Intro to IRC for EG Community

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Have you ever?

- ...sent a text message on a cell phone?
- … used a web browser?

Then I like your chances!

What is IRC?

- “Internet Relay Chat”
- Text communications
- It feels similar to text messaging, but with a big group of recipients
- EG has its own IRC “channel”

  #evergreen

What is IRC? cont.

- A way to have text based interactive conversations
  - with a group of people or individuals
- No video or audio, just text
- It predates instant messenger (IM) platforms like AOL IM

How IRC is used by EG community

- To ask questions
  - Long/complex questions should go to the mailing lists
- To share ideas, both technical and nontechnical
- To have meetings with multiple people

Web browser or dedicated IRC software?

- For now we will use your existing web browser
- At the end we will talk about dedicated IRC software

IRC on a web browser

1. Visit IRC section on EG website
   - http://evergreen-ils.org/communicate/irc/
2. Scroll down page to the “Links” section
3. Click on “Join #Evergreen through a web gateway”
   - http://webchat.freenode.net/?channels=evergreen
4. Fill up form
   - Pick a “nickname”
   - Answer reCAPTCHA question
5. Welcome to IRC

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Evergreen Downloads

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Official Documentation, DokuWiki, and

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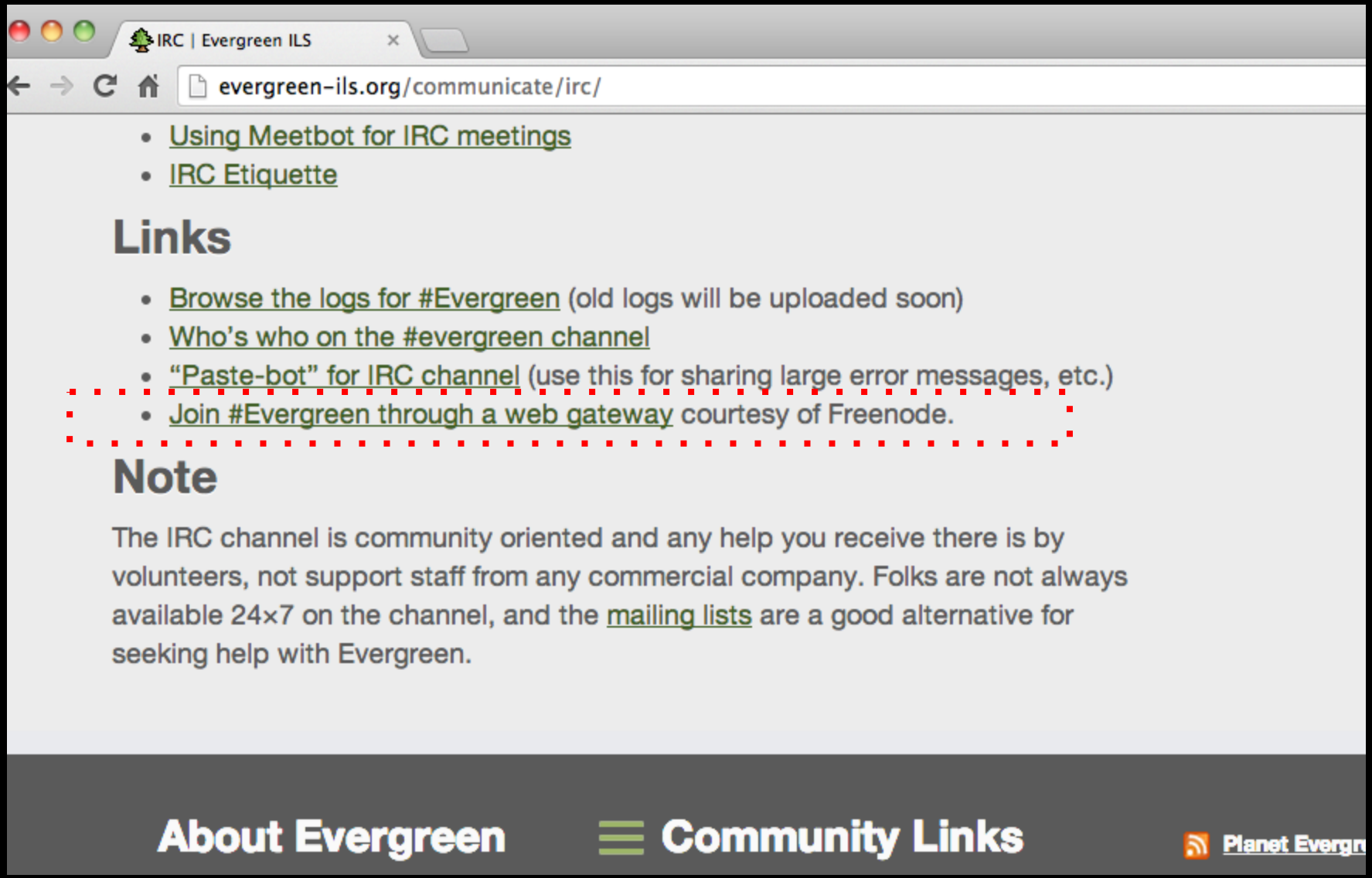
- Communications
- Committees & Interest Groups
- Mailing Lists
- IRC
- Calendar
- Blog

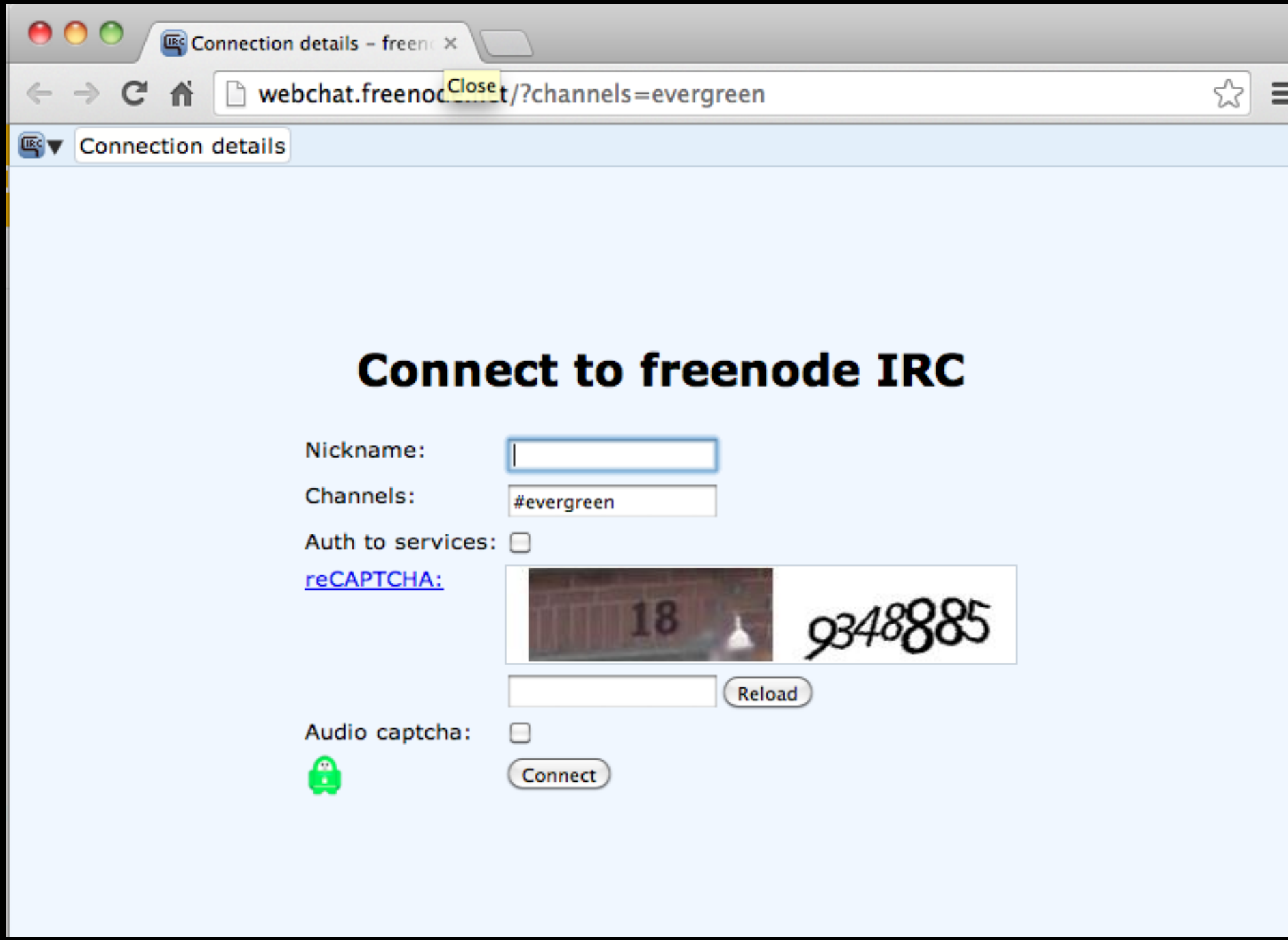
Evergreen

Documentation

Get Involved!

http://evergreen-ils.org/communicate/irc/

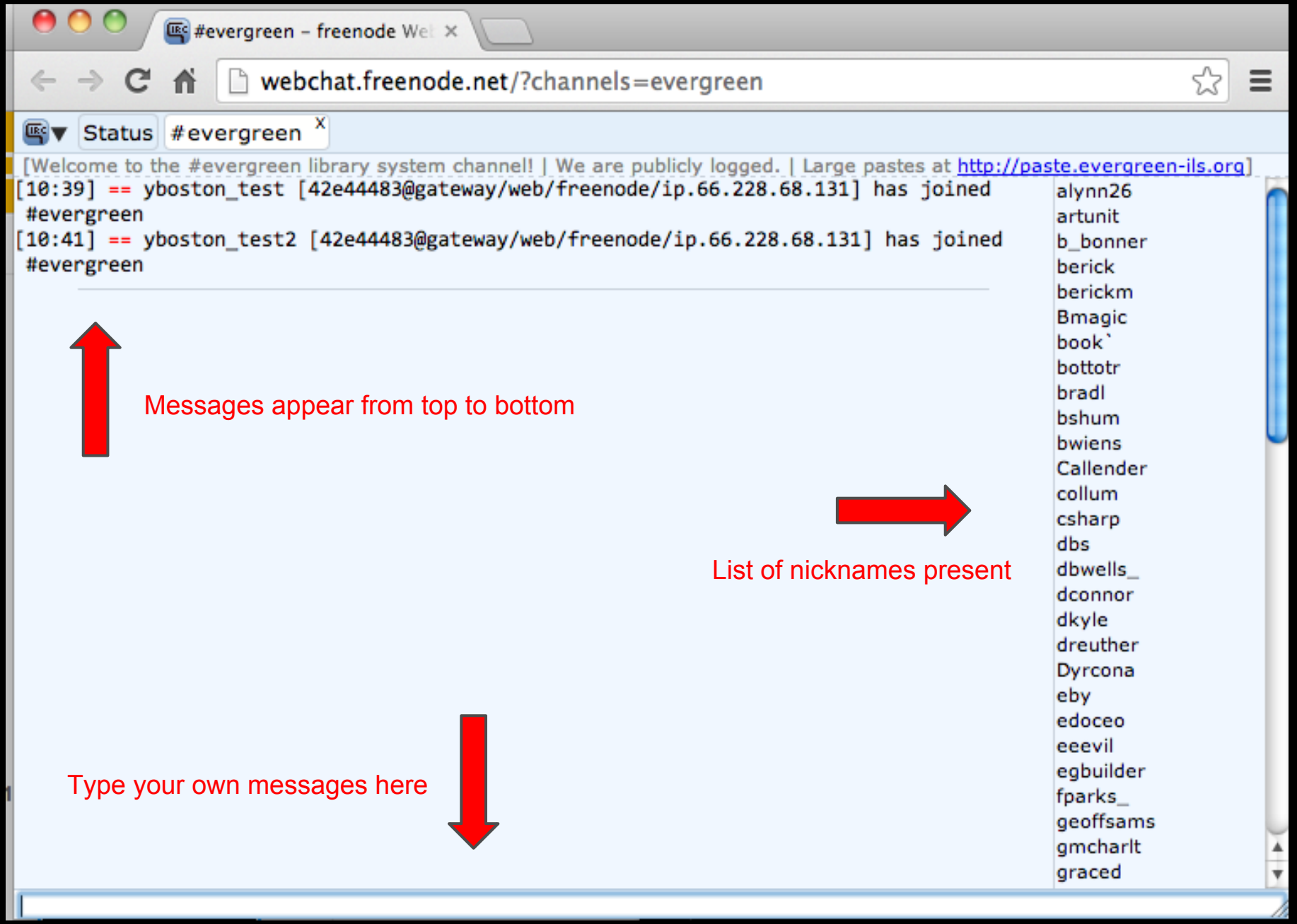



Connection details – freen
Close
webchat.freenode.net/?channels=evergreen
Connection details
Connect to freenode IRC
Nickname:
Channels:
#evergreen
Auth to services:
reCAPTCHA:
18
9348885
Reload
Audio captcha:
Connect

Tips for filling out form

- Picking a nickname
  - may use combination of first and last name
  - favorite color, library name, etc
  - try to pick a consistent name for future visits
    - Most community members stick to the same nickname
- Answering reCAPTCHA
  - if stumped hit “reload”

Temporary welcome messages, can be ignored


#evergreen – freenode We
webchat.freenode.net/?channels=evergreen
Status
#evergreen
[Welcome to the #evergreen library system channel! | We are publicly logged. | Large pastes at http://paste.evergreen-ils.org]
[10:39] == yboston_test [42e44483@gateway/web/freenode/ip.66.228.68.131] has joined #evergreen
[10:41] == yboston_test2 [42e44483@gateway/web/freenode/ip.66.228.68.131] has joined #evergreen
Messages appear from top to bottom
List of nicknames present
Type your own messages here
alynn26
artunit
b_bonner
berick
berickm
Bmagic
book`
bottotr
bradl
bshum
bwiens
Callender
collum
csharp
dbs
dbwells_
dconnor
dkyle
dreuther
Dyrcona
eby
edoceo
eeevil
egbuilder
fparks_
geoffsams
gmcharlt
graced

Read for a bit, and then start

- Get a sense of your surroundings first
- Just read the IRC messages for a while
  - get a sense if there is an active conversation or meeting going on, or if the channel is quiet
- Then jump in with your comment / question

First message

- Go to bottom bar, and type a message
- Can be as simple as,
  - Hello everyone
- The press return
- Congrats on your first IRC message

Things to avoid

- WRITING IN ALL CAPS
  - This comes across as rude, as if you are shouting
- Share personal or confidential information
  - IRC channel is logged; do not post passwords or patron information
- Writing long paragraphs
  - Break up your message into smaller messages

Nicknames: Who is who?

- Most members of the EG community that use IRC consistently use the same nicknames
  - I am known as...

    yboston

- Here you can see a list of EG community members and their chosen IRC nicknames
  - http://wiki.evergreen-ils.org/doku.php?id=community:irc_channel&#list_of_evergreen_users

Typical usage

Visit this page to learn how to use IRC...

Getting Started on the #Evergreen IRC Channel

http://wiki.evergreen-ils.org/doku.php?id=community:irc-quick-start

Typical usage cont.

- Replying to someone
  - write out their nickname and add a colon
  - Example: if you want to reply to “yboston”...

    yboston: I also like the color green

- Karma
  - When we want to give a virtual “pat in the back”
  - Example: to give csharp some karma

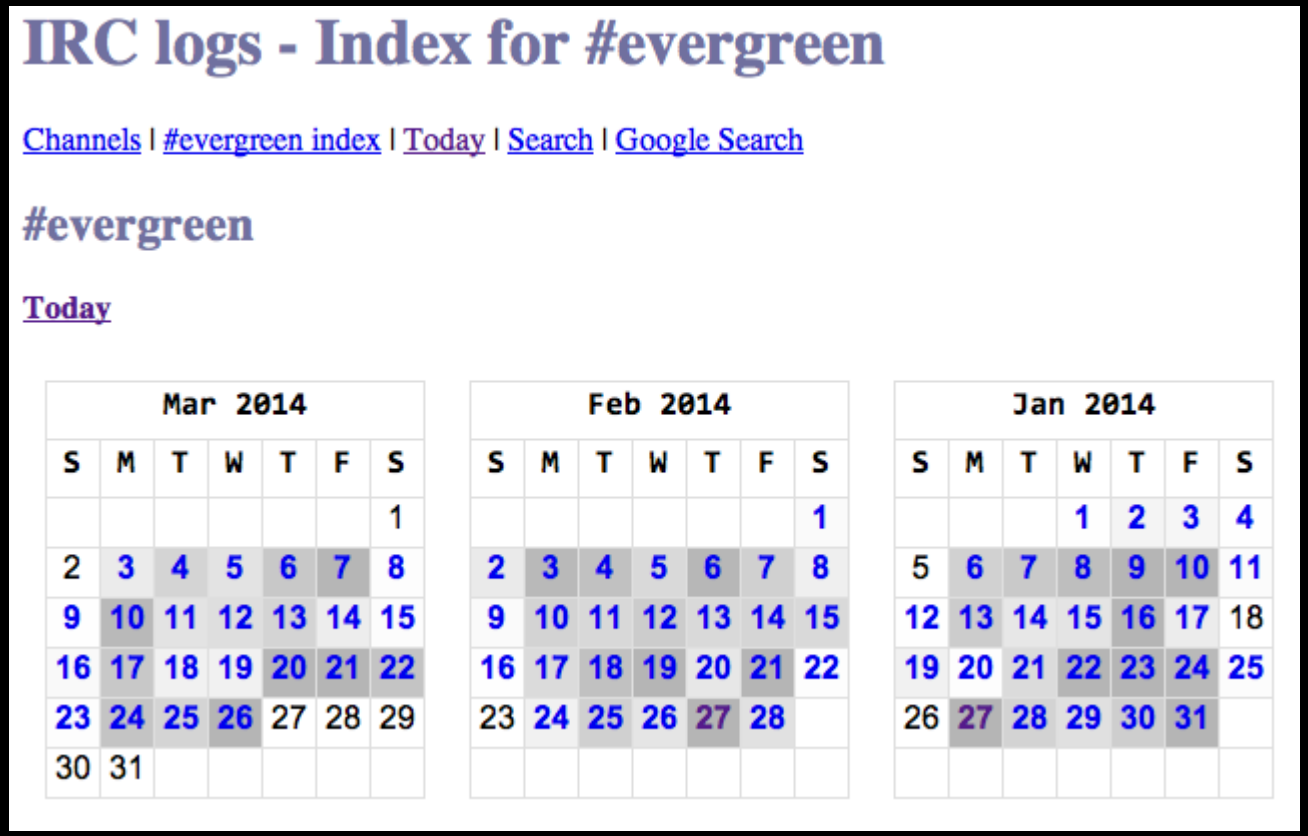
    csharp++

Typical usage cont.

- Voting / expressing support
  - if someone ask if they support an idea, reply with…
    - “+1” or “-1” depending if you agree or not
      - (without quotes)

EG IRC logs

- Logs of previous chats can be found here
  - http://irc.evergreen-ils.org/evergreen



IRC logs - Index for #evergreen

Channels | #evergreen index | Today | Search | Google Search

#evergreen

Today

Mar 2014

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Feb 2014

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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23	24	25	26	27	28	

Jan 2014

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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26	27	28	29	30	31	

IRC software

There are dozens of options, here are two…

- Firefox + Chatzilla add on
  - Install Firefox first
  - Then install Chatzilla add-on inside of Firefox
    -
  - Tutorial on connecting to #evergreen with Chatzilla
    - http://screencast.com/t/KDMvWYLF
- Pidgin
  - Works on Windows, Mac, Linux
  - http://www.pidgin.im

IRC Software cont.

IRC information needed for using IRC software

- Chat server:
  - irc.freenode.net
- Channel:
  - #evergreen

Advanced topics

- Meetbot
  - Virtual assistant for running meetings; creating meeting minutes
  - http://wiki.evergreen-ils.org/doku.php?id=community:using-meetbot
- Paste-bot
  - A site used to store large chunks of text that would overwhelm the IRC message window
- Pinesol_green
  - A program that can interpret certain IRC messages and respond to them
    - @MARC 856

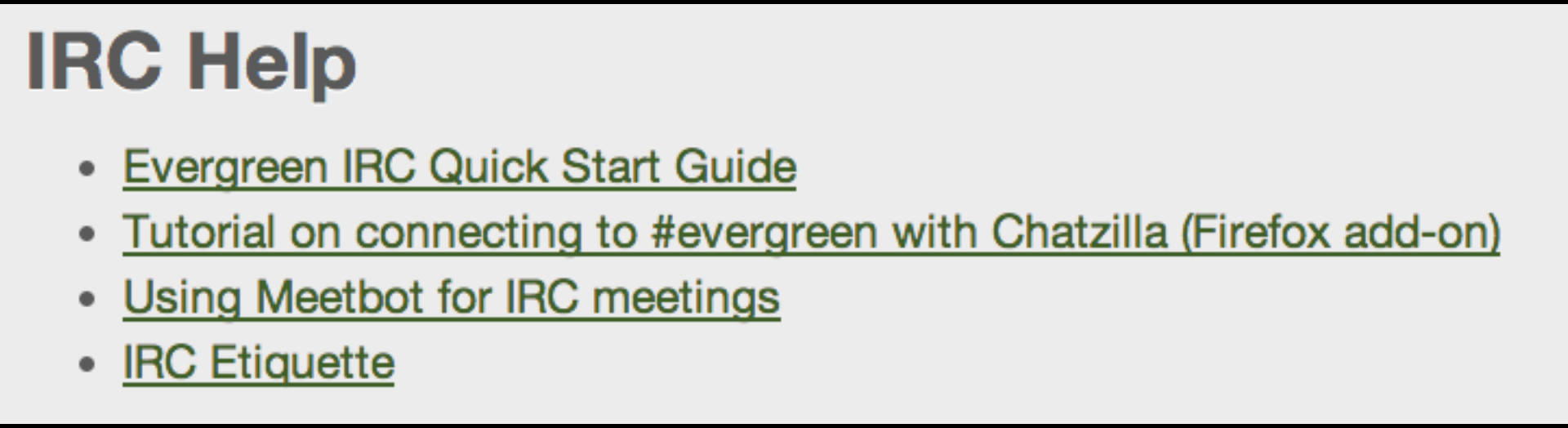
Advanced topics cont.

- Private chats
  - A way to chat with a user privately
  - Used for either privacy or to keep from overwhelming the IRC channel with a long discussion
- IRC software “highlight list”
  - You can tell your IRC software to alert you if certain words are mentioned in the EG channel
    - My list includes…
      - authorities
      - music
      - documentation

Questions?

http://evergreen-ils.org/communicate/irc/

The “Help” section of the IRC page has some helpful links.



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