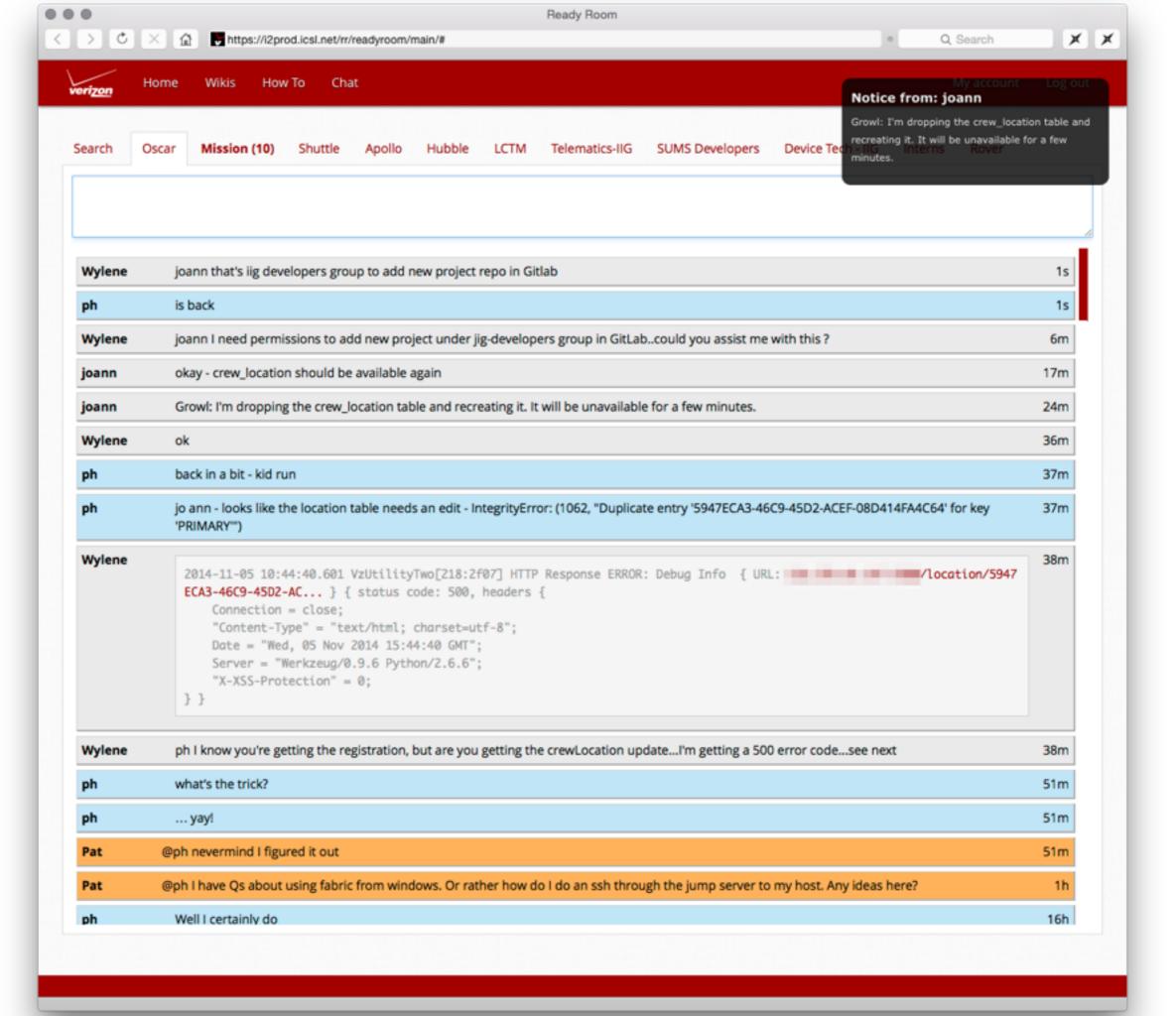
ReadyRoom Android collaboration

Paul Hubbard Abby Charfauros Nov 17 2014

https://www.phfactor.net/rr

What and why?

- Building Android applications with a distributed group of developers
- Corporate rule: All services must run on companyowned hardware. No AWS, no Campfire, no Slack.
- Wanted a tool for both communication and app distribution
- IRC is just not good enough

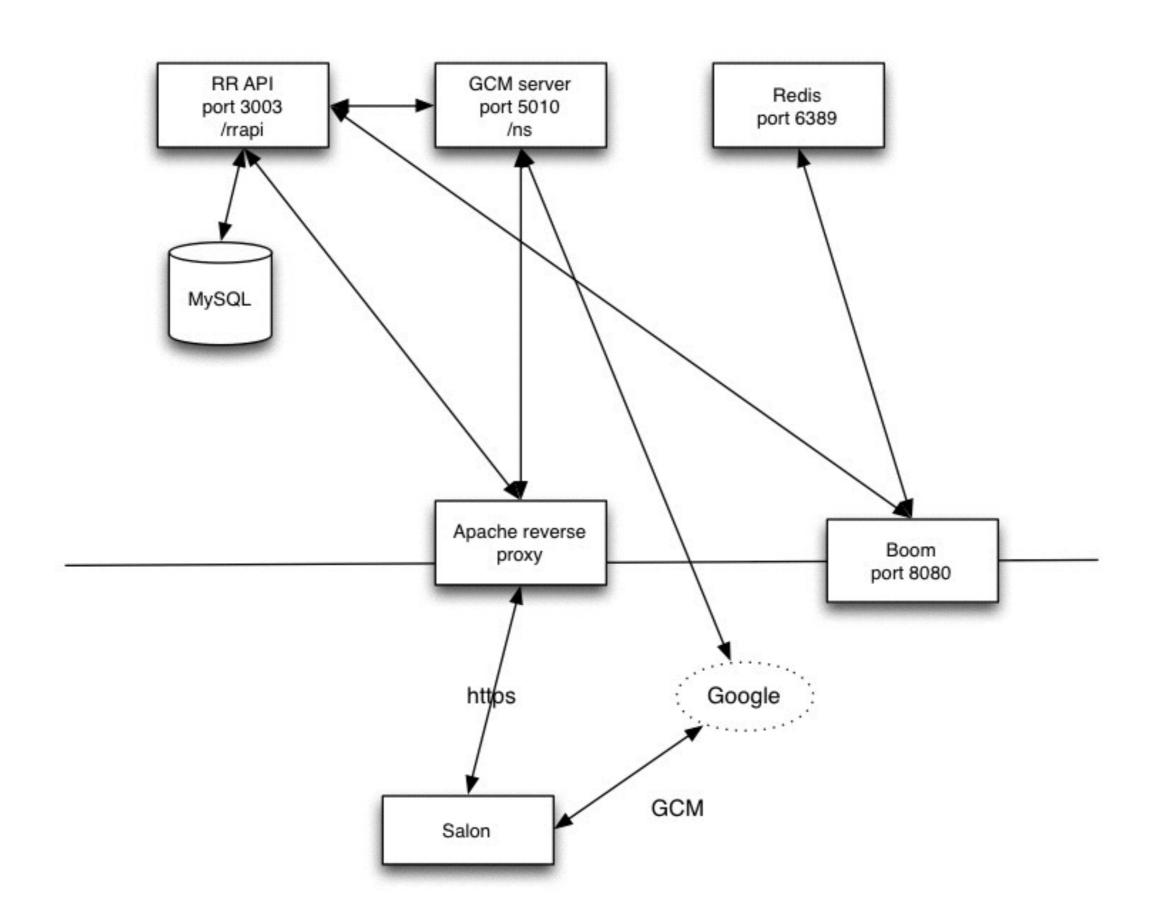


Features!

- Web-based chat
- Searchable archive
- Drag and drop images as well as APK files
- Sounds, memes, SMS, whiteboard, private app store, Off-the-record, three levels of attention
- REST JSON API for native clients

Implementation

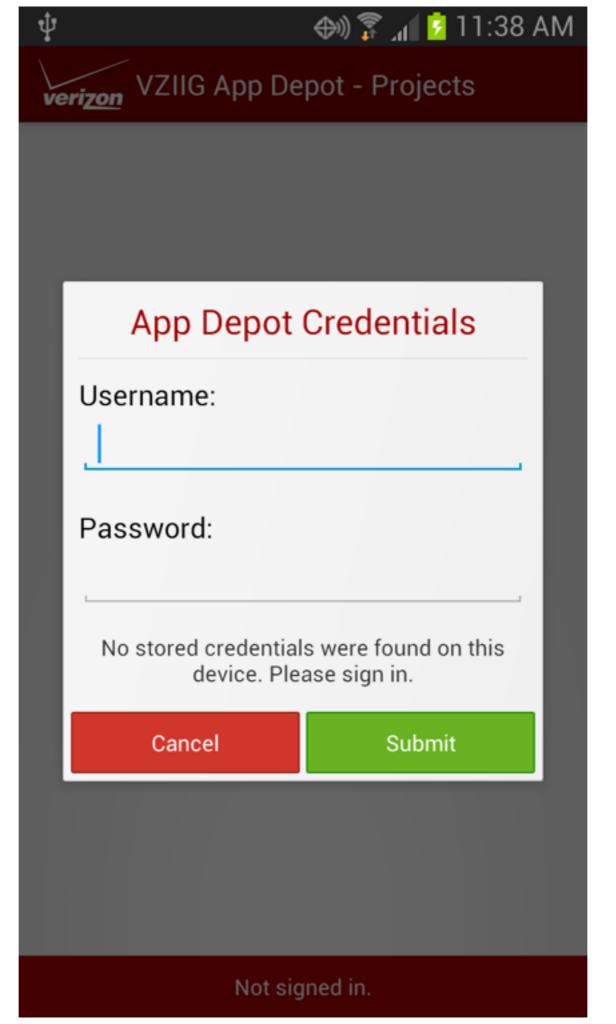
- Site is Drupal / PHP
- MySQL backing store
- Websockets for browser message push
- GCM for Android push
- Native Android client

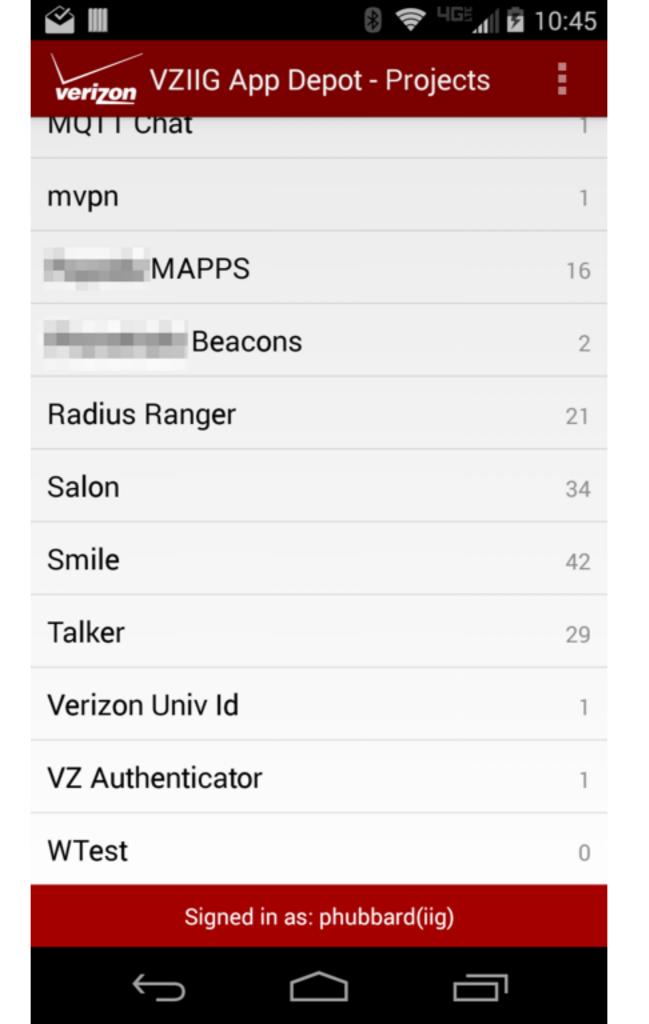


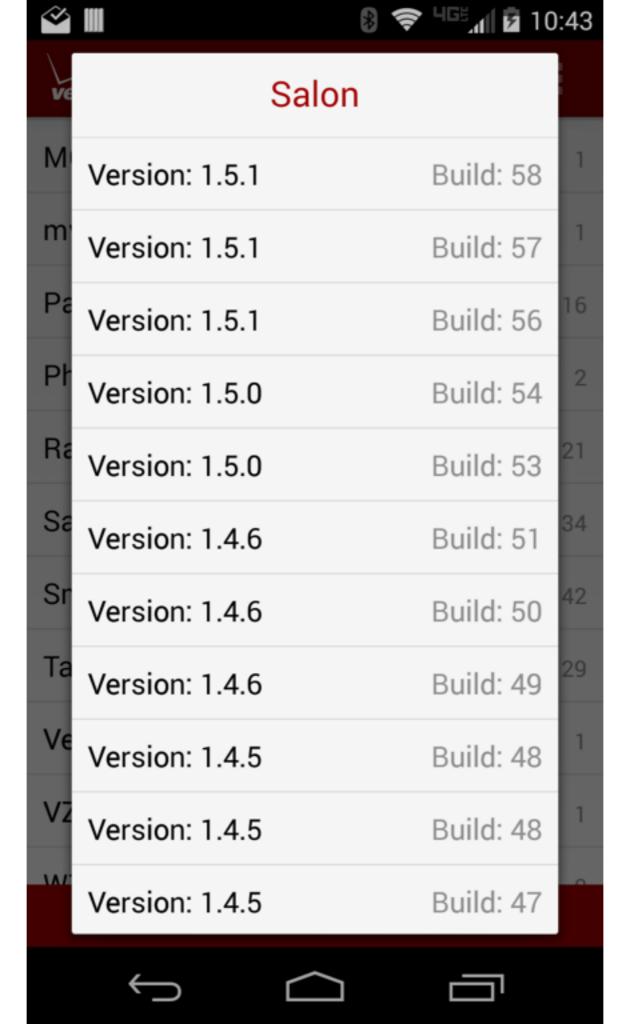
Enterprise app store

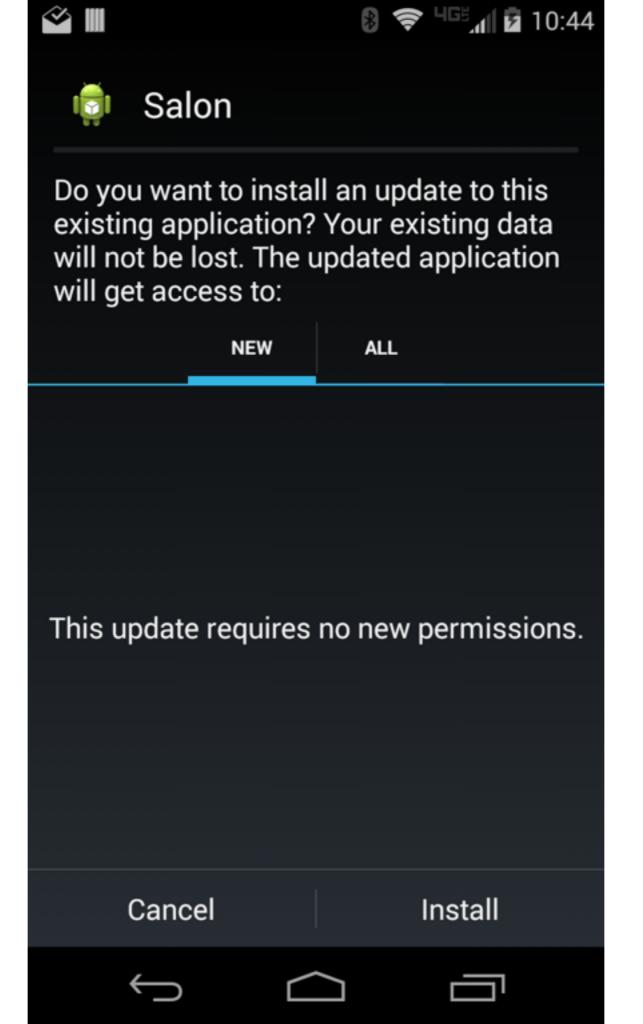
- Problem: We develop apps and services and need an easy way to distribute binaries
- Solution: Add it to ReadyRoom
- Drop an APK into the chat window and its ready to install
- Simple WebView-based native client
- Low effort, high return











Discussion

- App distribution is a major use case. Developers, managers, collaborators as well. Used for every new app we develop.
- Often we will drag snapshots of app screens into RR as well to iterate on visuals
- Still surprised other collaboration systems don't have this feature yet.
- Much harder to do with iOS due to Apple

Android client

- Native code
- Uses EventBus, SupportV4 and GCM
- ListView of WebViews, backed with SQLite and CursorAdapter
- Data exposed as a ContentProvider, also have simple widget for keeping an eye on the chat
- Notifications are the killer use case

Useful tidbits

- Parse text with simple regular expressions to find and enable dialing, URLs for browser, playing sounds, mapping, triggering notifications and displaying images
- Really handy to have your phone light up when a co-worker needs your attention. Lets you leave your desk and not worry.
- 'Send location' and Pebble hooks were cute but mostly useless

Clickable links

```
* Two types of URLs to handle here. The RR API does some rewriting, delivering the form
* <a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horatius_Cocles" target="_blank">en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horatius_Cocles...</a>
* but if you post from Salon, it's just the raw text
 * http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horatius_Cocles
 * and we need to handle both. It's a pain, and we need something better than this.
private String rewriteBothUrls(String msg)
    // Try the first type and see if it matches
    Pattern p;
    Matcher m;
    final String new_format = "<a href=\"$1\">$1</a>";
    String re_str = "<a\\s+href=\"(\\S+)\".+";
    p = Pattern.compile(re_str);
    m = p.matcher(msq);
    String first_pass = m.replaceAll(new_format);
    if (first_pass.equals(msg))
        re_str = "((http|https)://\\S+)";
        p = Pattern.compile(re_str);
        m = p.matcher(msq);
        String second_pass = m.replaceAll(new_format);
        if (!second_pass.equals(msg))
            Log. i(TAG, "Found plain URL to rewrite");
        return second_pass;
    }
    Log. d(TAG, "Rewrote popup URL");
    return first_pass;
```

Dialing without permissions

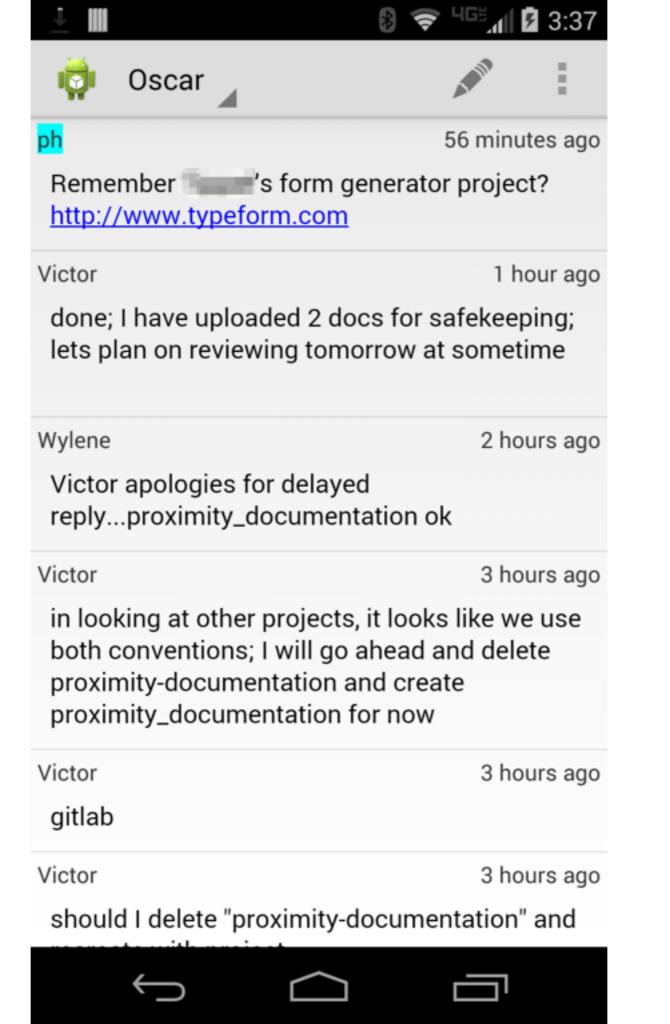
```
// Rewrite phone numbers too - device leverage! tel URLs invoke dialer; perfect.
// TODO handle commas and pauses for conference calling
private String rewritePhoneNumbers(String msg)
{
    Pattern p;
    Matcher m;
    // Local or long-distance numbers, with any non-digit character between them
    final String re_str = "(\\{0-9,\\(,\\),\\+,w,\\,#)";
    p = Pattern.compile(re_str);
    m = p.matcher(msg);
    msg = m.replaceAll("<a href=\"tel:$1\">$1</a>");
    return msg;
}
```

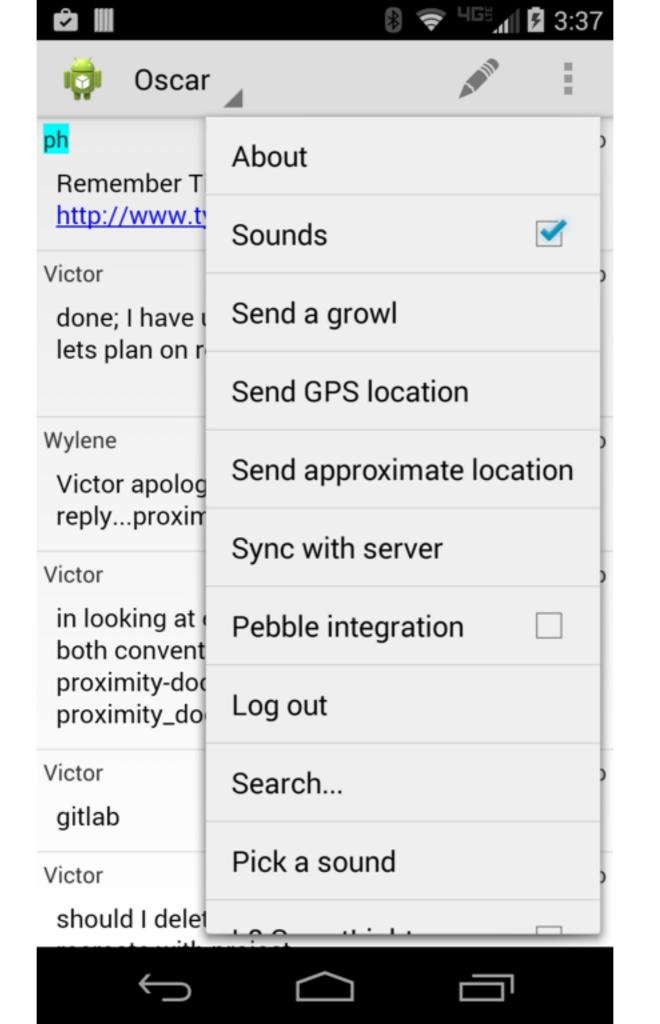
```
/**
 * Apply the given set of {@link ContentProviderOperation}, executing inside
 * a {@link SQLiteDatabase} transaction. All changes will be rolled back if
 * any single one fails.
 * @note this is from the Google iosched (Google IO 2012) code.
 */
@Override
public ContentProviderResult[] applyBatch(ArrayList<ContentProviderOperation> operations)
        throws OperationApplicationException
{
    Log.i(TAG, "Bulk ops called");
    if (helper == null)
        helper = new DbHelper(getContext(), VERSION);
    final SQLiteDatabase db = helper.getWritableDatabase();
    db.beginTransaction();
    try {
        final int numOperations = operations.size();
        final ContentProviderResult[] results = new ContentProviderResult[numOperations];
        for (int i = 0; i < numOperations; i++)</pre>
            try {
                results[i] = operations.get(i).apply(this, results, i);
            catch (SQLiteConstraintException sqe)
                //Log.d(TAG, "ignoring constraint");
        db.setTransactionSuccessful();
        return results;
    } finally {
        db.endTransaction();
}
```

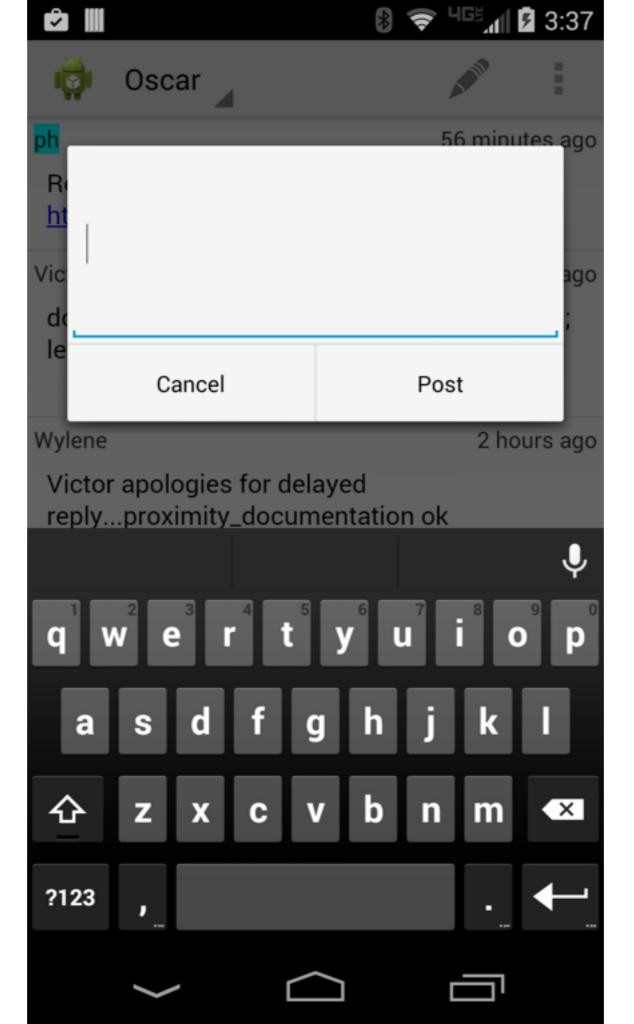
Location and maps

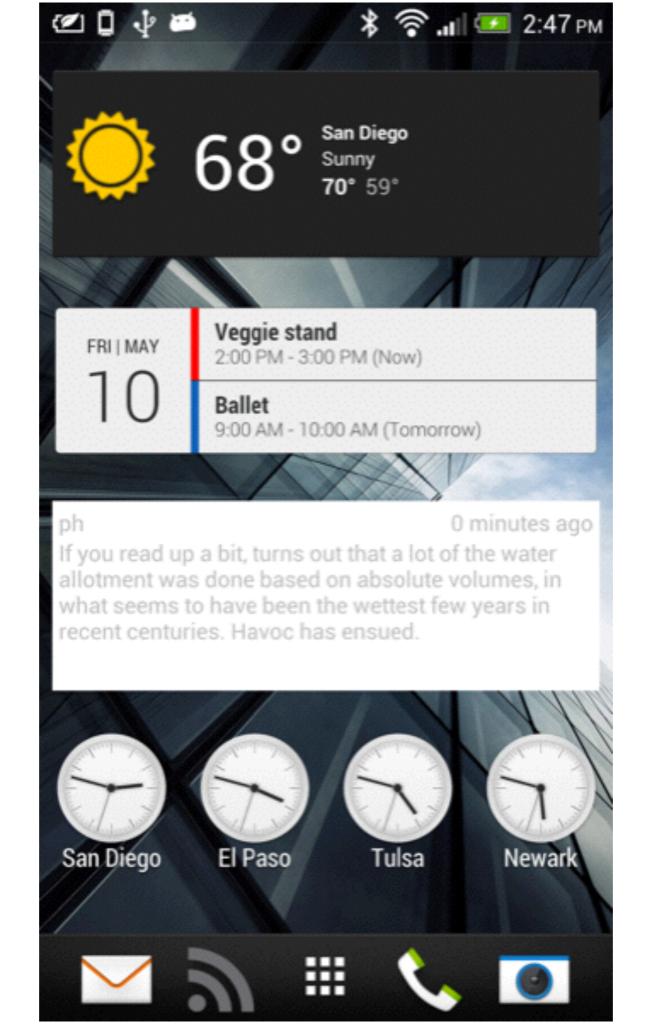
```
// Try maps urls, e.g.
// https://maps.google.com/?q=loc:32.868117,-117.209583
private String rewriteLocations(String msg)
    if (msg.startsWith("/location"))
        Log.d(TAG, "Found a location message, rewriting");
        // Skip over the "/location "
        String data_str = msg.substring(10);
        String[] tokens = data_str.split(" ");
        if (tokens.length < 2)
            return msq;
        // First one has "lat:13.14" in it
        String[] lat_tokens = tokens[0].split(":");
        if (lat_tokens.length < 2)
            return msq;
        double lat = Double.parseDouble(lat_tokens[1]);
        // Same thing, for longitude
        String[] lon_tokens = tokens[1].split(":");
        if (lon_tokens.length < 2)
            return msg;
        double lon = Double.parseDouble(lon_tokens[1]);
        // Now rewrite the text
        msg = String.format(Locale.ENGLISH, "<a href=\"https://maps.google.com/?q=loc:%f,%f\">My location</a>",
                lat,lon);
        return msg;
    return msg;
```

demo!

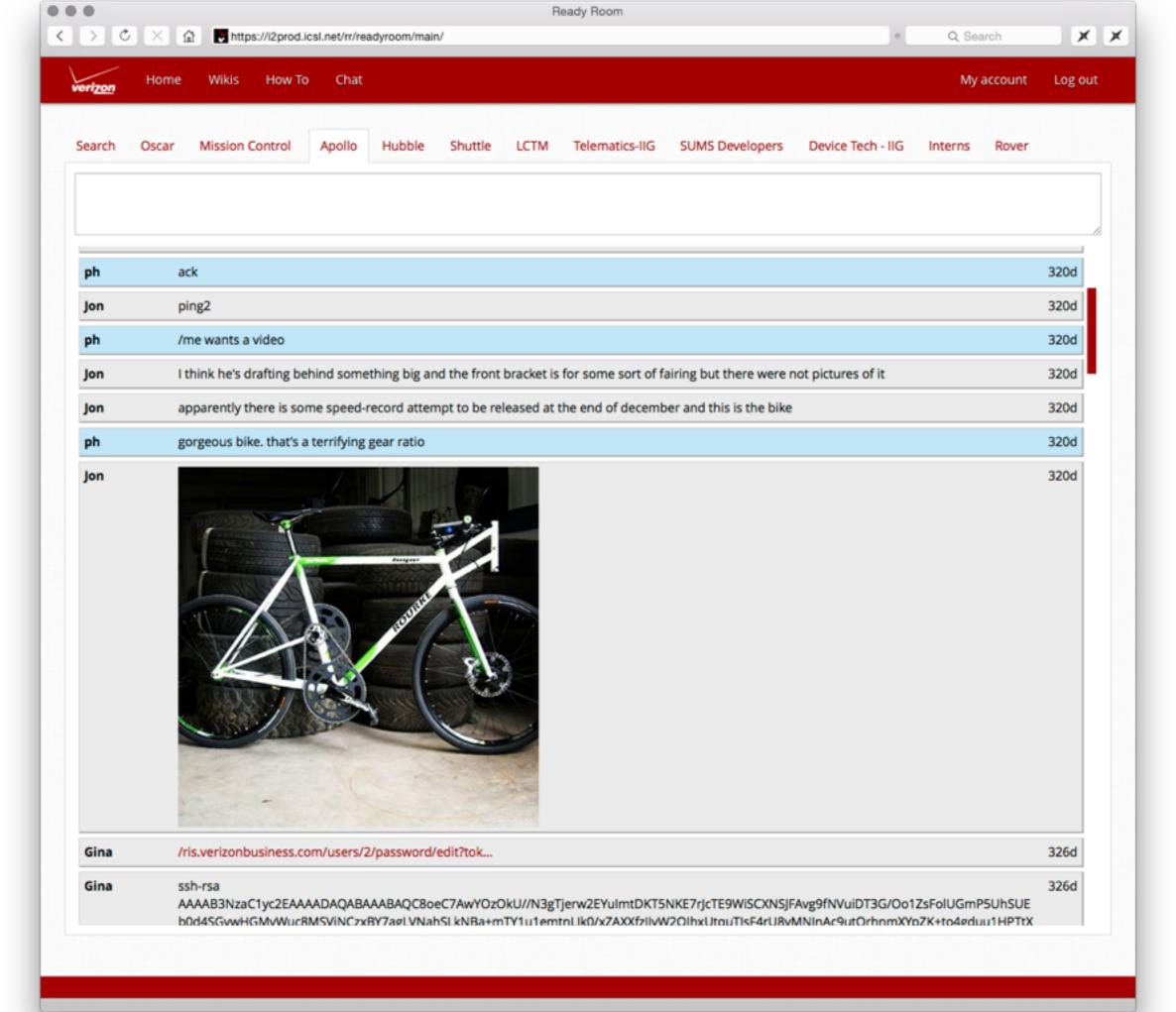


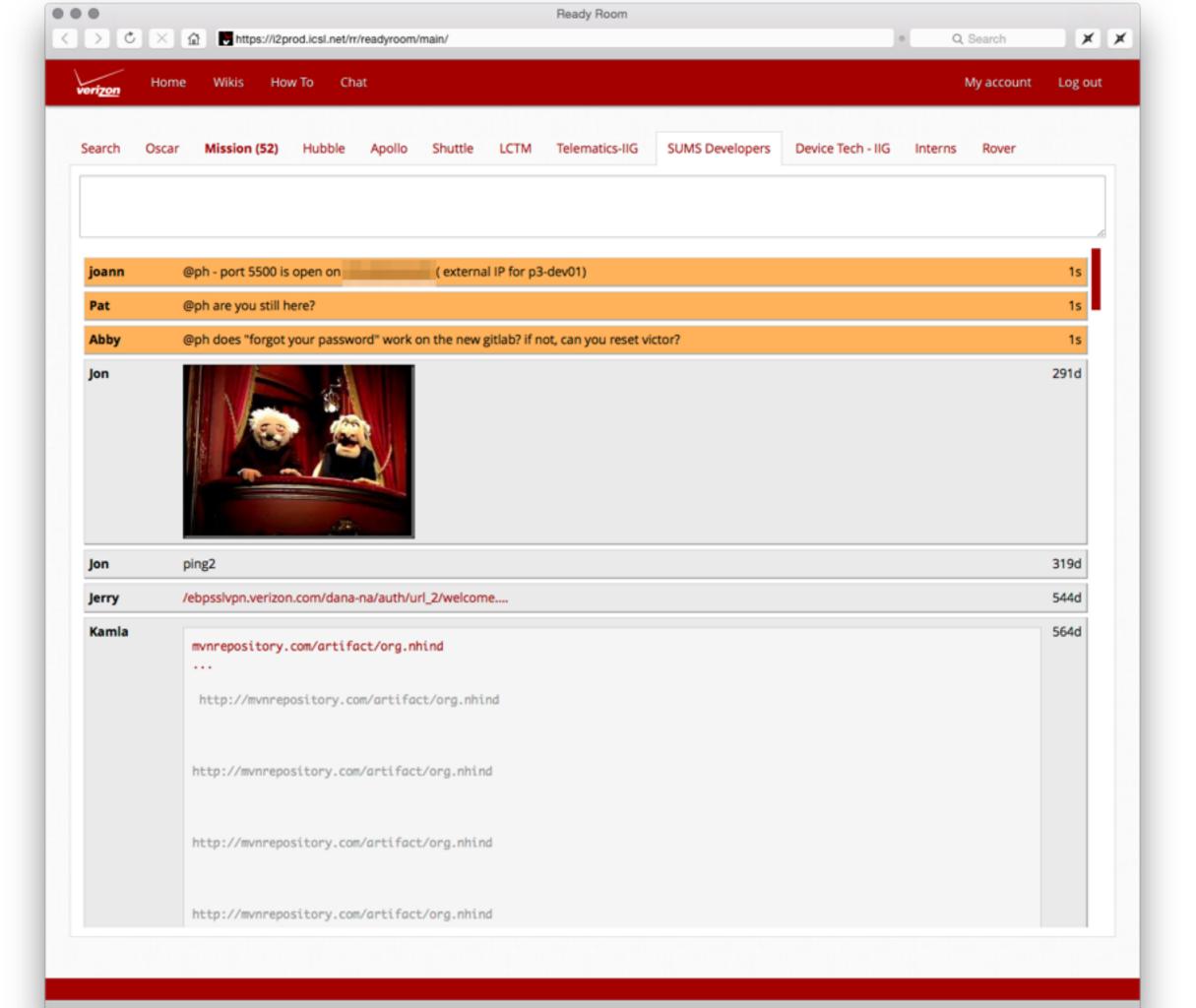






ReadyRoom in action





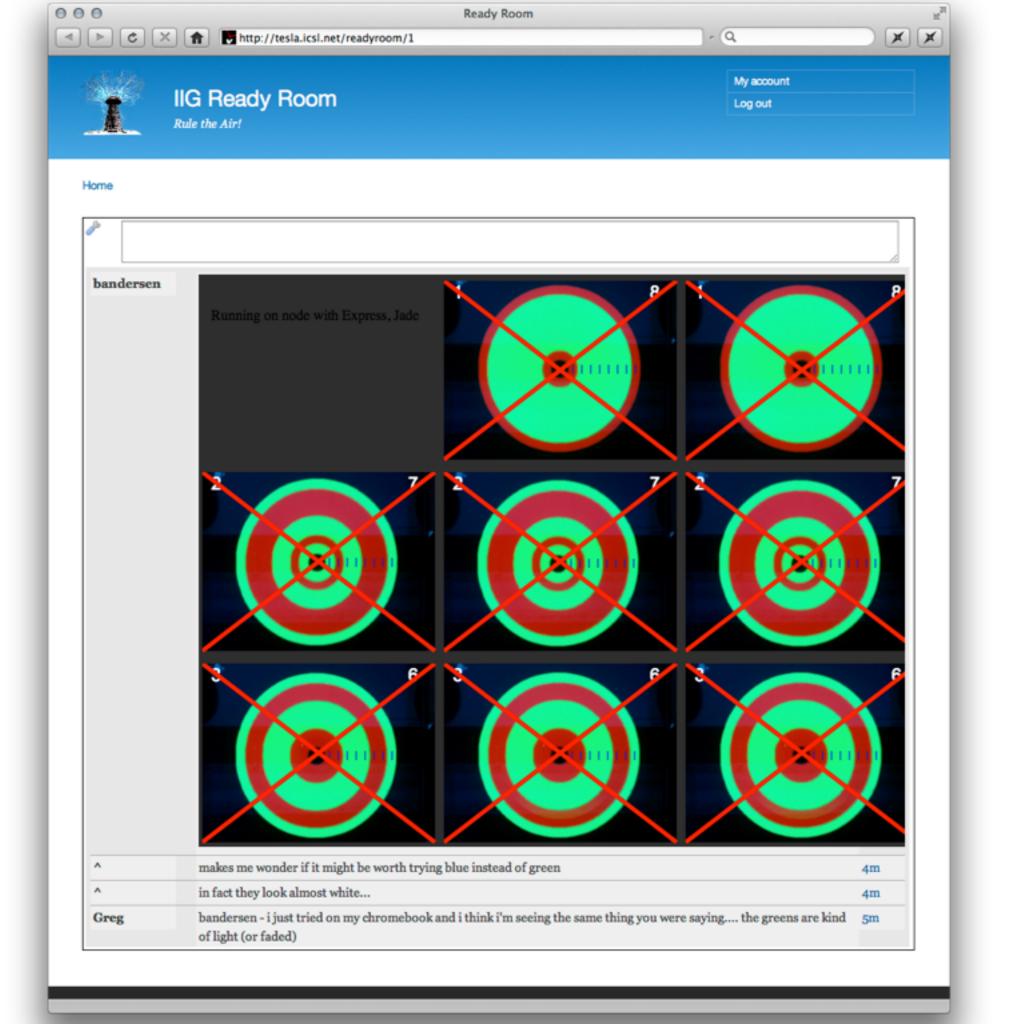


My account Log out

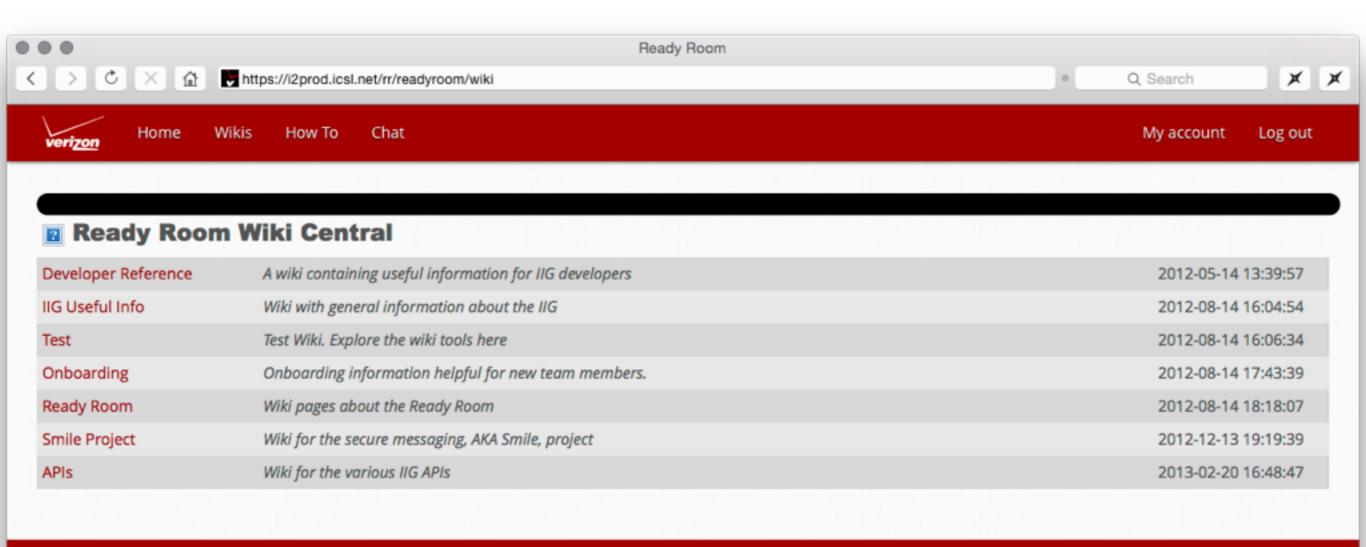
Home

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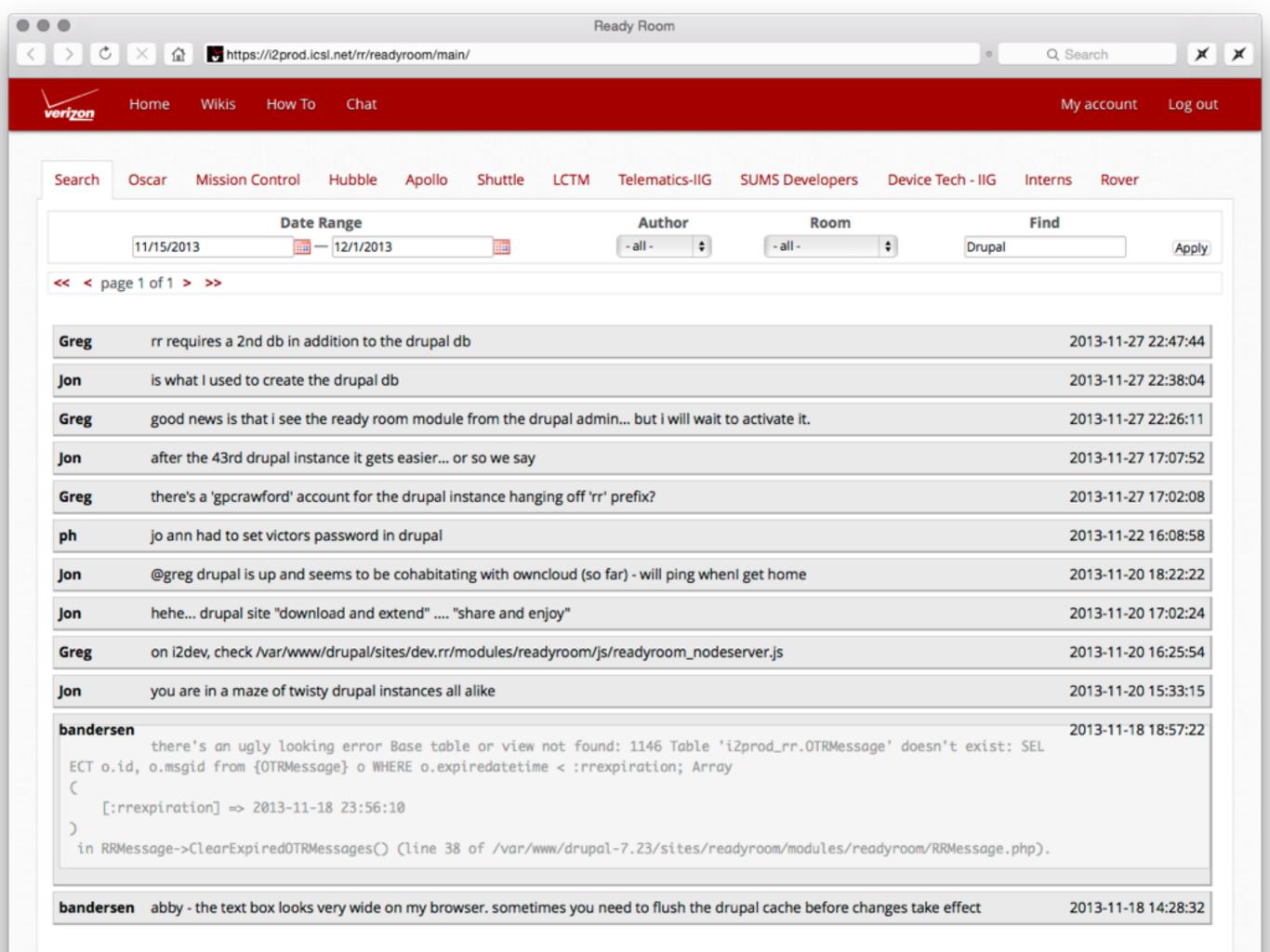
bandersen	ok, that's what i thought ;)	59m
Greg	ff_otp_entry is the page	1h
Greg	sorry - i just mean the fauxauth version	1h
Abby	he just means the fauxauth version	1h
Abby	first crack at google on mirror webcam: thisVideo.scaleX *= -1; (flash)	1h
bandersen	don't you mean integrate into ff_otp_entry?	1h
Greg	to integrate into ff_info, we need a video tag (where camera image is displayed) a canvas for the analysis display, as well as 6 smaller canvases for the display of digits	1h
ph	brb, quick USPS errand	1h
ph	in both QR and target demos, it really seems like we need keystone correction in software, the tilt is really sensitive	1h
joann	@jon - have time to talk?	ıh
Abby	also it's becoming a pet peeve of mine that the cameras aren't mirrored;)	1h
Jon	I'm missing rr updates and I don't have owncloud on this system will take a poke at the node server and see if it is ailing	1h
Abby	it seemed like sometimes the camera would grab too much light off the phone and then the colors would be very bright and lack distinction	1h
Abby	haven't tried lighting yet, because not sure it will really make a big differencegiven that the phone is it's own light source	1h
Greg	that's actually a pretty dark room	1h
Greg	801	1h
bandersen	it's working well for me on this rainy, overcast day	1h







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Lessons learned

- Start with API and build web interface on top of it
- Consider MQTT instead of nodejs + websockets
- Better message structure JSON
- Conversations and whispers, or sidebar chat
- Better support for presence

Credits

- Developers: Greg Crawford, Bob Andersen, Abby Charfauros, Jo Ann Joels, Paul Hubbard, Jon McCown
- Want your own? <u>paul.hubbard@verizon.com</u>