# USENIX notes

#### **USENIX MEMBER BENEFITS**

Members of the USENIX Association receive the following benefits:

FREE SUBSCRIPTION to ;login:, the Association's magazine, published six times a year, featuring technical articles, system administration articles, tips and techniques, practical columns on such topics as security, Perl, Java, and operating systems, book reviews, and summaries of sessions at USENIX conferences.

ACCESS TO ;LOGIN: online from October 1997 to this month: www.usenix.org/publications/login/.

ACCESS TO PAPERS from USENIX conferences online:
www.usenix.org/publications/
library/proceedings/

THE RIGHT TO VOTE on matters affecting the Association, its bylaws, and election of its directors and officers.

**DISCOUNTS** on registration fees for all USENIX conferences.

**DISCOUNTS** on the purchase of proceedings and CD-ROMs from USENIX conferences.

SPECIAL DISCOUNTS on a variety of products, books, software, and periodicals. For details, see
www.usenix.org/membership
/specialdisc.html.

FOR MORE INFORMATION regarding membership or benefits, please see www.usenix.org/membership/ or contact office@usenix.org. Phone: 510-528-8649

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Ellie Young, ellie@usenix.org

#### **ELECTION RESULTS**

The results of the election for Board of Directors of the USENIX Association for the 2006–2008 term are as follows:

PRESIDENT
Michael B. Jones,
mike@usenix.org

VICE PRESIDENT Clem Cole, clem@usenix.org

SECRETARY

Alva Couch, alva@usenix.org

TREASURER

Theodore Ts'o, ted@usenix.org

DIRECTORS

Matt Blaze, matt@usenix.org

Rémy Evard, remy@usenix.org

Niels Provos, niels@usenix.org

Margo Seltzer, margo@usenix.org

Not elected: Gerald Carter

Please see http://www.usenix.org/about/elections06results.html for the details.

#### SAGE UPDATE

#### STRATA ROSE CHALUP

SAGE, the USENIX Special Interest Group for SysAdmins, is going strong. Here's an update on what's been happening.

The eagerly awaited System Configuration booklet by Paul Anderson has been mailed out to current SAGE members and is available online. In addition to a solid grounding in configuration management issues, Paul provides a comparative look at some of the popular tools, such as cfengine, LCFG, Active Directory + System Management Server, CDDLM, and more. Several pages of detailed references grace the back of the booklet, including case study and reference papers.

We're updating the User Groups section of the SAGE Web site with contact info and meeting dates for local groups. We have some "goodie bags" to send out to local groups for their members, but we don't always have a mailing address in addition to the email address! If you are a coordinator for a local group or would like to start one in your area, please get in touch at sagelocals-support@sage.org.

For those readers whose interest tends more toward kernels than configs, there is USENIX's User Groups program: see details at www.usenix.org/membership/ugs.html. Remember, there's no exclusivity or limit on affiliation of groups, so your group can be both a SAGE and a USENIX local group, as well as anything else it wants to be!

We're also pleased to announce a bevy of new and returning features to sage.org:

## SAGE Programs Blog

As part of our effort to communicate with our members, we've set up a blog on the SAGE site

for monthly Memos to Members, as well as for other content of interest. We'll be posting there several times monthly, and we may also have guest bloggers bringing their views on topics and events. Check it out at blogs.sage.org/strata/.

We're also establishing a blogroll of SAGE and USENIX community members. If you have a blog whose content would consistently be of interest to your fellow members, drop us a note at sage-blogroll@sage.org and we may add it to the blogroll. We'll feature occasional articles as well as links, so if you've posted something recently that you feel is hot and topical, let us know!

# SysAdmin Toolkit v1.0

In addition to a SysAdmin Toolkit FAQ, we've put together a couple of handy one-page versions—a site toolkit and personal toolkit basics. Check it out at http://hoshi.sage.org/field/toolbox.html and get a sneak preview of the soon-to-be-unveiled new SAGE Web site.

Are you interested in helping out in maintaining and updating the toolbox? Feel strongly about whether we should have an update committee or just maintain a wiki and edit the responses into the FAQ periodically? Let us know. We'd like this to be a living document, although some things never change.

### SAGE IRC Channel Is Back!

There's no shortage of IRC channels around, but some of us missed the old sage-members channel, graciously hosted for many years at another site. Now it's back, hosted at USENIX. Please drop in at irc.sage.org #sage-members and say hi.

## Mentoring Self-Service Beta

The sage-members mailing list and IRC channel have long been sites of much informal mentoring in the community. There's a place for slightly more formal mentoring, however, and that's a need we haven't been filling particularly well. Most of us are sufficiently busy that something as potentially open-ended as

"mentoring" seems a bit scary as a commitment. That's why we've been studying successful industry and academic mentoring programs to find a workable set of expectations. Good news such things exist!

Enter the SAGE Self-Service Mentoring area, where you can seek a mentor or offer to become a mentor. We're getting a simple, streamlined beta set up for basic matching of mentors and folks wishing to be mentored. Of course, you may be both—perhaps you're a Solaris wiz who wants to learn more about storage networks, or vice versa. If you're interested in participating in the beta of our Self-Service Mentoring, drop a note to sage-mentoring@sage.org and we'll be in touch. We're especially interested in getting input on mentoring expectations and in getting some useful categories set up. We look forward to hearing from you.

Not a SAGE member? Dues are only \$40. Find out more and join at http://www.usenix.org/membership/classes.html#sage.

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