adam has been a member of MUUG since 1995, and a board member for a decade. Adam currently attempts to make multiple versions of Linux, Windows, Solaris and BSD all play together nicely, in between working on customer installations of Atlassian software

Brad Vokey: Owner, Fortress Software

Brad Vokey is the owner of Fortress Software Inc. and the creator of the Matchmaker Fundraiser (a fundraiser that “matches up” over 1 million high school students across Canada and the U.S. during Valentine’s). Brad started the company in 1985 using Apple II computers writing the original program entirely in 6502 machine language. The program migrated to 68000 machine language (on Atari ST computers) in 1986 and then eventually to C (and Atari TT computers) soon after. The original C program is still very much alive to this day and is constantly being tweaked and added to every year. Brad has served on the board of the Atari ST Users Group (STUG) until its dissolution in 2000 and has been a member of MUUG since 2006. He was first exposed to Linux in 1999 with Mandrake 6.0, uses Linux on a daily basis on his company’s firewalls, and is looking forward to converting his entire office to Linux “sometime” in the future.

Wyatt Zacharias: Unix/Linux Administrator, Manitoba Blue Cross

Wyatt Zacharias is a system administrator working at Manitoba Blue Cross, supporting a mixture

of HP-UX and Linux. Wyatt has a certificate in network technology from Red River College, and is a RedHat certified engineer. Wyatt’s interests include micro controllers, embedded systems, and amateur radio.

Amazon Snowball

Adam Thompson

If you need to import large amounts of data into Amazon S3 storage, until now your best option was to either buy a really big, really expensive pipe and connect directly to Amazon, or to use their somewhat awkward and expensive hard drive import service.

Now, Amazon introduces the Snowball – an encrypting RAID appliance in a shippable container that holds up to 50TB of data per appliance, and connects to your network at 10Gbps.

It’ll take 11.1hrs (assuming ideal transfer rates) to fill the array, another 11.1hrs to suck the data back off it at Amazon’s end, roughly 15hrs best-case for overnight 8am shipping... my math says that you just moved 50TBytes of data at roughly 2.98Gbits/sec for only \$200 – not a bad deal!

aws.amazon.com/importexport/details

Never underestimate the bandwidth of a station wagon full of tapes hurtling down the highway.

– Andrew S. Tanenbaum (maybe)

OpenBSD turns 20

Adam Thompson

With the release of OpenBSD 5.8, the project officially turns 20!

This version supports some 11 CPU architectures, caused four songs to be written and recorded, and – critically – includes a patch for worm(6) to let it scale better in very large xterms.

Sun announces SPARC M7

Adam Thompson

Apparently the Sun hasn't quite set yet — Oracle has just announced the SPARC M7 processor, with more cores, more cache, and more speed than any previous SPARC.

With 32 cores at 4.1GHz, a new ultra-low-latency memory-sharing interconnect, and a built-in decompression engine that runs at 100GB/sec, Oracle claims this chip is uniquely suited for in-memory analytics on compressed “big data”.

I'm sure it's also uniquely suited for companies with really, really deep pockets...

Mimic

Adam Thompson

[ab]using Unicode to create tragedy

“mimic provokes fun, frustration, curiosity and murderous rage.”

An absolutely horrible, terrible, evil idea that came to life in the mind of a demented programmer. Don't use this unless you're prepared to deal with the consequences — you've been warned!

<https://github.com/reinderien/mimic>

Sponsor Thank-You

Les.net (1996) Inc.

Continued thanks go to Leslie Bester of Les.net (1996) Inc. for providing rack space, power, and dual 10Gbps, dual-stack (IPv4 & IPv6) network connections for the new MUUG server.

We now have 21TB of mirrored data online here in Manitoba, with plenty of room to grow. It turns out it's harder than you'd think to fill up 40TB while staying within our mandate...

You'd be safer using Windows than the code which was just deleted.

—Theo de Raadt, OpenBSD founder, during the OpenSSL/LibreSSL fork.

Book & User Group Discounts

O'Reilly

We've had reports that the O'Reilly group discount code no longer works. Please let us know if that is or isn't the case.

No Starch Press

No Starch Press has established a discount for user group members. It's valid for 30% off everything they publish, and it doesn't expire. Use “MUUG” as the discount code when ordering from their website.

Les.net

Les.net (1996) Inc., a local provider of VoIP, Internet and Hosting services, has offered to provide a 10% discount on services to MUUG members.

Contact sales@les.net by email or or +1 (204) 480-3382 by phone for details.

MUUG has gone social!

For better or worse, you can now find (and follow!) MUUG on some social platforms. Get interactive and share all about MUUG on social media.



[_twitter.com/manitobaunix](https://twitter.com/manitobaunix)



[_facebook.com/ManitobaUnix](https://facebook.com/ManitobaUnix)



[_www.linkedin.com/grps/MUUG-Manitoba-UNIX-Users-Group-1102007](https://www.linkedin.com/grps/MUUG-Manitoba-UNIX-Users-Group-1102007)



[_meetup.com/Manitoba-UNIX-User-Group](https://meetup.com/Manitoba-UNIX-User-Group)

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