

Here we are in July. Another TUG season is behind us (except for the annual TUG Golf Classic – this year, scheduled for Thursday September 14, 2006).

Overall TUG's 21st season has been great — a season full of new events and new meeting locations. The closing of the hotel where we had been holding our regular meetings (prior to March 2005) allowed us to experiment with different locations and different formats. We stayed “central” for a few meetings (at the Meridian Banquet Hall on Keele Street, South of Lawrence). Then we went West to the Living Arts Centre Mississauga for two meetings, and finished with the May meeting in the East (at the IBM Canada Headquarters, 3600 Steeles).

We also experimented with different times-of-day for our meetings — from early evenings, to mid- and late-afternoons. We even had a half day session on SQL followed by a sumptuous buffet!

One question we frequently ask ourselves is, “What do TUG members want, in terms of meeting locations, times of day, topics, speakers, etc.? What format of meetings should we have — one hour, two hours, half day, full day, lectures, hands-on labs, etc.?”



Vaughn Dragland

Since not everyone can attend all of the meetings (and that's normally when we poll our members) I would like you to send me an email (leo@tug.ca) and tell me your preferences. I especially invite those of you who rarely have a chance to fill out an evaluation form at the end of meetings to contact me personally. I would like to have your opinion. Let me know what would entice you to attend a meeting and what type of meetings you don't mind missing.

One event we have been presenting annually for the last thirteen years and for which the interest is still very high is TEC. This year, TEC attendance increased by more than thirty five percent over the previous year. It just goes to show that the platform we all love is still alive and kicking, and that the market is still promising. If some people think that there is a lack of talent for System i, how about the forty (+) speakers who shared their knowledge with us over the two days of lectures sessions? Yes, TUG's 21st season has been great — thanks to you, our members.

Our next MoM will be on September 27th. If you think that it gives us some time to relax before the next season, you could be right... But summertime is also a good time for the TUG board to plan and budget for the upcoming year (and years). Give us a hand and send me an email or call me. Let me know how you would like to see TUG helping you.

In the meantime, have a nice summer, get ready for your best golf game of the season, on Thursday September 14, 2006 at a new location (for TUG): Glen Eagle — “Golf As Good As it Gets!” Then come to the TUG MoM on September 27th to brag about it...



The 5th Wave By Rich Tennant

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