

NCCMG 08/06/13 MEETING MINUTES



With our previous conference center no longer available to us, we were thrilled when Keith McAndrews, our Treasurer, came through with an invitation to host NCCMG at the Oracle Center in Pleasanton, not far away. DataKinetics stepped in to host the event and with our speakers lined up, we were ready to go.

Larry Strickland, Chief Product Office, DataKinetics, started our day off with "**How to Use In-Memory Tables to Optimize Data That is Frequently Accessed.**" Larry began by reminding us of the options we had to reduce physical I/Os then showed how in-memory tables can perform a great deal better. DataKinetics had done the research to determine the keys to designing optimally performing tables, as well as clarifying what kinds of data best suited for this option. Specific examples of how to get the best performance made it likely that many of us would be running back to the office to see how we could use this information.

Frank Berezney, SCCMG Chair, flew up to show us his methodology for "**Building Calendars with Proc Report.**" Frank is a SAS-whiz who is always ready to share with us unique and useful techniques to exploit SAS. Not only does his methodology produce the kind of chart we can use for so many purposes, but he has gone the extra mile to reduce the code to its simplest implementation, making it easier for anyone who uses it to modify it as needed. As always, Frank offered attendees the code.

Our official business meeting was brief to allow time to collect lunch, network a bit and then learn more about the DataKinetics offering, TableBASE, from Brian Hoare. Though Brian claimed to be more of a sales person than a techie, his presentation helped us to see how using this solution could make it a lot easier to reap the benefits of using in-memory tables.

Denise Kalm, NCCMG Secretary and Chief Innovator, Kalm Kreative, Inc., presented **“The Stork Correlation – Use and Abuse of Statistics in Capacity Planning.”** In this session, she (me) explained basic statistical constructs needed by performance and capacity planners, what they really mean and which ones have value in our work. There was lots of lively discussion by the attendees about the use and value of statistics.

Our final presentation was by Stanford White, Siemens Medical Solutions – our 2012 Mullen Award Winner. Using the Wizard of Oz as a metaphor, he described real-world challenges with cloud management in **“Storm Chasing – Troubleshooting in the Cloud.”** Not only did this presentation provide useful insights into the kinds of problems one can encounter after cloud migrations, it was also an excellent example of how powerful a metaphor can be in helping people understand and remember the key points in a presentation. Despite it being the last presentation, he had a rapt audience. We particularly appreciated learning about the mistakes and misconceptions, as we will all face them as we manage our cloud environments.

Due to the new dates for CMG 2013, our final meeting of the year will be held after National on November 19, 2013.

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