



.init()

Dear KDE e.V. member,

The first two quarters of 2008 were very busy ones for KDE participants. Both the technology project and KDE e.V. were bustling with activity.

The obvious stand-out moment was when KDE 4.0 was released at an immensely successful release event held in Mountain View, California - where Google served as our hosts and numerous locations around the world tuned in to join us live over the Internet. Besides creating new community bonds and bringing together developers from various projects and companies in and outside of the KDE project, it also spawned what will be an annual KDE Americas event at the beginning of each year.

Work to ensure Akademy 2008 went off successfully was also in high gear as KDE 4.1 was being readied for release. KDE e.V. put aside a larger travel budget than ever before to ensure quality attendance, the Akademy 2008 team put their backs into things and KDE 4.1 stayed on schedule.

So it was that one of the most promising signs after the 4.0 release was the increase in tempo even as we turned out a major release. The project really engaged every gear we had. With the help of KDE e.V. and our partners, numerous developer sprints were successfully planned, funded, and held for projects as diverse as Akonadi, Kate, KDevelop, and Plasma. The sysadmin group was equally busy supporting the project, and an influx of new developers, with their efforts.

It was also when the KDE community learned of Nokia's intention to purchase Trolltech and the KDE e.V. board started meeting regularly with Nokia to discuss the implications from this turn of events. A strong set of relationships between the two organizations have been subsequently built. Nokia wasn't the only company we interfaced with, of course, with SUN Microsystems donating a server to KDE e.V. to be used in support of the project and new patrons of KDE e.V. coming on board.

Last, but absolutely not least, KDE e.V. took a major step forward by acquiring office space in Frankfurt, Germany, and hiring our first paid staff member: Claudia Rauch. In cooperation with Wikimedia, we found not only an official

home for KDE e.V. to call its own but a tremendous asset in Claudia who has rapidly made herself at home in our community providing much needed logistical support and business development effort while diving head-first into the community by joining our events and tradeshow teams. We are happy to welcome Claudia into our community and our team.

In short, the first half of 2008 was busy and full of pleasant surprises and achievements. KDE e.V. found ways to be more efficient and increase our pace to keep up with the technology project's own escalation. Looking forward to the second half of the year with Akademy 2008 just around the corner, it's safe to say that things aren't about to slow down, either.

To our membership and partners: thank you for helping making the start of 2008 such a positive and productive one. Let's find out just how far we can go together.

Signed,
The KDE e.V. Board <kde-ev-board@kde.org>

Supported Member Activities

6th Annual KDE-PIM meeting in Osnabrueck, February 1st - 3rd

From the 1st - 3rd February, the 6th annual KDE-PIM meeting took place in the Intevation office in Osnabrueck. The big topics were Akonadi and KDE 4.1. The team settled on the plan to release KDE-PIM with KDE 4.1 based on the traditional backends and include the first platform release of Akonadi as the future base for PIM applications in and around KDE. The meeting was kindly hosted by Intevation and supported by the KDE e.V. and KDAB.

The meeting also provided the opportunity to better integrate some new people. Ingo Klöcker made use of this by passing on maintainership of KMail to Thomas McGuire. Sebastian Trüeg who joined the meeting for the first time worked together with Tobias König on integration of NEPOMUK with KDE-PIM, which will bring the joys of tagging, semantic search, and virtual folders to KMail and all the other KDE-PIM applications.

4th Akonadi developer meeting, March 23rd - 24th

Intense hacking occurred at this meeting, held at the KDAB offices in Berlin, to get Akonadi ready for its first release with KDE 4.1. Even though the meeting only lasted a couple of days, an amazing 270 modifications to the KDE repository were made, and the six developers present worked on average from 10am to 3am to make a big step into reaching that goal.

Akonadi is the framework that will be used by most of the KDE-PIM applications for the KDE 4.2 release. During the sprint the current problems were identified, discussed in detail, and prioritised. The developers also moved the KDE-specific library to the final destination in the KDE Subversion source tree. The third major task completed during the meeting was a review of that library. Each and every part of the Akonadi library has been evaluated to make sure the naming is consistent and logical. The developers identified over a hundred issues, most of them simple renamings, but some more complex changes are required as well. The Mailody developers were around to share the experiences they have had with working with the library. Because Mailody will be the first application that will be available using Akonadi, they could give feedback about the current pitfalls of the library.

Kate Developer Meeting in Darmstadt, Germany, April 11th - 13th

A Kate Developer Meeting was held in April in Darmstadt hosted by basysKom GmbH to great success. Developers interested in improving KDE's advanced text editor met to shape the roadmap of Kate. An impressive nine attendees turned up including several new faces.

On Saturday we started early with the agenda:

- Scripting
- Indentation
- Kate Sessions
- Extending the highlighting system
- Collaborative editing
- Text input modes (vi mode)
- Minor topics: Search & replace, text completion
- Interface review
- Simplifying KWrite

In short, scripting support will allow us to extend Kate with little helper and indentation scripts. We rethought Kate's session workflow to better meet the user's needs. There are plans to allow combined highlighting, which means mixing, for example, HTML and PHP, making syntax highlighting even more powerful. Collaborative features were also a point which is especially interesting with regard to Decibel. Another hot topic is the support of additional

input modes (vi mode) for power users. Other work includes interfaces, for example, line annotations, which can be used by KDevelop to show SVN annotations inside the editor. Besides that, KWrite - the simple version of Kate - was stripped down to not confuse users. Experts can still turn on the advanced mode to have a full-featured KWrite application. For detailed results please read the developer meeting protocol.

Apart from the discussions, there were other highlights like Kate running smoothly on Windows, or basysKom's coffee machine. We are really pleased with the results of the meeting and plan to repeat it on a yearly basis.

Thanks to basysKom GmbH, the KDE e.V. and Joseph Wenninger for making this event happen.

Tokamak I: First Ever Plasma Developer Sprint, April 11th - 14th

Fourteen members of the Plasma team gathered in Milan, Italy, for the first-ever Plasma developer sprint. With the help of KDE e.V. funding, the attendees were able to make large, important strides forward such as implementing Widgets on Canvas support, conducting an extensive API review, laying new groundwork for scripting support, and meeting with the JOLIE project which has resulted in the creation of a significant technology relationship and yet another expansion of the KDE project's scope and membership.

Perhaps most importantly of all, the Plasma team was able to meet in person for the first time, with all the benefits that come from that, such as deeper personal and professional commitments to both the code and to each other.

The immense strides seen in Plasma for the KDE 4.1 release, and the momentum maintained heading into 4.2, would likely not have been as dramatic without this meeting. A big debt of gratitude is owed to both KDE e.V. for funding the event and Riccardo Iaconelli and his family for providing the facility to hold the event at.

KDevelop Team Meeting, April 12th - 18th

The KDevelop team met in the Trolltech Munich offices in April to discuss the future of the KDevelop 4.0 release.

During the weekend, we had an open invitation and attracted about 20 people to listen to talks about KDE 4 and KDevelop. Eight people stayed during the entire week to hack on their favorite IDE. Many thanks to Nokia for unbureaucratic sponsoring, Trolltech for hosting us, and of course to KDE e.V. for reimbursing travel costs.

Libre Graphics Meeting in Wroclaw, Poland, May 8th - 11th
Cyrille Berger, Boudewijn Rempt and Gilles Caulier visited the Libre Graphics Meeting which was held in Wroclaw, Poland from May 8th to May 11. KDE e.V. sponsored travel and the accomodation.

The Libre Graphics Meeting is the most important meeting for developers and users of Free graphics software in the widest sense possible. From fonts to graphics libraries, from typesetting to illustration, photography and digital asset management, art and business - everything is covered and there is something exciting for everyone.

All kinds of new initiatives and collaborations get started at LGM. Some projects use LGM as their yearly meeting (Scribus and GIMP), for others (such as Krita), mixing with developers from all kinds of projects and with all kinds of interests, as well as users, is the main thing.

Cyrille talked briefly about OpenCTL, Boudewijn presented natural painting as a field that is under-developed in the Free software, and Gilles Caulier presented Digikam for the first time to this audience.

Tradeshows and Community Events

New Boothbox

The first boothbox for KDE has survived and serviced us for nearly two years. The boothbox contains marketing and demo material, as well as many of the items needed to run a KDE booth, such as LCD computer screens and power strips. The boothbox has made it a lot easier to represent KDE at events and fairs, and in the process improved how KDE is perceived. As transportation is not always as smooth as we would have liked and the old boothbox was getting quite battered, we've upgraded to a more professional flightcase that is sturdier, has wheels, and which will thus be able to carry KDE's booth gear much more safely around the world.

FOSDEM in Brussels, February 23rd - 24th

The combined KDE/Amarok booth and developer room at the annual Free and Open Source Developers' European Meeting (FOSDEM) in Brussels was a great experience.

Many people from the KDE and Amarok communities showed up. The talks of the KDE track also drew a large crowd.

After Sebastian Kügler's introduction to KDE4, Nikolaj Hald Nielsen gave a talk about Amarok 2.0 - the new way to "rediscover your music". Bart Coppens gave a presentation on KOffice and presented Flake and Pigment,

as well as elements from Karbon and KWord. After Bart, Sebastian Trueg entered the stage to talk about the NEPOMUK project. NEPOMUK is a research project with more than 20 organisations from across the European Union. The target of the NEPOMUK project is to create a Social Semantic Desktop. Furthermore, there were talks on Free software in telecommunications focusing on Qtopia by Knut Yrvin, and KDE on Windows by Holger Schröder. On Sunday, the KDE devroom turned into a shared room with GNOME and other projects as it became the "Cross-Desktop" room.

Freed.in '08, New Delhi, February 23rd - 24th

In February 2008, Pradeepto Bhattacharya gave a KDE-Edu presentation at Freed '08 in New Delhi. The theme of the conference was "Knowledge" and KDE-Edu fit the bill perfectly. The audience which comprised of developers, admins, organisers from across various F/OSS projects were quite excited to know about KDE-Edu suite of Applications and its usefulness in the field of education and knowledge.

Chemnitzer Linux-Tage 2008, Berlin, March 1st - 2nd

In its 10th edition of Chemnitzer Linux-Tage, KDE was present with a couple of booth people, two KDE 4 promotion posters and a talk by Heiner Markert.

CeBIT, Hannover, March 4th - 9th

KDE was present at CeBIT 2008 in Hannover, the world's largest IT fair. The booth was located inside the LinuxPark in Hall 5, where Linux New Media had given KDE, Amarok and other open source projects the opportunity to present their work.

On Thursday (when the exhibition started) we occupied booth F52 and F16. Fortunately, this year our network situation was quite good as all of our notebooks had WiFi. We attracted a lot of visitors and it turned out that the booth was a bit small for our needs.

Thanks to our great community, the KDE booth was always very well-staffed, both by experienced KDE contributors and our friends in the Fedora community, but also by users who volunteered and so made their first-time contributions to the KDE world. It's nice to see such enthusiastic new contributors coming to KDE!

During the event, members of the KDE projects gave a couple of talks in the Linux Forum. On Saturday, Franz Keferböck talked about graphical effects in KDE4, and Sven Krohla gave an introduction to Amarok, while on Sunday,

Carsten Niehaus and Frederik Gladhorn performed a live demonstration of KDE4 and its applications.

OpenExpo, Bern, March 12th - 13th

On the 12th and 13th of March the 4th OpenExpo took place in Bern. /ch/open organizes the fair every 6 months alternating in Bern and Zurich. A wide variety of talks grouped into three different tracks accompanied the fair. This year, more than 30 Free Software projects took the opportunity to present themselves and their work. KDE and the Amarok team were among them. The booths attracted many people interested in the improvements of KDE4 and Amarok2. Most were impressed by the amazing efforts the project has taken to push KDE into a glorious future.

On the 13th, Franz Keferböck gave a well-received talk about development and structures of KDE's community and its organisational processes, and Nikolaj Hald Nielsen talked about Amarok 2 – in the intersection of Free Software and Free Culture in front of a large, interested audience.

FOSSMeet @NITC, Calicut, April 8th

In April 2008, Pradepto Bhattacharya gave a KDE presentation about various possible avenues to contribute to the KDE Project at National Institute of Technology, Calicut, at their annual F/OSS event - FOSSMeet @ NITC. Following that, there was also KDE/SoC BoF session.

FISL 9.0, Porto Alegre, Brazil, April 17th - 19th

From April 17th - 19th, FISL, in its 9th and biggest-ever edition, FISL took place in Porto Alegre, Brazil. The event featured several KDE-related talks with national and international speakers, including a foundational KDE Brazil meeting, and a booth presence shared with Trolltech.

Open Tech Summit, Taiwan, April 25th - 29th

Seb Ruiz, Ian Monroe, and Pradepto Bhattacharya attended the Open Tech Summit, Taiwan in April. They promoted open source and KDE developments in the Taiwanese community, and created further relationships with Asus who provide the Eee PC which runs KDE software. Pradepto gave a talk on KDE-Edu software and its suitability for the Eee PC in expanding educational software options for ultra-portable laptop manufacturers, whilst Ian and Seb spoke about Amarok 2 and small form factor considerations for Amarok (and in general all KDE applications) that are being addressed for the netbook market.

LinuxTag, Berlin, May 28th - 31st

KDE was present at LinuxTag with two main booths - Amarok and KDE - and a whole bunch of talks within a KDE track. Additionally, Aaron Seigo gave a well-received keynote on Wednesday on the vision of the desktop in a mobile world, and the direction KDE is heading in, and Till Adam brought the features of Kontact to the audience on Thursday. On Friday morning, Sebastian Kügler opened the KDE track with an introduction to KDE 4. As Sebastian Trueg could not make it to Berlin, Aaron jumped in again and talked about the Plasma basics. He was followed by Till Adam who presented the possibilities of Akonadi's storage concept and the future of KDE's Personal Information Management suite.

After lunch, Ellen Reitmayr talked about usability concepts in KDE and the efforts the team undertakes to incorporate them into the desktop and the applications. Franz Keferboeck gave an overview of KOffice's apps and introduced the audience to the new features that will come with KOffice 2. The final applause for the day went to Lydia Pintscher and Harald Sitter for their talk on KDE multimedia.

On Saturday, KDE was the topic in two more talks: Lydia Pintscher and Sven Krohls focused on the new features of Amarok 2, while Holger Schröder gave a presentation on the latest development of KDE on Windows.

Both main booths were well manned and even better visited. The interested crowd asked lots of questions and were very eager to see the latest features, goodies and eyecandy of KDE 4.1 which we showed on all computers at the booth, on Linux, Mac OS X and Windows. Besides these main booths, almost all distributions showed off KDE 3 and KDE 4 desktops, most notably openSUSE, Kubuntu, and also Fedora. In addition, the German Federal Office for Information Security displayed computers running Kontact on Windows as well as on Mac OS X.

Status Reports

KDE e.V. Board Meetings

In addition to the usual online communication by email (2,166 messages on the board email list from Jan 1st to June 30th) and instant messaging, the KDE e.V. Board of Directors met in person or by teleconference several times in the first half of 2008 to discuss and work on KDE e.V. business.

Most in-person meetings were scheduled around events board members would be in attendance at already, such as the KDE 4.0 release event or LinuxTag, and phone

conferencing was often utilized. This kept communication and coordination flowing while incurring minimal cost to the e.V. itself.

The board also held an official board meeting on April 15th - 16th with four of the five board members in attendance in our offices in Frankfurt. This was a convenient time as it was roughly half-way between the 4.0 release event and Akademy, and Aaron Seigo, the only non-European resident on the board, was already scheduled to be on the European continent that week.

Claudia Rauch attended to help with administration issues as well as to provide valuable input as to the daily workings of KDE e.V. Two Nokia business managers from their headquarters in Finland visited the board on the second day of meetings as special guests.

Over the two days of meetings, the board was able to work through the entire agenda as set out, which included a review of our finances and recent performance, status of the Fiduciary License Agreement (FLA), new initiatives such as starting a device library for developers to use as a resource, a review of Claudia's performance and accomplishments to date, Akademy 2008 coordination and planning, a review of the various working groups and KDE e.V. assets and an extensive discussion with the visiting Nokia managers as to how we can work together productively in the future.

The board feels strongly that this sort of continued communication and collaboration amongst the board and our various stakeholders is vital to keep KDE e.V. healthy today and to support further growth tomorrow.

Marketing Working Group Report

The largest MWG effort for Q1/Q2 was the planning, preparation and hosting of the KDE 4.0 Release Event. On January 17th - 19th, nearly 200 contributors, journalists, distributors, business partners and fans gathered at the Google Headquarters, in Mountain View, California, to celebrate the work done so far on KDE 4.0 and discuss the goals of KDE 4 going forward.

KDE 4 was one of the larger presentations at LinuxFest Northwest in Bellingham, Washington USA. Joe "Zonker" Brockmeier made the presentation. There have been periodic updates on KDE 4 progress and goodies at the Bellingham LUG.

We especially encourage members of the internationalization and documentation teams to join and represent their needs.

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 this quarter's system administration tasks:

- Created 166 Subversion accounts, and disabled 10 Subversion accounts. (105 keys were initially removed due to the Debian SSH vulnerability, 60 of them are replaced in the meanwhile, 45 accounts are still disabled due to the vulnerability).
- Created 15 kdemail.net aliases, and disabled 2 kdemail.net aliases
- Created 11 kde.org aliases, and modified 11 kde.org aliases
- Created 10 kde.org mailing-lists:
 - kde-mac
 - bugsquad
 - raptor
 - kopete-bugs
 - kde-br
 - akademy-talks-2008
 - campkde-participants
 - campkde-organizers
 - kde-utils-devel
 - parley-devel
- Disabled 1 kde.org mailing-list: katabase

Contact this group with your system administration requirements by sending email to sysadmin@kde.org.

Welcome New Members

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

- Alexis Menard
- Frederik Gladhorn
- Gary Greene
- Guillermo Antonio Amaral Bastidas
- Kenny Duffus
- Leonardo Franchi
- Lydia Pintscher
- Matt Williams
- Paul Adams
- Richard Johnson

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

- Hitflip Media Trading GmbH
- OSN GmbH

Welcome to the KDE e.V.!

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

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.

Finances

Q1/2008

Income:

- €45,000 Akademy 2007
- €8,300 GSoC 2006
- €7,600 Trolltech developer meetings
- €6,000 Supporting membership fees
- €1,000 EUR SQO-OSS

Expenses:

- €2,800 Developer meetings
- €1,800 Trade shows
- €1,000 Legal, Admin

At the end of this reporting period the KDE e.V. has a positive balance of €144,825.54

Q2/2008

Income:

- €29,000 Supporting membership fees
- €37,500 Akademy sponsoring

Expenses:

- €16,000 Developer meetings
- €2,700 Trade shows
- €7,500 Merchandize (including Akademy)
- €2,000 Office
- €1,000 Legal fees

At the end of this reporting period the KDE e.V. has a positive balance of €194,916.60

(Note: The financial numbers are rounded numbers for information only. They don't constitute an accurate accounting statement. Donations are not included).

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

Signed The 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

This report prepared by:

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- Danny Allen <dannya@kde.org>

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