



Dear KDE e.V. member,

Spring is in the air (or Fall, an equally beautiful season, if you are in the Southern hemisphere), and KDE e.V. is in heavy preparation for the coming Summer. Gran Canaria Desktop Summit preparations have been and continue to be a key focus point and the Google Summer of Code, in which KDE received 38 slots, is about to begin.

Not everything was about the mid-year events, however: in the first quarter of 2009, KDE e.V. members attended several events, a number of developer sprints were held with great results, and the inaugural Camp KDE was held in Jamaica providing a great foundation for an expanded North American presence. The first Fiduciary Licence Agreement's (FLA) for KDE contributors were signed and work on a new membership program, which we hope to formally announce in Q2 2009, was started.

With the KDE 4.2 release out in the hands of users and much to look forward to in the rest of the year, the KDE e.V. Board hopes you enjoy reading through this summary of affairs and achievements from our society.

Signed,
Aaron Seigo for the KDE e.V. Board
<kde-ev-board@kde.org>

Supported Member Activities

Developer Meetings and Sprints

KDE-PIM meeting, January 9th - 11th

In early January a group of PIM developers met up for their annual meeting in Osnabrueck. The blocking of Akonadi from getting freedesktop.org infrastructure and subsequent rejection on questionable grounds by fd.o admins was discussed. The group was also joined by a couple of students from the University of Toulouse supervised by Kevin Ottens. The students presented their work on implementing Akonadi client applications on the Nokia N series. Bertjan Broeksema gave a presentation on using static code analysis to improve code quality and find license issues in KDE-PIM. Will Stephenson worked on the Groupwise resource for Akonadi.

Issues relevant to large-scale groupware servers that have their own mail transport and free/busy implementations were considered, and reviews of various architectural issues and implementations took place. API dox and implementation best practices were also reviewed. The group took the decision not to force Akonadi migration for the KDE 4.2 release, but porting strategies and schedules for KDE 4.3 and beyond were established. A review of the PIM website family was conducted and a rationalisation was agreed.

Plasma sprint, February 6th - 9th

In February 2009, the Plasma team gathered in Oporto, Portugal for the second ever Plasma meeting. About 15 contributors, including developers, designers and artists, from three different continents gathered to discuss future development of KDE's desktop shell. Among the most important results was a preliminary design of a new system tray specification. The meeting was kindly hosted by the Departamento de Engenharia Informatica (Department of Software Engineering) of the Instituto Superior de Engenharia do Porto.

Tradeshows and Community Events

Camp KDE, January 17th - 23rd

On Saturday 17th 2009, the first CampKDE started. It was the premiere meeting of the KDE Americas and was host to 28 international attendees who were joined by local Jamaican tech enthusiasts. Over the next 7 days the attendees enjoyed talks, BoF's, informal discussions, code

sprints, as well as the sun, food, drink, and the company of the great people from the KDE community.

The conference opened with a keynote delivered by Wade Olson speaking on what KDE had done in the first year of the KDE4 series and where the project is heading. He reminded those listening as to who makes use of the work that is put into KDE and the difference it makes to them.

His talk started two days of presentations that covered areas of KDE development such as ports to Windows and Mac platforms, the use of plasma in applications and small form factor devices, Cmake, and usage of video cards for accelerating graphics. Along with talks on KDE and global culture, small business software, and enterprise coding jobs, we also heard from Akonadi and KDE games as well as talks on distributions and their relationship with KDE.

Within the week the attendees were treated to a Qt training session donated by Nokia and carried out by Till Adam. BoF's followed with some lightning talks and Q&A sessions between presenters and the audience. The week was rounded out by a trip to Jamaica's Appleton Estate Rum Factory tour and to the well-known Rick's Cafe for cliff diving which (as can easily be imagined) was thoroughly enjoyed by the CampKDE attendees.

There was quite a number of informal meetings through the week as the physical proximity prompted a meeting of minds. Frequent sessions of coding on the beach and meetings while swimming in the surf gave a relaxed and productive atmosphere.

This is hopefully the start of great trend of KDE-centric events in the Americas and will become a strong point for KDE and KDE contributors on that side of the world to get more people involved and informed on what we are doing.

linux.conf.au, January 19th - 24th

KDE had a small presence at linux.conf.au 2009, in Hobart, Tasmania, Australia. On Friday 23rd Jan 2009, Brad Hards presented on "OpenChange and KDE - bridging to Microsoft Exchange", resulting in some media attention.

FOSDEM, February 7th-8th

KDE was present at the yearly Free and Open Source conference FOSDEM in Brussels, Belgium. KDE had it's own devroom that could fit 200 people and turned out to be too small on many occasions. The KDE booth in the main hallway was, as always, very well staffed and visited all day long.

On Sunday the KDE room was shared with the GNOME and XFCE projects as the "Free Desktop" devroom.

Southern California Linux Expo, February 20th - 22nd

In February a group of KDE activists attended a great community-oriented show in Los Angeles called Southern California Linux Expo (SCALE), and had a booth so popular, some people never left it. Helpers included: Ian Geiser, Dan Borne, Guillermo Antonio Amaral Bastidas, Luisa Ramos, Alex Spehr, and Aaron Johnson, who also gave a talk on KDE. Guillermo also did some live podcasts online. At the raffle, two of our group each won a case of energy drinks called "Cocaine". We gave them away the next day to much joking. We also gave out KDE merchandise for donations.

CeBIT, March 3rd - 7th

KDE had a strong presence at CeBIT 2009, the world's largest computer expo, taking place March 3rd to 8th in Hannover, Germany. Thirteen KDE enthusiasts made sure visitors were perfectly advised and introduced to KDE. On Wednesday, Stefan Majewsky and Felix Lemke gave a well-received talk about KDE 4. On Sunday, Casper van Donderen participated in a discussion about work & new media, talking about collaboration in Open Source Projects like KDE.

Free and Open Source Software Nigeria, March 6th - 9th

KDE was represented at the first Nigerian Free and Open Source Software conference in Kano, Nigeria, by Adriaan de Groot and Jonathan Riddell. Together they covered KDE technologies and the wider world of Free Software, for an audience of some 400 people. In honor of the effort put into the conference by Mustapha Abubakar, Ibrahim Dasuna and others, the KDE 4.2.2 release was dubbed "Cano".

Solutions Linux Paris, March 31st - April 2nd

KDE was present at Solutions Linux Paris, one of the most important Linux shows in France. Lots of people visited the booth and gave good feedback about KDE 4.2. The booth team were successful in convincing KDE 3.5 users (and even some GNOME users) that KDE 4.2 was really "the answer" to their needs.

Lots of curious people, retired persons that fall in love with linux and KDE, R&D people measuring Linux desktop maturity, anxious administrators that were learning Linux after 10 years of Windows were in attendance at this show.

As usual, the local village was very lively with wine, cheese and cooked pork meats. A hot topic of the conference were the plans of the French government to bring into effect a law that would ban people who are accused of illegal online file sharing from using the internet. Since this is regarded as a direct attack on Free software and freedom, the French KDE team went to the National Assembly to support opposition against this law.

Thanks to Sébastien Renard, Aurélien Gateau (part-time between Canonical and KDE booth) and Gaël Baudouin who manned the booth, plus a big thanks also to Canonical for Kubuntu CD and stickers.

Status Reports

Community Working Group Report

The report of the Community Working Group (CWG) covers Q3 and Q4 of 2008 as well as Q1 2009. The CWG has been active on three fronts:

- **User support:** There has been continued support for the enlargement of UserBase.kde.org, which now consists of more than 360 pages of content, resulting in more than half a million page views. There has been active promotion of UserBase on mailing lists and forums and Linux Forum ran a double-page spread about the wiki.
- **Developer-to-developer:** The CWG was asked to mediate some disagreements between individuals, and there was some assistance within one development group.
- **Developer-to-user:** At the end of 2008, assistance and advice was given during the setup of the new KDE forum and discussions held about the best place to host tutorials.

A developer wanted to explore his emerging concept of training for his project. A member of the CWG agreed to take the proposed material and find two reviewers from different backgrounds. The developer said that the feedback he had received was very helpful to him.

System Administration Team Report

Sysadmin is a group of long-term KDE contributors and KDE e.V. members who are running the KDE server infrastructure. This includes services such as managing our Subversion source code repository; granting access to new contributors; keeping the bugs database operational; and, of course, keeping all our mission critical servers running smoothly.

Highlights of the two quarters system administration tasks:

- Created 102 subversion accounts, disabled 8 Subversion accounts.
- Created 3 kdemail.net aliases, disabled 1 kdemail.net alias.
- Created 3 kde.org aliases, modified 9 kde.org aliases.
- Created 4 kde.org mailing-lists:
 - kde-mexico
 - akademy-talks
 - social-desktop
 - kde-110n-si

- Disabled 1 kde.org mailing-list: akademy-talks-2008.

In February, the BugZilla installation at bugs.kde.org was updated from version 3.0 to 3.2. Rob la Lau has been added to the sysadmin group to maintain forum.kde.org properly and keep the bluemchen machine running smoothly. We now use BugZilla to keep track of sysadmin jobs.

New requests to sysadmin should be reported at: https://bugs.kde.org/enter_sysadmin_request.cgi

Welcome New Members

The KDE e.V. is happy to welcome the following new members:

- Artur Duque de Souza
- Myriam Schweingruber
- Dario Freddi
- Ariya Hidayat
- Jeremy Whiting
- Alanna Lynn Spehr

Welcome to the KDE e.V.!

See the membership list page for more information, and instructions for how to join the e.V.

Finances

Q1 2009

Income:

- €17,800 Supporting Members
- €4,500 Camp KDE sponsorship
- €53,000 Donations

Expenses:

- €8,000 Developer meetings
- €11,500 Office and Employee
- €2,400 Conference travel support
- €8,100 Camp KDE
- €3,500 Trade shows and marketing
- €2,000 Board Meeting
- €1,400 Legal

At the end of this reporting period the KDE e.V. has a positive balance of €196,158.66

(Note: The financial numbers are rounded numbers for information only. They do not constitute an accurate accounting statement.)

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If you or your company is interested in providing financial support to the KDE project on a continuing basis please visit the Supporting Members pages on the KDE e.V. website.

For donor and sponsorship information please see the "Supporting KDE" website.

Signed The KDE e.V. Board:

- Aaron J. Seigo <aseigo@kde.org>, President
- Cornelius Schumacher <schumacher@kde.org>, Vice President
- Adriaan de Groot <groot@kde.org>, Vice President
- Sebastian Kügler <sebas@kde.org>, Board Member
- Klaas Freitag <freitag@kde.org>, Board Member

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