

Status of OS/2 VOICE and BWW

Warpstock 2019, Orlando, Florida.



Who is talking to you ?

- Roderick Klein
 - Uses OS/2 since 1994.
 - Could not make it to Warpstock, busy with day time job!
 - Used to work on eComStation at Mensys.
 - Moved forward with OS/2 as president of OS/2 VOICE. Since about 10 years a Dutch foundation.
 - Silvan Scherrer from Bitwise Works GmbH had private issue, therefore combined presentation.
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The role of social media

- OS/2 community still not visible enough.
 - Younger people live on different section of the internet. (Mobile phone and apps).
 - Dutch Commodore 64 user group grew from 50 to 400 users. Purely due to social media.
 - News system connects to social media:
 - Twitter
 - LinkedIn
 - Facebook
 - Social media import from BWV and RSS feeds.
 - Also sends out via email of course!
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Remote support software used!

- Build by Rich Walsh.
- Can use it for remote support.
- Free of charge for the OS/2 community.
- Only remote desktop support currently, no chat or file transfer yet.
- <https://articles.os2voice.org/category/software/20-helpdesk.html>



RPM.OS2VOICE.ORG

- 1 software repo for all OS/2 software, easy to find for everybody.
 - Process has taken long, largely automated to build RPM files. More information will be released about this system.
 - Targetted at new and older OS/2 software.
 - Short demo: Embelish repackaged and Firefox 45.9.
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Warpstock Europe 2020 is coming..

- Somewhere in May 2020, exact date to be announced soon!
- In the Netherlands or Germany (Frankfurt).
- Amount of visitors constant.
- The event is important PR for OS/2 & ArcaOS!



Current issues Moz. browsers

- Firefox 38.8 and Firefox 45.9.
- Firefox 45.9 ESR released April 2017
- 45.9: <https://html5test.com> 45.9, only 400 out of 555 points!
- Mayor website not working, for example:
 - www.trello.com, www.linkedin.com, www.github.com, some google websites
 - www.9292ov.nl
 - American bank reported @SCOUG

Future Mozilla browser looks very bleak!

- No RUST compiler for OS/2. Even if we would have the RUST compiler it might not run due to kernel limitations
 - Firefox one big construction pit, DLL's came and went. Too time consuming for 1 developer to keep up with!
 - Issues can be reduced somewhat (user agent):
<http://www.scoug.com/os24u/2019/scoug201905.18maypresentation.html>
 - Firefox 52, estimate 3 to 4 months full time development to get Firefox 52 working somewhat stable on OS/2.
(Estimate from Dmitry from BWV).
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When do you experience Firefox issues ?

- Blank pages, page does not load.
 - HTTPS error message.
 - Pages not displayed correctly.
 - Sometimes 100% CPU load on certain pages. Issue somewhere in Javascript issue, hard to find and debug!
 - Error message: your browser is no longer supported. Sometimes you can not continue loading your webpage.
 - Sometimes you need to reboot to Windows Linux/Mac or Windows to visit a website.
 - Problems will continue to increase...
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QT/webkit browser

- Started in October 2017, OS/2 VOICE started collecting funding for a new browser.
 - Close to getting a new QT based browser, Falkon.
 - We have QT 5.13! On schedule last 12 months.
 - Falkon browser score 540 out of 555 points at html5test.com!
 - Google Chrome Microsoft Edge use the Webkit engine.
 - Some Chromium code in Firefox code since version 24 or 38.
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New QT browser, when ?

- QT version is current and work is progressing on QT webkit library needed.
 - Falkon browser is expected in December of this year.
 - Other browsers can be ported if the community wants this. 80% of the browser code is in QT!
 - Falkon browser will only be distributed in RPM format.
 - More information: <https://articles.os2voice.org>
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Update from BWW!



Who is working for BWW

- BWW=bww bitwise works GmbH from Austria
 - Silvan Scherrer from Switzerland
 - Dmitriy Kuminov from Russia
 - Herwig Bauernfeind from Austria
 - While it is a GmbH (LLC), it needs funding!
 - Mostly a labor of love!
 - All software updates available free of charge via Netlabs RPM!
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What BWW works on!

- Some of the projects BWW maintains:
 - QT for OS/2!
 - Apache Open Office port for OS/2.
 - Samba server
 - CUPS printer drivers
 - Around 250 libraries used by software being maintained!



The future of ArcaOS, VOICE and BWW

- What if... It's 2019, who would have thought we would run ArcaOS on modern hardware today!
 - ArcaOS moves forward with UEFI development.
 - UEFI demonstrated at Warpstock Europe
 - USB 3.0 getting closer, drivers stay current such as multimap, ACPI and Panorama!
 - New browser in the pipeline!
 - Other software ports remain current such as CUPS printer drivers, LIBC, GCC compilers etc.
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QT webengine library for browser

- Example of yet another DLL not just recompiled on OS/2! Next to QT base framework worked on.
 - 1. Qt Declarative (very big module, includes Qt's own scripting framework).
 - 2. Qt WebChannels and QtWebSockets modules (machinery to communicate in Qt style over the network stack).
 - 3. GNU gperf tool
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What BWW worked on since mid September II.

- openssl updated to latest 1.0.1 series
 - ca-certificates updated
 - p11-kit ported because of ca-certificates
 - libtasn1 ported because the p11-kit
 - asciidoc ported because of ca-certificates
 - source-highlighter ported because of asciidoc
 - cups updated to version 2.2.12, latest version of the 2.2 series
 - - cups-filters updated to latest
 - - libqpdf updated to latest because needed in cups-filter
 - - gutenprint updated to latest
 - - hplip updated to latest
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What BWW worked on since mid September II

- Of course the work done on QT.
 - wget updated to latest (some features missing, as not all dependencies ported)
 - poppler updated to 0.61 (latest possible atm, as we face some compiler issues.)
 - libjpeg-turbo updated to latest
 - openssl updated to latest 1.0.1 series
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How can you contribute to BWW ?

- BWW needs our support, they maintain many DLL's software developers on OS/2/ArcaOS use. Such as LIBC DLL's
 - Just finished the port of QT which will bring more software ports to OS/2.
 - You can purchase sponsor units in the BWW webshop:<https://www.bitwiseworks.com/shop>
 - Or sponsor monthly via Patreon:
 - <https://www.patreon.com/bwwbitwiseworks>
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How can you contribute to OS/2 VOICE ?

- Write an article for publication on
<https://articles.os2voice.org>
- Make a donation, we need your donations:
<https://www.os2voice.org/membership.html>
- Contact us: president@os2voice.org



Short demo and questions

- RPM demo (done via helpdesk).
- Questions

