

On-line Voting Status

Background

- Based on the preliminary ballot put on the web site in February, I generated a new version of the voting s/w that formatted the web pages like the ballot pages, with the same number of columns and the same names in the columns
- In early March an account was set up for my voting system at Lunarpages and I started setting up the system there as soon as all the basic functions were running reliably on my home system
- Within a couple weeks I had learned how things are set up at Lunarpages, and had things running pretty well when using Internet Explorer (IE) as the browser
- In late March the final ballot was announced, adding one iris that had been omitted. The system was updated and announced to the users who had given the most helpful comments on my preliminary system last year
- Many helpful comments were received, but all users reported error messages popping up, even if using IE

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The Problem

- I started exchanging emails with the support team at Lunarpages (who always made the effort to understand and be helpful)
- The errors were not easily reproducible—performing the same operations in consecutive runs did not produce errors at the same point
- The errors were not frequent enough to make a clear case to support
- The errors were too frequent for the system to be used
- A simplified failure demo system was created—clicking on a button alternatively created and destroyed some stuff on the screen. It always failed eventually, but after 150-300 clicks.
- There was no “smoking gun” and no usable system. A reasonable definition of a programmer's worst nightmare

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The Stumbling Steps toward a Solution (?)

- Instead of April and May being spent polishing up the system and responding to comments, my was divided among:
 - Those tasks
 - Looking for problems in my s/w and the frameworks it uses
 - Trying to come up with a test case that failed more frequently
 - Finding another possible hosting solution
 - Learning how that system does things and getting my stuff running there
 - Realizing that the server RAM needed for my s/w made their pricing scheme unaffordable
 - Finding another possible hosting solution with a very different price structure
 - Understanding how they do things and trying to get everything working

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Current Status

- At the time of this writing there is a problem with sending email from the new proposed site using my system.
- An updated status report will be presented at the meeting

On-line Voting System

General Description

- The system looks like a web page, and should be accessible with any browser (that does not have Java and Javascript turned off)
- The main display area can be any of:
 - One of the pages of the ballot
 - A table of all the awards available for voting, and for each award the user's voting status and a button for going to the appropriate ballot page
 - A list of the votes cast so far, and the categories which have neither a NoVote designation nor any vote(s) cast
 - Help screens, both general and for the above displays
- A menu can be used for:
 - Requesting a copy of the user's votes
 - Submitting the ballot
 - Exiting the system
 - Bringing up one of the help screens

On-line Voting System Administration

- An additional set of functions is available to users who have been set up with administrative rights
- These functions are:
 - Uploading a CSV file of users
 - Entering data for a single new user
 - Viewing the list of users (by region or not) and:
 - Deleting
 - Editing the user's data
 - Viewing the current totals for the vote

On-line Voting System

Awards Page

File Help

Show: Awards My votes Ballot page: 3 <-- Prev Next -->

Set unvoted to 'No Vote' Clear all No Votes

Medal	Award of Merit	Honorable Mention	High Commendation
<input type="checkbox"/> NV 1 of 1 THE DYKES MEDAL			
<input type="checkbox"/> NV 3 of 3 THE JOHN C. WISTER MEDAL	<input type="checkbox"/> NV 10 of 25 TB	<input type="checkbox"/> NV 11 of 78 TB	2 of 8 TB
<input type="checkbox"/> NV 1 of 1 THE KNOWLTON MEDAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NV 0 of 2 BB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NV 0 of 4 BB	0 of 3 BB
<input type="checkbox"/> NV 1 of 1 THE HANS AND JACOB SASS MEDAL	<input type="checkbox"/> NV 2 of 2 IB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NV 0 of 7 IB	1 of 3 IB
<input type="checkbox"/> NV 0 of 1 THE WILLIAMSON-WHITE MEDAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NV 0 of 2 MTB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NV 0 of 5 MTB	1 of 3 MTB
<input type="checkbox"/> NV 1 of 1 THE COOK-DOUGLAS MEDAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NV 0 of 6 SDB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NV 0 of 17 SDB	0 of 3 SDB
<input type="checkbox"/> NV 1 of 1 THE CAPARNE-WELCH MEDAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NV 0 of 2 MDB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NV 0 of 2 MDB	0 of 3 MDB
<input type="checkbox"/> NV 1 of 1 THE CLARENCE G. WHITE MEDAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NV 0 of 2 AR and AB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NV 0 of 3 AR and AB	0 of 3 AR and AB
<input type="checkbox"/> NV 1 of 1 THE WILLIAM MOHR MEDAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NV 0 of 2 AB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NV 0 of 2 AB	0 of 3 AB
<input type="checkbox"/> NV 1 of 1 THE FOUNDERS OF SIGMA MEDAL	<input type="checkbox"/> NV 1 of 2 SPEC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NV 0 of 2 SPEC	0 of 3 SPEC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NV 0 of 1 THE RANDOLPH PERRY MEDAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NV 0 of 2 SPEC-X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NV 0 of 2 SPEC-X	0 of 3 SPEC-X
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NV 0 of 1 THE SYDNEY B. MITCHELL MEDAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NV 0 of 2 CA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NV 0 of 5 CA	0 of 3 CA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NV 0 of 1 THE MARY SWORDS DEBAILLON MEDAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NV 0 of 2 LA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NV 0 of 9 LA	0 of 3 LA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NV 0 of 1 THE MORGAN-WOOD MEDAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NV 0 of 2 SIB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NV 0 of 8 SIB	0 of 3 SIB
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NV 0 of 1 THE ERIC NIES MEDAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NV 0 of 2 SPU	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NV 0 of 4 SPU	0 of 3 SPU
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NV 0 of 1 THE PAYNE MEDAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NV 0 of 2 JI	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NV 0 of 4 JI	0 of 3 JI

- For each award voting status is given (all but HC can specify “No votes being cast in this category”), plus a button for going the appropriate ballot page

On-line Voting System

“My Votes” Page

The screenshot shows a web browser window with a menu bar containing 'File' and 'Help'. Below the menu bar is a navigation area with 'Show:' followed by three buttons: 'Awards', 'My votes', and 'Ballot page: 3'. To the right of these buttons are two navigation buttons: '<-- Prev' and 'Next -->'. The main content area is titled 'My votes' and contains a scrollable list of awards. Each award name is followed by a small box containing 'NV'. The 'THE WILLIAMSON-WHITE MEDAL' has an unchecked box, while all other awards have checked boxes.

Award Name	NV Box
THE WILLIAMSON-WHITE MEDAL	<input type="checkbox"/>
THE DYKES MEDAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>DELIRIUM</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
THE JOHN C. WISTER MEDAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>CARL AND SISSY</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>CRACKLING CALDERA</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>DOROTHY DEVENPORT</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
THE KNOWLTON MEDAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>EYE CANDY</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
THE HANS AND JACOB SASS MEDAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>CONCERTINA</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
THE COOK-DOUGLAS MEDAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>CIRCUS DRAGON</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- Note that the Williamson-White Medal did not have its NV box checked and did not receive any votes

On-line Voting System

Ballot Page

File Help

Show: Awards My votes **Ballot page:** 3 <-- Prev Next -->

THE KNOWLTON MEDAL -- 5 entries -- You may vote for 1

1 votes

<input type="checkbox"/> BE MY BABY	<input type="checkbox"/> CONGO BONGO	<input type="checkbox"/> HEART OF AFRICA
<input type="checkbox"/> BERMUDA TRIANGLE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EYE CANDY	

THE HANS AND JACOB SASS MEDAL -- 7 entries -- You may vote for 1

1 votes

<input type="checkbox"/> BOLD STATEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> JUMP START	<input type="checkbox"/> SPICED PEACHES
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CONCERTINA	<input type="checkbox"/> MARIPOSA WIZARD	
<input type="checkbox"/> DUDE	<input type="checkbox"/> RUBY SLIPPERS	

THE WILLIAMSON-WHITE MEDAL -- 5 entries -- You may vote for 1

0 votes

<input type="checkbox"/> CONNECT THE DOTS	<input type="checkbox"/> MISSUS BEE	<input type="checkbox"/> THAT'S RED
<input type="checkbox"/> DANCING LILACS	<input type="checkbox"/> SAILOR'S DREAM	

THE COOK-DOUGLAS MEDAL -- 13 entries -- You may vote for 1

1 votes

<input type="checkbox"/> ATTACK CAT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CIRCUS DRAGON	<input type="checkbox"/> TRUE NAVY
<input type="checkbox"/> BALLISTIC	<input type="checkbox"/> DANCING BUNNIES	<input type="checkbox"/> ULTIMATE
<input type="checkbox"/> BLUEBERRY TART	<input type="checkbox"/> EYE OF NEWT	<input type="checkbox"/> WIZARD'S RETURN
<input type="checkbox"/> BOURGEOIS	<input type="checkbox"/> FIRES OF FIJI	
<input type="checkbox"/> CACHE OF GOLD	<input type="checkbox"/> PANTHER	

THE CAPARNE-WELCH MEDAL -- 5 entries -- You may vote for 1

1 votes

<input type="checkbox"/> CHEMISTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> PIXIE KISSES	<input type="checkbox"/> WATERMARK
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FISSION CHIPS	<input type="checkbox"/> POKEMON	

- The arrangement is the same as on page 3 of the ballot.

On-line Voting System

HC Ballot Page

File Help

Show: Awards My votes Ballot page: 20 <-- Prev Next -->

High Commendations

<p>TB HC 1 --- SAVED</p> <p>Region: 4 Save Delete</p> <p>Hybridizer: ABC</p> <p>Seedling: 1234AB</p>	<p>BB HC 3</p> <p>Region: Save Delete</p> <p>Hybridizer:</p> <p>Seedling:</p>
<p>TB HC 2 --- SAVED</p> <p>Region: 1 Save Delete</p> <p>Hybridizer: EG</p> <p>Seedling: 5678MN</p>	<p>IB HC 1 --- SAVED</p> <p>Region: 15 Save Delete</p> <p>Hybridizer: AK</p> <p>Seedling: 1234AB</p>
<p>TB HC 3</p> <p>Region: Save Delete</p> <p>Hybridizer:</p> <p>Seedling:</p>	<p>IB HC 2</p> <p>Region: Save Delete</p> <p>Hybridizer:</p> <p>Seedling:</p>
<p>TB HC 4</p> <p>Region: Save Delete</p> <p>Hybridizer:</p> <p>Seedling:</p>	<p>IB HC 3</p> <p>Region: Save Delete</p> <p>Hybridizer:</p> <p>Seedling:</p>

- HC votes lack the NV option, and each vote must be saved manually. (after being saved, it can be deleted or overwritten). The scroll bar shows there are more possible votes further down the page.