January 2020 Newsletter

Congratulations to Wendy Pastrick! She is the new president of the PASS organization. Wendy has served the PASS community in many roles over the years, and she will be a fantastic leader.

Women are making a big impact in the SQL Community. We have the skills and knowledge, and we are ready to share! Here are some statistics to prove it:

PASS Summit
20% of the attendees at PASS Summit (of 99% who answered) were women
14 of 48 (29%) speakers who were invited to speak at Summit were women
45 women submitted abstracts to the call for speakers out of 307 total (14.7%)
12 women were chosen to speak out of 88 from the call for speakers (13.6%)
7 women came from Microsoft out of a total of 45 Microsoft speakers (15.6%)
7 of the 20 pre-con sessions had women presenters (35%)
Deborah Melkin won the Speaker Idol contest!
The AI for Everyone Learning Pathway featured all women speakers
Keynote speakers Tarah Wheeler (day 2) and LaShana Lewis (WIT Luncheon) were both positively received

SQL Saturday
There were 486 sessions presented in 2019 and 179 included women speakers (37%)
Out of 22 pre-cons, 17 were taught by women (77%)
The women with the most presentations at SQL Saturday were:

20 Kellyn Pot'Vin-Gorman
15 Monica Rathbun
15 Angela Henry
13 Kathi Kellenberger
11 Tracy Boggiano
11 Leslie Andrews
10 Meagan Longoria
10 Jennifer McCown

Obviously, we are doing better at SQL Saturdays than at Summit. If you have been speaking locally or at SQL Saturdays, think about submitting your session to PASS Summit this year. More women will be on the stage if more women submit.

SQL Saturday organizers are making an effort to reach out to women speakers. Congratulations to Nashville #933 who had 40% women speakers and South Florida – BI #946 who is on track to see about 50% women speakers.

#PASSsummit 2020 registration is NOW OPEN! Connect with your #sqlpass community & learn from the best in the #data industry, with sessions across #Analytics, #DataManagement, #Architecture, #ProDev & much more!

Register today for Early Bird pricing, and we will see you there in November!

Each month we feature a blogger, and this month it is [Vicky Harp](#). Vicky is the Principal Program Manager Lead of SQL Server tooling. Her team is responsible for the tools we use every day like SSMS and Azure Data Studio.

Interested in starting your own blog? We can help get you started. Just send us a note at wit@pass.org.

We would like to thank our sponsors for supporting our group. They provide funds that make virtual groups possible. We also award a gift certificate at each webinar to one lucky attendee thanks to the funds provided.

SentryOne makes staying on top of the latest technology trends important to the SQL Server community easy by offering free webinars from Microsoft MVP's Kevin Kline, Aaron Bertrand, and other team members. [Check out](#) the upcoming topics and webinars on demand and ready to watch!

Click [here](#) to receive a free SentryOne product trial!

[Grow your knowledge with Redgate University](#)

Have you checked out the free online course courses on Redgate University yet? From getting started guidance to advanced tips and tricks, these bite-sized courses will help you to optimize your Redgate products. Presented by Redgate's experts including Microsoft MVPs Kendra Little, Kathi Kellenberger, Grant Fritchey, and Steve Jones, there are 22 courses to choose from — and new content coming soon! Head over to Redgate University to access these free courses and set yourself up for success with Redgate products in 2020. [Visit Redgate University](#).

Click [here](#) to learn how Redgate can support your user group!

--Rie and Kathi

Hobbies

My grandmother couldn't get around much in her final years and spent the day watching her soap operas and doing needlework. Her two favorite crafts were crocheting and embroidery. The interesting thing about her, is that she didn't read crochet patterns and probably didn't even know the names of the stitches. She could just look at someone else's creation and duplicate the results. Here's the afghan she made for me about 40 years ago.

I'm not sure how old I was when she taught me to crochet. I'm left-handed, but she managed to teach me to crochet right-handed. The hard thing about crocheting is just holding the yarn, needle, and object at the same time. Once you get past that, it's easy. Soon after she had me creating "granny squares," I bought a book so I could learn about the different stitches and read patterns.

For years, I was obsessed with crocheting and annoyed my kids because I took my projects with me wherever I went. Even though I loved it, I remember there were lots of unfinished projects and pieces that didn't turn out well.

Something funny happened, though, when I switched careers in 1997, I put my yarn down. For some unknown reason, I didn't care about doing it anymore. My guess is that crocheting was my creative outlet, and when I got a job as a developer, I no longer needed it.

A few months ago, I decided to take up the craft again. And, yes, it is like riding a bicycle. My fingers still remembered, after 22 years, how to hold everything and the stitch names. One strange thing is that I seem to be better at it now than I was back then. My projects are turning out great. I've even developed my own pattern. All I can think of is that over 20 years of programming and database work has changed something about how I think and how I approach this craft.

I've discovered a big benefit. Doing this work is so relaxing. I'm sleeping better, and my stress levels are down. It's almost like meditating. I've noticed that many of my friends in the data platform community have hobbies like brewing beer, dancing, playing in a band, gardening, running, scuba diving, photography and more. Just like me, I bet these hobbies go a long way to help keep them balanced and relaxed after stressful days at work.

--Kathi

Great Links

We are always looking for input from our members. Please drop us a line at wit@pass.org if you have a link you would like to share, would like to write an article for the newsletter, or if you would like to present a webinar. We are looking for any topic that would be interesting to the WIT group and data platform topics presented by women. This is a great way to get experience as a speaker.

7 Reasons Why Hobbies are Good for Your Health
16 Hobbies That Will Improve Your Life
8 Ways You Can Help Get Women And Minorities Speaking At Tech Events

Webinar Schedule

Group	Date	Session	Speaker
Women in Technology	02-19-2020	Looking "Normal" and Seeing "Stars": Table Designs Working Together	Deborah Melkin
Cloud Virtual Group	03-05-2020	Azure Data Factory - An overview of modern data integration service in the cloud	Yingying Myra Ma
Cloud Virtual Group	03-12-2020	Throw a Brick at Your Data: Intro to Azure Databricks	Hope Foley
Women in Technology	08-12-2020	Understanding Indexes for Writing Better Queries	Janice Gerbrandt

SQL Saturday and PASS Summit Speakers

Event	Location	Date	Session Tile	Presenter
SQL Saturday #927 Pre-Con	Edinburgh	01-30-2020	Open Hack: From Ingestion to Consumption	Annemarie Thijs, Steve Verschaeve, Stijn Winants
SQL Saturday #927	Edinburgh	02-01-2020	Turn insight into action using Power automate and Power BI	Isabelle Van Campenhoudt
SQL Saturday #927	Edinburgh	02-01-2020	Azure AI with Power BI	Shreeya Subramani
SQL Saturday #930	Cleveland	02-01-2020	Source Control for Databases: Why You Need It and How To Get Started	Jes Borland, Erin Stellato
SQL Saturday #930	Cleveland	02-01-2020	Using Azure DevOps to Automate Database Deployments	Sarah Dutkiewicz
SQL Saturday #930	Cleveland	02-01-2020	How To Talk To Your Storage Admin	Marsha Pierce
SQL Saturday #930	Cleveland	02-01-2020	Data Types Do Matter	Angela Henry
SQL Saturday #943	St. Louis	02-08-2020	Navigating Row Level Security	Erin Dempster
SQL Saturday #943	St. Louis	02-08-2020	Resources for the New, Aspiring, or Accidental DBA	Jennifer Jones
SQL Saturday #943	St. Louis	02-08-2020	ROI with Power BI: Do more than Excel	Erika Haase Nalley
SQL Saturday #943	St. Louis	02-08-2020	Calculate: With great power there must also come...great responsibility	Erika Haase Nalley
SQL Saturday #943	St. Louis	02-08-2020	Data-Driven Diversity	LaShana Lewis
SQL Saturday #943	St. Louis	02-08-2020	Introduction to T-SQL Windowing Functions	Kathi Kellenberger

SQL Saturday #943	St. Louis	02-08-2020	What is DevOps and Why Should DBAs Care?	Kathi Kellenberger
SQL Saturday #943	St. Louis	02-08-2020	PowerShell for the DBA	Amy Herold
SQL Saturday #943	St. Louis	02-08-2020	Code Smells - How to Keep Your Code From Stinking!	Pamela Mooney
SQL Saturday #939 Pre-Con	Austin-BI	02-08-2020	Creating Effective Power BI Reports	Meagan Longoria
SQL Saturday #939	Austin-BI	02-08-2020	Building a Strong Foundation for Data Analysis	Leslie Andrews
SQL Saturday #939	Austin-BI	02-08-2020	Getting Started with Data Science and Databricks	Ginger Grant
SQL Saturday #939	Austin-BI	02-08-2020	Mastering your Resume & Interview: Tips to Get Hired	Christine Assaf
SQL Saturday #939	Austin-BI	02-08-2020	AI For Good: Cognitive Services Vision	Alicia Moniz
SQL Saturday #939	Austin-BI	02-08-2020	More Common Than You Think: Mental Illness in Tech	Tracy Boggiano
SQL Saturday #939	Austin-BI	02-08-2020	Creating Accessible Power BI Reports	Meagan Longoria
SQL Saturday #922	Wellington	02-22-2020	How to use DAX & SQL in PowerBI?	Yana Berkovich
SQL Saturday #922	Wellington	02-22-2020	Revealing the many Azure ML development and release processes	Ginger Grant
SQL Saturday #922	Wellington	02-22-2020	Empower your Business Apps with Artificial Intelligence (Azure Cognitive Services)	Indira Bandari
SQL Saturday #922	Wellington	02-22-2020	From AI to BI, how to do it all in Azure Synapse Analytics	Akanksha Malik
SQL Saturday #922	Wellington	02-22-2020	The road to hell is paved with good intentions	Michelle Burke
SQL Saturday #922	Wellington	02-22-2020	Survival Techniques for Lone DBA	Tejaswi Datla
SQL Saturday #922	Wellington	02-22-2020	Visualising Complex Customer Journeys	Emily Dinsdale
SQL Saturday #946	South Florida-BI	02-22-2020	Keynote - Women in Technology Panel	Barkha Herman; Diana Betancourt; Gilda Alvarez; Dave Noderer

SQL Saturday #946	South Florida-BI	02-22-2020	Are you a Power BI Newbie?	Priscilla Camp
SQL Saturday #946	South Florida-BI	02-22-2020	Networking Clinic	Patricia Monica Ojeda
SQL Saturday #946	South Florida-BI	02-22-2020	An Intro to Databricks	Barkha Herman
SQL Saturday #946	South Florida-BI	02-22-2020	DAX for Beginners - Learn the basics for Power BI	Katie Schmidt
SQL Saturday #946	South Florida-BI	02-22-2020	What is the Power Query Editor?	Jessica Jolly
SQL Saturday #946	South Florida-BI	02-22-2020	Using Python In Power BI	Julie Smith
SQL Saturday #946	South Florida-BI	02-22-2020	Level-up your Power BI Reports	Cecilia Brusatori
SQL Saturday #946	South Florida-BI	02-22-2020	Data and DevOps: Joining the CI/CD Fun	Kelly Tabler
SQL Saturday #946	South Florida-BI	02-22-2020	Surviving the digital transformation	Gilda Alvarez
SQL Saturday #946	South Florida-BI	02-22-2020	Design your Power BI with inclusive intelligence	Diana Betancourt
SQL Saturday #946	South Florida-BI	02-22-2020	User Experience Brilliance in Power BI Dashboards	Hilary Wilkie
SQL Saturday #946	South Florida-BI	02-22-2020	Pattern Recognition: Unlock Data's Potential using Azure Cognitiv	Audrey Hammonds
SQL Saturday #946	South Florida-BI	02-22-2020	An introduction to utilizing SSIS for Business Intelligence	Candace Thompson
SQL Saturday #946	South Florida-BI	02-22-2020	Dare to change, the path of a peak performance professional	Patricia Monica Ojeda
SQL Saturday #953	Rochester	02-29-2020	Beginning T-SQL	Jennifer McCown
SQL Saturday #953	Rochester	02-29-2020	Beyond the Basic SELECT	Deborah Melkin
SQL Saturday #953	Rochester	02-29-2020	More Common Than You Think: Mental Illness in Tech	Tracy Boggiano
SQL Saturday #953	Rochester	02-29-2020	Introduction to Sentiment Analysis with SQL Server	Tracey Kroll
SQL Saturday #953	Rochester	02-29-2020	Streamline Database Deployments	Elizabeth Noble

SQL Saturday #953	Rochester	02-29-2020	Thanks for the Feedback!	Anna Hadnagy
SQL Saturday #953	Rochester	02-29-2020	The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly -- switching from SSIS to Informatica Cloud as an ETL Tool	Jane Datz
SQL Saturday #953	Rochester	02-29-2020	Intro to Query Store	Tracy Boggiano
SQL Saturday #953	Rochester	02-29-2020	Look Mom… No Hands! Getting Started with Automation	Kimberly StJacques, Steve Mikula
SQL Saturday #951	Tampa	02-29-2020	How To Talk To Your Storage Admin	Marsha Pierce
SQL Saturday #951	Tampa	02-29-2020	MA + THE - E = Aggravated with Aggregation	Carolyn Risk
SQL Saturday #951	Tampa	02-29-2020	The Future Is Here for Containers!	Marsha Pierce
SQL Saturday #951	Tampa	02-29-2020	Sarah the Explorer: Navigating and Customizing the SharePoint Interface	Sarah Patrick
SQL Saturday #951	Tampa	02-29-2020	Career Development	Katja Mosher
SQL Saturday #951	Tampa	02-29-2020	How to Beat the ATS	Suzanne Ricci
SQL Saturday #951	Tampa	02-29-2020	Failure needs to be an option	Donna Ellis Wilson
SQL Saturday #951	Tampa	02-29-2020	Mastering TempDB	Monica Rathbun
SQL Saturday #956	Belgium	03-07-2020	Be a dynamic SQL dynamo!	Joanna Wolthuis