

.NET Nirvana™ III

Set sail with .NET Nirvana III and get the inside scoop on the next version of Windows (code named "Longhorn" **L**), the next version of the .NET Framework ("Whidbey" **W**), and the next version of SQL Server ("Yukon" **Y**). Plus, wine and dine with some of the biggest stars in the .NET galaxy and learn how to get the most out of today's .NET Framework.

The conference fee is \$995 and includes all courses, course materials, and the Bon Voyage Cocktail Party. Each seminar is a quarter-day, and there are 2.5 days of seminars during our cruise-conference. You may, therefore, choose up to 10 seminars.

PRESENTERS: Peter DeBetta, Jeff Prorise, and Brent Rector of Wintellect; Rob Howard, Lead .NET Architect for Microsoft Corporation.

The ZEN of ASP.NET

Speaker: **Jeff Prorise**

ASP.NET is the biggest boon to Web programming since diet Cokes and caffeine pills. This introductory session is designed for experienced programmers who want to find out what ASP.NET is all about and see first-hand what Web programming is like, ASP.NET-style.

ASP.NET Data Binding

Speaker: **Jeff Prorise**

ASP.NET data binding simplifies the task of writing data-driven Web apps by replacing reams of code in old ASP apps that query databases and render the results into HTML with statements that declare and initialize data-binding controls. This session introduces ASP.NET data binding, with an emphasis on using Repeater, DataList, and DataGrid controls to build cutting-edge Web apps and customizing those controls to work the way you want them to.

Building Scalable, High-Performance Web Apps with ASP.NET

Speaker: **Jeff Prorise**

A Web application not only has to work well, it has to work quickly—especially if it's intended to serve thousands, or potentially hundreds of thousands, of users at once. In this session, you'll learn the tricks, techniques, and design principles that every ASP.NET developer must know to create ASP.NET applications that perform and scale. Among the topics covered: Web farms, the ASP.NET application cache, page output caching, and efficient view state usage.

Extending ASP.NET with Custom HTTP Handlers and Custom HTTP Modules

Speaker: **Jeff Prorise**

HTTP Handlers and HTTP modules are the building blocks of ASP.NET. ASP.NET includes several predefined HTTP handlers and HTTP modules, but developers can write ones of their own to generate images dynamically on the server, apply XSL transformations to XML data, fetch images from databases, perform pre- and post-processing on HTTP requests, and more. This session imparts the knowledge you need to write custom HTTP handlers and HTTP modules and provides real-world insights into the roles that they play in Web applications.

Advanced ASP.NET Web Services

Speaker: **Jeff Prorise**

ASP.NET makes writing Web services extraordinarily easy. But behind the scenes lurk myriad problems and issues you'll encounter when deploying Web services in the real world. Did you know, for example, that Web methods with parameters that are passed by reference may behave as if they were passed by value due to ASP.NET's default messaging style? That you can use custom SOAP headers to pass out-of-band data to Web methods? Or that you can write SOAP extensions that examine and even modify Web method calls? Learn about all this and more as Jeff explores the plumbing behind ASP.NET Web services and imparts the know-how needed to make that plumbing work as intended.

ASP.NET Tips & Tricks

Speaker: **Rob Howard**

ASP.NET is full of simple, easy-to-use features. But finding all these features is sometimes a daunting task. In this presentation, ASP.NET maestro Rob Howard surveys some of ASP.NET's coolest features, demonstrating how to upload files into SQL server, send e-mail from ASP.NET, and much, much more.

Introduction to ASP.NET 2.0, Part I **W**

Speaker: **Rob Howard**

ASP.NET 1.0 forever changed the way developers thought about building Web applications by introducing prepackaged server controls, server-side events, freedom-of-choice in programming languages, and OOP to the Web platform. In short, it empowered developers to write better code faster. Unbelievably, ASP.NET 2.0 makes building Web applications even easier! In this talk, one of ASP.NET's chief architects drills down into the foundation of ASP.NET 2.0 and begins a tour of its myriad new features. A don't-miss session for Web developers!

Introduction to ASP.NET 2.0, Part II **W**

Speaker: **Rob Howard**

Part II of the introduction to ASP.NET 2.0. Yes, it just keeps getting better.

What's New in ASP.NET 2.0 Data Handling **W**

Speaker: **Rob Howard**

From new classes providing abstract representations of databases, XML files, and other data sources, to new data binding controls, ASP.NET 2.0 offers a bevy of new features designed to make data handling easier and reduce the amount of code required to write sophisticated data-driven Web apps. This session previews some of the platform's most exciting new features and provides an intimate look at the future of ASP.NET.

What's New in ASP.NET 2.0 Security **W**

Speaker: **Rob Howard**

One of the goals of ASP.NET 2.0 is to reduce the amount of code developers write by 50%. This session introduces the forthcoming security-related features and delves into the infrastructure behind them. It also describes how to extend these features by leveraging ASP.NET's new provider model.

The .NET Garbage Collector

Speaker: **Brent Rector**

Managed code means garbage-collected code. Garbage collection eliminates the possibility of memory leaking from an application due to unpaired news and deletes and reduces the amount of time spent debugging on the back end. This session examines the inner workings of the .NET Framework's garbage collector and imparts the knowledge you need to write "smart" types that wrap database connections and other unmanaged resources.

The .NET Type System


Speaker: **Brent Rector**

One of the keys to becoming a proficient .NET programmer is getting to know the Framework's type system inside out. This session introduces the type system and gives you the know-how you need to build custom classes, structs, and other types that leverage the .NET Framework to its fullest. Examples are written in C#, but the knowledge you'll gain is applicable to all .NET programming languages.

Look for these icons identifying talks that deal with future versions of .NET, Windows, and SQL Server.

Whidbey **W** Longhorn **L** Yukon **Y**

(continued)



Escape to the good life. Allow yourself to be pampered. Unwind. Have fun. Enrich your mind. And do it all aboard a luxurious cruise ship.

Advanced Data Manipulation in T-SQL Y

Speaker: **Peter DeBetta**

SQL Server's Data Manipulation Language (DML) is a weapon in the arsenal of the smart database programmer. This session presents the ins and outs of DML and previews the DML changes forthcoming in Yukon. Did you know that complex client code and T-SQL manipulations can sometimes be replaced with a few simple lines of DML? Tune in for details.

Paging Data in ASP.NET and SQL Server

Speaker: **Peter DeBetta**

Many data-driven Web applications allow their users to page backward and forward among hundreds, sometimes thousands, of records. Many of those same applications also handle paging inefficiently, preventing them from scaling to meet the needs of thousands of concurrent users. This session introduces several means for paging using techniques that range from the simple (such as limiting the sizes of result sets) to the sublime.

New Transact-SQL Features of SQL Server Yukon Y

Speaker: **Peter DeBetta**

Exception handling support, new and extensible data types, and recursive queries are just a few of the exciting new features slated for the next release of SQL Server. This session previews these and other changes to T-SQL slated for Yukon—coming soon to a database server near you.

Longhorn User Interface Development Using XAML L

Speaker: **Brent Rector**

Longhorn introduces a new “programming” language for developing user interfaces for your applications. Called the Extensible Application Markup Language (XAML), it lets you declaratively define user interfaces that employ sophisticated controls, graphics, intelligent rendering for readability, multimedia, animation and more. Brent will show you how to develop a user interface in XAML and explain how it all works.

The WinFS File System L

Speaker: **Brent Rector**

With Longhorn will come a brand new file system dubbed the WinFS file system. Through intelligent indexing of content, WinFS promises

to make long text searches a thing of the past. In addition, it's the first Windows file system to use a relational database for storage. Get an up-close-and-personal look at the future of file systems as Brent pulls back the curtain and reveals the gut-level details that only a developer can appreciate.

XML in SQL Server (with SQL Server Yukon Enhancements) Y

Speaker: **Peter DeBetta**

This session surveys the existing XML features of SQL Server and explores the changes forthcoming in Yukon. It also discusses the advantages of working with XML inside and outside the database server.

Understanding .NET Generics W

Speaker: **Brent Rector**

Want to be first in line to learn about one of Whidbey's coolest and most anticipated new features? Generics are the moral equivalent of C++ templates, and they're slated to debut in the next major release of the .NET Framework. Join the fun as Brent previews the generics support built into the Whidbey CLR and demonstrates how to use generics to write type-agnostic classes in C#.

PRICING AND BOOKING INFORMATION

Course Fees: \$995 for the .NET Nirvana III conference. Only passengers booked through Geek Cruises will be admitted.

Cabin Type	Cruise Rate (per person)
Standard Inside	\$ 599 (GS* available)
Better Inside	\$ 699 (GS*, ♿ available)
Standard Outside	\$ 799 (GS*, ♿ available)
Better Outside	\$ 899 (GS*, ♿ available)
Outside w/ balcony	\$ 999 (GS*, ♿ available)
Mini Suites	\$1,099 (♿ available)
Superior Suite	\$1,349

(Cruise rates subject to change and availability.)

3rd and/or 4th Person Rate:

ages 19 and older, \$529; ages 2 – 18, \$479; under 2 years old, \$429.

Single Occupancy:

150% for standard inside and outside cabins; 200% for all cabins with a verandah.

Port Charges and Taxes:

Port charges/taxes are \$176 (subject to minor change) per person.

Full payment is due on September 1, 2004 (or, if you book after September 1, at the time of booking). Please note: space will be very limited by February 1.

Foreign Booking Fees and Additional Payment Information:

There is a foreign shipping charge of \$60 per foreign residence (\$35 per Canadian residence). There is a \$25 charge for returned checks.

♿ Physically challenged available

***Guaranteed Share (GS) Fares:** This plan is for passengers who are coming on a Geek Cruise by themselves and wish to share a cabin with another Geek Cruises passenger in an inside or outside cabin only. The prices are the same as the per person double occupancy rates. Share Passengers who smoke are not to do so in the cabin, unless okayed by fellow roommates. We try to match passengers with someone close in age, whenever possible. Note: Holland America will not accept any booking unless a fully completed Reservation Form is accompanied with a per-person deposit:

http://geekcruises.com/booking/nn3_booking.htm



DAY	PORT	ARRIVE	DEPART	CONFERENCE SESSIONS
Sunday, December 5	Ft. Lauderdale, Florida	—	5:00 pm	7:15 pm, Bon Voyage Party
Monday, December 6	Nassau, Bahamas	7:00 am	Noon	1:00 pm – 6:00 pm
Tuesday, December 7	Cruising the Caribbean Sea	—	—	8:30 am – 5:00 pm
Wednesday, December 8	Philipsburg, St. Maarten	10:00 am	6:00 pm	8 am – 10 pm, 6 pm – 8 pm
Thursday, December 9	Road Town, Tortola	7:00 am	4:00 pm	4:30 pm – 8:00 pm
Friday, December 10	Cruising the Caribbean Sea	—	—	8:30 am – 5:00 pm
Saturday, December 11	Half Moon Cay, Bahamas	8:00 am	4:00 pm	4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Sunday, December 12	Ft. Lauderdale, Florida	8:00 am	—	



Geek Cruises, Inc.
 1430 Parkinson Avenue
 Palo Alto, CA 94301
 650-327-3692
 928-396-2102 fax
 215-519-0141 cell
www.geekcruises.com
neil@geekcruises.com
 CST# 2065380-40

