

Faking It 'Til I Make It: A Woman On The Fringe of Open Source

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.51 – Geekspace for Women

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What the hell am I doing here?

- Introduction
- Early experience with open source
- Technical journey
- DotCom = FAIL



The Path From Sysadmin to Engineer

- CompSci > CompEng > Elec Eng
- Portland State Aerospace Society (digression warning: <http://psas.pdx.edu>)
- Dangers of laying low
- Contribution = FAIL
- Do No Evil search engine

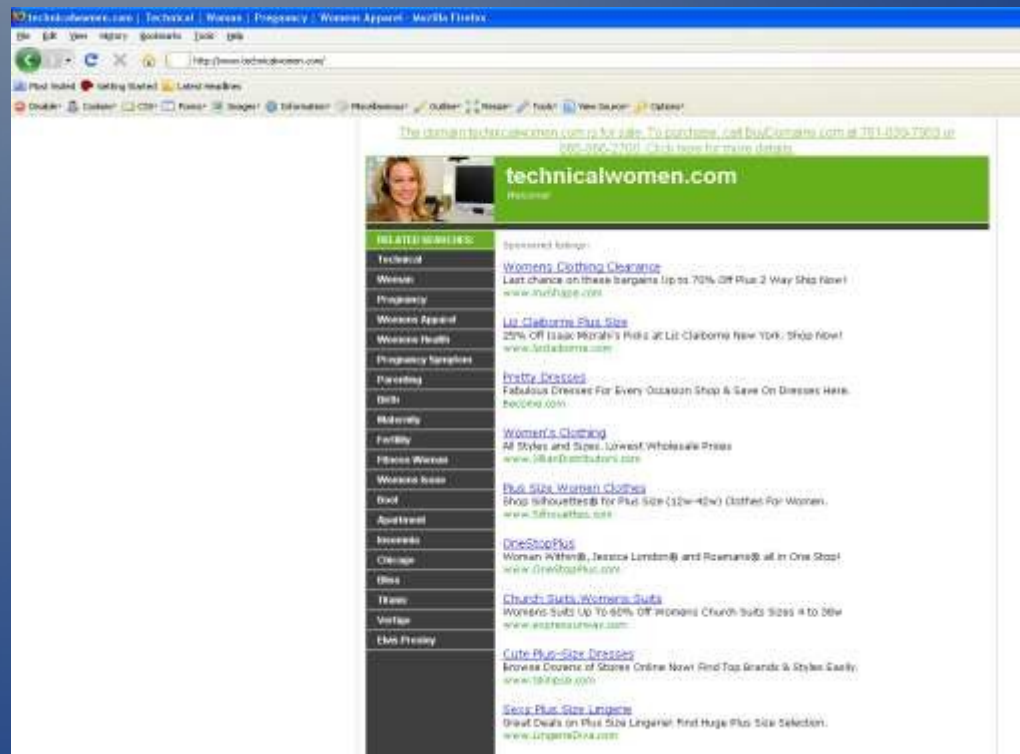
Where are all the geeky women?

<http://www.techwomen.com/>



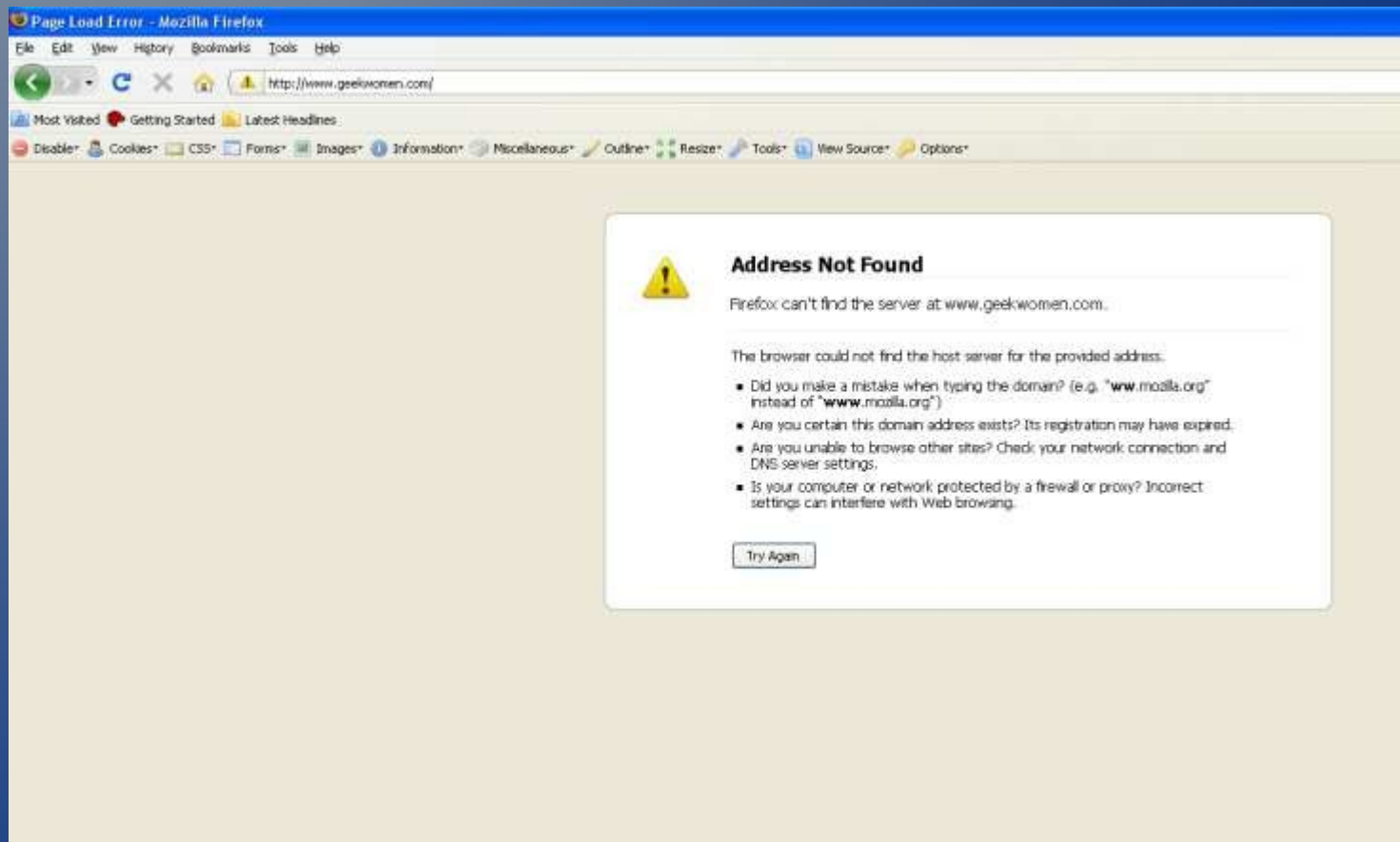
No, where are the **geeky** women?

- <http://www.technicalwomen.com>



Are you kidding me?

- <http://www.geekwomen.com>



In A Nutshell: Where Are They?

- Technical women looking for jobs
- Geeky women defending their geekiness
- Networking or support sites
- How to get more girls/women into STEM-related fields and activities

- Sigh.

Brief Interlude

- What does “open source” mean to me?
- Open source citizenry
- What do we do when we can't find the tool/solution/site we want?
- W W R D?



May 1, 2008

- .51 – Geekspace for Women
- What if we already had the equality we wanted?
- What .51 is – and what it isn't
- Ambitious beginnings

Tinkering – Er, Fine Tuning

- Posting volume
- Wide variety of content
- Interviews
- Feedback
- Where trial and error leads

Where The Wild Things Lead

- Code-N-Splode
- OSCON
- Linux Plumbers Conference
- LinuxFest NW
- Silicon Valley
- and a serious second look at my contribution level

The Unicorn In The Room



Fringe Field Promotion

- Impostor syndrome
- Someone will assign something eventually
- What I'm missing
- What I'm losing
- Ensign Crusher



Acting Captain

- **Really** being an open source citizen
- Volunteering for projects
- Admitting holes in knowledge set and asking questions
- Showing up!
- What happens when you get stuck?

What I Learned From .51

- Local technical women's groups
- Online tech women's groups
- Organizations
- User groups, forums, etc.
- Do No Evil, Take 2
- I am not a fraud

What's Next?

- For .51
 - Feedback
 - Projects and Events
 - Passing the buck
- For Ubergeeke
 - Embedded projects
 - Speaking up!

Your Two Cents

- Q & A
- Comments
- How To Reach Maria the Ubergeeke
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