

Well another summer is over. I hope you had a great one, and that the events around the world did not cause you too much discomfort — especially if you were traveling. As I write these lines, I am getting ready for the COMMON conference in Miami (Sept 17-21, 2006) and the word is that it's "right in the middle of hurricane season." Should I worry? I'll let you know... My previous two trips to Florida were also in September and they were just fine.

Once again, the end of summer marks the beginning of a new TUG season. TUG is entering its 22nd year, and it is promising to be spectacular! We start with TUG's 18th annual Golf tournament and awards banquet, scheduled for Thursday September 14th. (You may still have time to register if you are not reading this column too late.)

Back in March 2006, IBM announced (at COMMON in Minneapolis) that System i would support the HTML scripting language PHP, thanks to their relationship with the company Zend. For our very first meeting of the 2006/007 season, on Wednesday September 27, **John Mascarenhas** (of IBM) will tell us a bit more about PHP and its impact on System i. A session certainly not to be missed! Later at the same meeting, **Doug Mack** (also from IBM) will review in more detail some of the new and exciting capabilities of DB2 at the V5R4 level, including the DB2 Connect Unlimited.

The 5th Wave By Rich Tennant



© The 5th Wave, www.the5thwave.com



photo by Vaughn Dragland

Léo Lefebvre

This will be a very interesting session — especially if you want to know how to connect to DB2 from Unix/Oracle, Windows, or SQLServer; or seamlessly access your data across multiple instances of DB2; or even work with a combination of DB2 and Oracle or SQL Server. Don't miss our September 27 meeting at the Living Arts Centre Mississauga.

Moving on to October, TUG will be going back to college... Yes, college! On October 24, TUG will be hosting full-day lab sessions in the Seneca College facilities at York University. At present, we are still working to finalize the details of the curriculum. Keep in touch. Check your email, postal mail, and TUG Web site regularly. We will give you more information as we get it. But, make sure to mark your calendar for October 24th, 2006.

He made his debut with TUG at TEC 2005. He was phenomenal! We brought him back during the same year for our November 2005 MoM. And we're bringing him back again this year. **Trevor Perry** is coming back for a TUG session on November 22! This is another meeting not to be missed, especially since he will team up with **Alison Butterill**, who will present one of her award winning sessions. More details to come soon!

The following three meetings (i.e., January, March, and May 2007) are still in the planning process and you will be notified as we work out the details.

TEC '07 has already started its regular committee meetings, the theme and images for the year have been chosen, and the bulk of the planning has started. The dates will be April 17 -19, 2007; and the topics, speakers, and session grids will be chosen very soon... If you are a speaker and would like to offer your services, send me a note. The format of TEC 2006 was a winner and we will use it again for TEC '07: two days of tutorial sessions followed by a full day at the IBM Toronto Lab for "Open Lab" sessions. For the tutorial sessions, we will again have a mix of technical and professional development topics. A lot more information will be given as the committee work progresses.

As you can see, the TUG season for 2006/007 will be terrific and full of interesting events. Don't forget to keep your membership in good standing (check with the TUG office [905-607-2546] if you have any questions about your membership) and please join us at every meeting and event.

