Michael Lefsky (lefsky@home.com) writes:

> What is the "IDL Programming Credentials committee"?

You mean you have never heard of them either? I've been
telling these guys they need to hire a publicist to
get the word out.

This is just one of several committees put together by
the IDL Expert Programmers Association. Every January
they accept program submissions and issue credentials
to IDL programers. Credential categories range from
"What Is This, a Joke!?" to "Kick-Ass Programmer".
(Although as far as I know only one person has ever
earned the latter designation, and they had to use
some kind of triply sub-classed object in their program
to even get in the running. I thought it was pathetic.)
I've been stuck in the B-o-o-o-r-i-n-g category for
ages. I didn't really break out until I started
incorporating more objects into my programs.

The IEPA has a big invitation-only convention in
October, where they invite IDL programmers who come
to their attention (usually through some kind of posting
on the IDL newsgroup) to answer the secret IDL test
question. Those lucky programmers who get the question
right are inducted into the Society in an elaborate
ceremony at an unannounced (but lavish) location. You
get a secret handshake and everything. The questions
range from the esoteric, like "Which is the X direction
when you are in PostScript landscape mode?", to the
impossible, like "How do you get color output on a 24-bit
display?".

Normally the folks at the IEPA contact you, rather than
the other way around. But you can send e-mail to the
Chairman, Wily E. Coyote, Ph.D., at coyote@iepa.org.
I've heard he is always willing to help newbies out.

Cheers,

David

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