

OVERLOAD!!!

If there is one term to sum up '09, that's it.

Still, I've kept plugging away. There was a time when this adventure that is "The Realm" was easier on me, and when my adventures aside from IT goodness were less to none. Now, though, being the father of three very active kids and husband to an awesome, beautiful wife, as well as being very active in my church take precedence over building my own business. I still am doing some of the web development I had intended to do, as well as maintaining those which I've built thus far, as well as plenty of "on the side" computer repair for people from time to time, but I'm trying to slow it down a bit so I don't miss out on the important things in life.

Most of my dev work has been at work in 2009. I seem to have found a specialty formula for writing Visual Basic .NET apps that interface with a Microsoft SQL server (or a variety of other database servers), make calculations based on the data in the database, and then generate a realtime report for production needs in HTML, which is hosted on a web server that is on the internet. Pretty neat stuff; it seems to please our customers. Most of the year has been spent finalizing that.

I spent way too much time in 2009 working on websites. So much so that I have sworn to never do it again, and have stopped accepting new projects.

With three small children, I am starting to question the necessity of "Backwood Realm Systems" in my life, in our lives. The income was good in 2008, not so much in 2009. In 2008 it wasn't good enough to strike out on my own, because I had no real capital to invest in it, but also not enough "extra" time from my full time "day job" in IT to move it forward.

If there is one thing I do a lot more of nowadays, it is repair computers for others. There are at least three locally owned shops in town that repair and occasionally build-to-sell new computers, and I don't want to rain on their parade. I remember that back around 2001 I would get excited if I could repair someone's computer for some cash. Working in information technology seemed like such a far away goal back then; and I suppose it was looking back

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through the years via these articles, a lot has happened, and at this point in my career I'm learning hard lessons from time to time, yet also working with exciting new technologies.

The Backwood Realm, in 2009, has been much more fun now that I concentrate on the tech industry, it gives me a place to spew my opinions, whether you wish to read them or not. That's rather fun. :)