



Hanselminutes

Hanselminutes is a weekly audio talk show with noted web developer and technologist Scott Hanselman and hosted by Carl Franklin. Scott discusses utilities and tools, gives practical how-to advice, and discusses ASP.NET or Windows issues and workarounds.

## Text transcript of show #115

May 30, 2008

### Finding Passion for Software \*or\* The Return of the "Franklinator"

Scott talks with Carl, who is back from a long hiatus, about the joys of programming and getting back to basics. Is it hard to stay passionate about this job? Is there a need for the community to revisit Computer Science 101?

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**Lawrence Ryan:** From [hanselminutes.com](http://hanselminutes.com), it's Hanselminutes, a weekly discussion with web developer and technologist, Scott Hanselman, hosted by Carl Franklin. This is Lawrence Ryan, announcing show #115, recorded live Friday, May 23, 2008. Support for Hanselminutes is provided by Telerik RadControls, the most comprehensive suite of components for Windows Forms and ASP.NET web applications, online at [www.telerik.com](http://www.telerik.com). Support is also provided by .NET Developers Journal, the world's leading .NET developer magazine, online at [www.sys-con.com](http://www.sys-con.com). In this episode, Scott and Carl talk about the joy of programming and getting back to basics.

**Carl Franklin:** Hey, guess what? This is Carl Franklin back on Hanselminutes with Scott Hanselman. Good to be back, Scott.

**Scott Hanselman:** It's the return of the Franklin. I'm thrilled to have you back. Our yearlong blood feud is finally over.

**Carl Franklin:** Come on, man. People are going to say stuff about that.

**Scott Hanselman:** No, I'm kidding.

**Carl Franklin:** He's kidding.

**Scott Hanselman:** No, I started -- when I started working at Microsoft, I started going to a lot of conferences and I would meet people in the hallway and they would say, "Oh dude, we have to do a talk."

**Carl Franklin:** And it's been great. You've gotten a lot of great stuff. I've been listening.

**Scott Hanselman:** It's been a pretty good run. I've been having a lot of fun and you meet certain people and you just say, "Oh, we got to do a show." Next thing you know, I blink and a couple of months had gone by without Carl and people are like, "What's going on? Where is Carl?"

**Carl Franklin:** Yeah, well, you know, we have all got our lives, our busy lives and so it's good to be back talking to you again. We're going to talk today about the joy of programming.

**Scott Hanselman:** Yeah, and I think maybe a return to the basics because I think that's one of the fun aspects of a programmer.

**Carl Franklin:** This is something Richard and I have been talking about recently. We have recorded now .NET Rocks! shows all the way into July. We have got a whole bunch of them stacked up because this is the conference season, you know. We were just talking lately about how back in the older days of .NET Rocks! we were really talking more about the technology and about the things that the technology

did just like some of the basic fundamental stuff, which is where I see a lot of people who are new to .NET, obviously, we got a lot of newbies everyday coming into .NET. They didn't grow up with us as we sort of progressed from just trying to figure out this technology to the more abstract things. Now, it seems like we're a little "ivory towerish" these days. So, it's good to get back to basics.

**Scott Hanselman:** Well, when someone says newbie, there is always that implication that that's a bad thing. I mean if I started programming and scale out tomorrow, I would be a newbie and that's okay.

**Carl Franklin:** Totally, yeah.

**Scott Hanselman:** I think computer science fundamentals though are computer science fundamentals and I think that I was always frustrated when people would give me a hassle about my interview questions. I wrote that big long blog post years ago about top .NET interview questions that everyone should be able to answer. I got a bunch of "you know you are an elitist." No one should know those things. Some of them I thought were pretty basic computer science type stuff. There will be always be the people that think that one person is trying to promote memorizing MSDN as a way to get job security. I think that we the .NET community could all use a little refresher course on the basics. The basics of OO, basics of interface design get back to the patterns. Start re-reading our Fowler books and re-reading our *gang of four* stuff and that is why I try to do the weekly source code, reading as much code as I can because I really believe that you become a better programmer by reading great programmer's code. You don't become a good book writer by writing more books. I think you have to read as many as possible.

**Carl Franklin:** You know when I was just learning to program, it was back in what '84 or '85, I remember my father's TRS80 model 4, you know the cartoon guide to computer science. I had the operating system commands and the programming and the language, I just locked myself in the room and I was just so into the whole idea of making this archaic little box do something that would be perceived as wizardry. I was always into two things: communications and audio, always -- throughout my whole entire career. Those two things have really sort of been the backbone of everything I love to do with computers. I have been lucky that I have been able to do what I love. Whether it is programming or music or whatever but I don't know, every once in a while you run into people who have lost the joy. Every once in a while it happens to us too. We got caught up in our jobs and the things that we have to do. So I wanted to talk about while I am talking to you here, I want to tell you a couple things about what I really don't like, the character traits that I don't like and behaviors that I don't like in people in this business.



So this is very odd for me to be complaining about stuff. I am not real. I am just pointing out about behaviors that I don't like when I exhibit them and other people do. One of them is pretense. Pretension just drives me absolutely crazy. Just sort of griping, whining and you know the preoccupied pretentious kind of stuff. The antithesis of that is the mentors that I have is that if it weren't for them, if it weren't for the people who actually loved to share their knowledge and were happy to answer any questions and not let you feel like an idiot, if it weren't for those people I might not have gotten into it. I mean those people are absolutely vital in the early stages of my career.

**Scott Hanselman:** I mean think about how many people out there that are .NET newbies that could have one or two lousy experiences. That could be something as simple as someone being really cruel to them in the form or something more complicated like they weren't able to find what they wanted on using a search engine. All of those things add up to pushing them down and saying maybe this isn't for you. Just the fact that we are listening to a podcast right now, I think puts us into top tier of people who care. I think that what can we do to make sure that the new folks and the folks that are at risk -- the at risk youth of .NET who may very well be 30, 40 years old but you know the people what can we do to make sure that they don't have those lousy experiences.

**Carl Franklin:** Yeah, I mean we do what we do which is to just be completely open and sharing about what we know and one thing that I try to encourage in people is to ask questions. Don't feel stupid because you have a question. There is no such thing as a dumb question. It is like the behavior of sort of putting people down for asking a question. Do you know what I am saying?

**Scott Hanselman:** I have a kind of interesting kind of discussion, I wouldn't say an argument but a discussion with my wife where, you know how wives can remember stuff forever.

**Carl Franklin:** Remember 1972 when I asked you if this dress made me look fat and you said yes.

**Scott Hanselman:** Yeah. So, we're driving to the movies and she says out of the blue, "You know, about six years ago," and I was like, "Oh no." "Six years ago, we were at a conference," I brought her along with me, "and a guy came up and asked you a question after a presentation." This is my wife talking to me and she said, "And you said, 'by asking that question, you're telling me that you really have no idea what you're doing.'" It was like you're hearing your own words coming back to you and I just wanted to die because I remember that actually. It was not necessarily an example of six years ago something I don't remember and my wife does. It was one of those things that it was a perfect storm of bad day

then someone comes up and asks you some question like, "So, XML, is that going to replace Java?" Then you snap at them and years later, half-a-decade later, I am cringing at that.

**Carl Franklin:** You got the blue meanies keeping you up at night.

**Scott Hanselman:** I tell you, that was a defining moment for me where I really try not to be a jerk when people are asking, oh, dumb question isn't the right word, you know?

**Carl Franklin:** Just an uninformed question, it's just a basic question, right?

**Scott Hanselman:** Uninformed is such a nicer way to phrase it than ignorant because ignorant has become a very bad painful way to phrase uninformed because I'm decidedly uninformed on a number of things.

**Carl Franklin:** Oh, me too.

**Scott Hanselman:** I think it's okay.

**Carl Franklin:** Absolutely. There are a lot of things in .NET development that I really don't have interest in.

**Scott Hanselman:** Well, recognizing that is so important. I mean recognizing that I have no idea about XYZ or even more realizing that you have forgotten it. I have got a question in email recently about WCF (Windows Communication Foundation) and it has been eight months since I have been thinking deeply about that and frankly I don't know what the current May 2008 thoughts are around WCF so I told the guy what I thought and so I said, "Listen I don't know if this is the current thinking right now." The way to be the smartest man in the room is the first to say, "I don't know."

**Carl Franklin:** Absolutely.

**Scott Hanselman:** I usually assume that I am not the smartest man in the room especially if Rory is in the room with me.

**Carl Franklin:** There is this other behavior that is very similar, which is sort of you see people have this realm of knowledge of this particular technology or something that is very specific. They feel that they are experts in that topic and they may be experts in that topic. Then to sit on the high horse and tell everybody else that unless they are doing it their way then thinking the way that they think about then they are wrong. The sort of black and white sort belittling of their peers really because they are doing something differently. Some software is an exact science. There are some things that scientifically can be done right and that's it but more often there are so



many different permutations of ways and architectures of ways to do things that I just find that completely pretentious.

**Scott Hanselman:** Yeah, it's really difficult.

**Carl Franklin:** What I want is instead of always do this because I said so, what I want is a discussion of why. I want to know why.

**Scott Hanselman:** Yeah, absolutely.

**Carl Franklin:** I want to know what the alternatives are and what the pros and cons are and that's the kind of discussion I want to have so I can make up my own mind.

**Scott Hanselman:** I found when working with newer programmers that rather than focusing so much on what you should do in patterns, which are basically declarations of correctness, trying to think about things in the inverse, thinking about anti-patterns. Saying that, "I don't know what the right solution is..."

**Carl Franklin:** But I know what not to do.

**Scott Hanselman:** I know what not to do, exactly, because this young person that I'm supposed to be mentoring may very well have a better solution in his or her head. They may come up with an elegant solution that I haven't even thought of. So it would be presumptuous of me to indicate that this is the way to do it but I can pretty much say that this is not the way to do it. That is when you start getting into the basis of computer science and start saying that this doubly nested or triply nested for loop won't scale beyond the certain number of items in the list. Therefore, this is what has tables are for and so here is the anti-pattern.

**Carl Franklin:** Yeah. Getting back to this whole loving what you do thing, I just really can't imagine not being able to program the way that I liked it, just a program to write code. I mean that is why I did it in the first place because I loved it.

**Scott Hanselman:** I saw your recent dnrTV that you did with a MIDI you hooked up with .NET remoting and a freaking piano keyboard so that you could control a player piano remotely and I was just like, you had such an excitement in your voice. While you are doing it and I was just like, "Oh Lord, this is how Carl spends his weekends and I was thinking about what are my hobbies?" I really don't have any but hooking up MIDI to a player piano sounds like a pretty good time to...

**Carl Franklin:** It sounds totally useless but it's impressive.

**Scott Hanselman:** No. It's not useful at all.

**Carl Franklin:** I know.

**Scott Hanselman:** But it's fun though.

**Carl Franklin:** It's fun, exactly. That's what it is.

**Scott Hanselman:** Yeah. I have spent more time getting the baby cams to work so that I can see my sons when they are sleeping and make sure that he hasn't pushed a pillow over his head or whatever. You have got a 5-month-old and you worry about these things. So, I spent the last five months trying to get the baby webcam just right. I'm really hoping to pass that kind of joy on to them, the joy of construction. I guess that's really what it is. It's the joy of creation whether you are an artist or whether you are a person who works with wood.

**Carl Franklin:** It's absolutely that, Scott. You nailed it.

**Scott Hanselman:** It's creation.

**Carl Franklin:** You nailed it.

**Scott Hanselman:** When I meet people I'm realizing more and more that people I can't relate to are those who don't have that excitement about I can make that. You know what it is? I realize what it is. It is the sense of empowerment. When I go and talk to middle schools and high schools about software one of my standard middle school presentation involves opening up notepad and typing in the alphabet and we go down to debug.exe and we look at how those: what is a window, what is a byte, how did ABCD get represented and then we go all the way up over an hour or an hour and a half talk until most kids attention span is gone. We get to the point where we show them how an MP3 is encoded or I will go into a fun example of a ten year old is to open up paint and draw a bunch of colored squares: red, green, blue. Then show them how that red, green, blue encoded on disk. When you do this maybe 20% of them goes, "Oh!" then suddenly you can almost hear the neurons firing.

**Carl Franklin:** Right, oh such a wonderful thing.

**Scott Hanselman:** Then they suddenly figure out that their TiVo has a hard drive in it and that hard drive works pretty much like an RCA Victor standard turntable did 80 years ago and all the world connects and then the other 80% has this very kind of like, "Yeah, that's kind of cool." I guess that's fine and they won't be constructors, maybe they will be, I don't know, marketers or suits of some kind but, man, people who create are so much more healthy and enthusiastic about life. I got a great friend of mine who is a programmer and I just assume that he programmed in his spare time. When I went over to



his house and he opened up his garage and it was this amazing shop for woodworking. I realize that this guy has to create whether it is software or whether it is you know. I go over to his house and he was like, "Oh yeah I have made that table. Oh yeah the kids needed a chair and I have made that." What a sense of empowerment one must have. I mean I can't hang a picture. If I do of course, I use lasers to do it though.

**Carl Franklin:** Well, you got the same spark of creating arranged electrons.

**Scott Hanselman:** Yeah, it is funny though, electrons, they are cheaper than distributed.

**Carl Franklin:** Cheaper than molecules.

**Scott Hanselman:** Cheaper molecules, but there's a lot of work to put together some molecules.

**Carl Franklin:** That's right.

**Scott Hanselman:** I'm always impressed. You know, it's interesting -- it would be interesting to hear from the listeners what their hobbies are and if there is a parallel between the personality type that they are, the fact that they are creating with software and what they had created that is not software.

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**Carl Franklin:** You know, I've said this before on various shows, but I think and especially for men, right, because you wonder why a lot of software developers are men most of them. I sort of have this theory and it is kind of wacky but I have this theory that since a man's role biologically in reproduction is very limited. It is really the woman who creates life. She basically does all the work. We were both involved for very short periods of time. This is a way that we can sort of create an intelligence. It's almost if you look at it biologically, you know, what motivates us to create software, when you write programs, they are sort of like little children. You have to sort of

maintain them and help them grow up and you see them get smarter and smarter and then they stop growing and then you visit them in the nursing home from time to time but I had a woman friend who is a developer and I told her this theory and she said, "Hmmm interesting." Then we are talking about do you have children and she says no I had a hysterectomy I can't have children. Isn't that interesting, a woman programmer can't have children.

**Scott Hanselman:** Wow. I don't know if this is going to cause a controversy.

**Carl Franklin:** Yeah, I don't know either.

**Scott Hanselman:** It wasn't exactly the direction I thought you were going but what I'm hearing you say is that here is a person who was unable to create in some way but found an outlet regardless.

**Carl Franklin:** Could not create an intelligence, could not reproduce and found a way to do that. It's a weird, wild, deep rooted theory that I have and it might be total BS, but I'd like to hear what other people think about it.

**Scott Hanselman:** Well, I think that our many female listeners should send you an email directly.

**Carl Franklin:** Yeah. I certainly do not mean to offend. You know, the other thing that I would like to do creative wise is put machines together. I love going to Newegg, ordering up the parts, unpacking them and putting a machine together and installing the software. I love that. That is one of my favorite things to do in the whole world.

**Scott Hanselman:** You know, what I like doing that too. It is funny. I like putting together a fresh machine because it's hard but it is not difficult. It's not oppressively...

**Carl Franklin:** You got to know what you're doing, but it's not difficult.

**Scott Hanselman:** It's not the unknown. It's not like you're paving new ground.

**Carl Franklin:** Right, it's a relaxing Saturday afternoon.

**Scott Hanselman:** Yeah, exactly. It's the difference between designing and building a new engine versus changing the oil on your existing car. One can be very relaxing because you know that it requires some amount of skill but not so much skill that is going to have you racking your brain.

**Carl Franklin:** Unless of course you got some strange BIOS problem that is causing bluescreens.



**Scott Hanselman:** It is true, just last week I had the first blue screen in my Quad PC the super PC that we built with Jeff Atwood. I have my first blue screen ever and I was freaking out. It turned out to be some software that I installed. It was VM ware. I removed it and everything is back. This is a machine that stays up for months. We reboot this machine on the solstices but rarely else and I have to say that it is a constant source of pride that Jeff were able to put this thing together and he helped me get it too rock solid. I can do 24 hour renders of video that I do and I have no concern at all that this thing is going to blow up when I wake up the next morning.

**Carl Franklin:** My machine is the same way. My PC that I put together.

**Scott Hanselman:** There were years that I would wake up and find a machine with blue screened in the middle of the night. What a horrible feeling.

**Carl Franklin:** Yup.

**Scott Hanselman:** So yeah putting together machines is really a good way for people to not only relax but to also indirectly learn more about how hardware works.

**Carl Franklin:** Your kids are young at but I mean this is I like to share with my older daughter is putting a machine together showing how it works and how it goes together.

**Scott Hanselman:** I think that is a really, really great thing. I am really looking forward to that. I went and bought a kit, a little wood kit. It was basically like a toy screwdriver and screws and some blocks and a miracle happens and a dump truck comes out of it. Zenzo, my son, is 2-1/2 and I think maybe it's about two years too soon. I tried though. I really thought that he could build this but his attention span was too limited but the wife noticed and she is like, "You just really want to take him to the garage and build something, don't you?" If I didn't think he would take a hammer directly in the wall and destroy the house, I would love to give this guy hammer and nails and see what he could do with a 2 x 4. We'll see though. Maybe he's not a creator, maybe he's a connector or maybe he's a nurturer or some other kind of persona.

**Carl Franklin:** Now, all your years at Corillian...

**Scott Hanselman:** My last job.

**Carl Franklin:** You were "Mr. ASP.NET web guy." Was there ever a time that you regretted the fact that you have chose this kind of work? I mean where you just got so oppressively un-fun that you were just like, "Why did I sign up for this?"

**Scott Hanselman:** Yeah, that's funny, I actually go through crisis of conscience usually about once a year. It's usually when...

**Carl Franklin:** When nothing works.

**Scott Hanselman:** It's usually when my body is breaking down and when this line of work is beginning to physically hurt me. People who are this kind of personality, the creator personality, I think obsess because they want it to be right and that involves sitting in uncomfortable positions cramped for a very long periods of time and that adds up into unhealthy aspects of your body. I have got a bad back and I have got bad hands. I was talking to Richard Campbell last week and he has been getting arthritis in his fingers. All programmers can tell you a story about like, "Oh yeah this finger just doesn't work like it used to." What is that one do? Oh yeah that is the enter key.

**Carl Franklin:** I find that -- as you know, I'm a guitar player and I find that if I'm coding for too long and then I go to try to play guitar, it takes me a good hour to limber up before I can actually start playing. I also find that since when I was coding a lot and then I would go play, my middle finger on my left hand actually froze at a 90-degree angle while I was playing one night. I guess I was playing it hard which I tend to press down hard on the frets anyway. Just at the first knuckle. There's basically two knuckles in your middle finger and at the bottom knuckle, it just was bent and would not move up and I looked at Jay and I was like, "Dude, I can't play anymore. Look." I held up my finger and my middle finger was bent at a 90-degree angle and I couldn't move it back. It was just like my muscle just said...

**Scott Hanselman:** I'm having that problem right now. My right hand, my middle finger locks up, bent fully in the middle of the night. Who knows? Yeah, who knows, I blame computers.

**Carl Franklin:** Maybe it's time to break out the Data Hand again.

**Scott Hanselman:** I think it's time to break out the voice recognition, but I would like to borrow your Data Hand keyboard at some point. I mean, yeah, those kind of things when one wants to create but one cannot it is very difficult. I just watched this movie called "The Diving Bell and The Butterfly". Have you seen this? It is about a Frenchman who was paralyzed. He had a stroke and the only thing that worked was one eye. It is a real story and Jean Philippe Bauby I think was his name. He was like a famous editor at Vogue or something. He had a stroke and was locked in. He has Locked-In Syndrome and he died. He wrote a book using just his eye. Basically, they would read letters to him in the order of frequency. They would go E-A-S-T and he would blink when he got the letter he wanted. He



wrote an entire book and it's called, "The Diving Bell and The Butterfly". This was a guy who had to create. He had to justify his existence.

**Carl Franklin:** Right. How long it took didn't matter because the creation process itself was very enjoyable.

**Scott Hanselman:** Right. So, apparently what he would do was he would memorize the passages the night before and memorize them and then sleep and when he woke up the next day he would basically take his dictation assistant which was a person who would read this to him. He would blink and they would take down dictation and they try to auto complete the words as best they could. He died just months after the book was done.

**Carl Franklin:** Wow! Fascinating.

**Scott Hanselman:** I don't know if I'm going to write code to that level where I'm going to have, you know, if I have only one finger left I will write C# with it but the point is though that personality type has to get their information out into the world whether anyone is listening or not.

**Carl Franklin:** I really want to get back to this whole mentor thing that I can't stress enough. Maybe that is why I got into evangelism. I have really got into training and teaching because I love seeing the light go on. I just want to be that person that went out of their way to help me when I needed it and you got a person who is new to programming in a room with a bunch of programmers that are just doing their thing it is pretty damn intimidating. Even sitting around and listening to them talk and stuff and they are totally into what they are doing and you ask them a question and they are like, "What are you an idiot?" You risk feeling bad and putting you down and stuff. You are just trying to figure out some basic stuff and I tell you it is really...

**Scott Hanselman:** I have this theory that I call the "Top Gun Bar Theory," which is that in any vertical or in any industry whether it would be computers or ice skating or karate or whatever it is the same story. It is the Karate Kid story, it is the Top Gun story which is new guy joins in, tough guys that are already there give them a hard time. They fight and they struggle. The new guy proves that he can do it and then at some point in the bar where all the tough guys hang out one of the guys goes over and kind of chucks him on the chin and says, "You are all right kid." I think that would be cool to let you know if one of my programming heroes would come over and say, "Hey you are all right Hanselman." Then we would all go out to the bar and hang out and have beernuts or something. I think everyone has that. I bet you that there is like a knitting pool where someone wants to go into knitting and they go in there and the really tough knitting or the Iceman of knitting is really cruel

to them and then at the end they would say, "You are all right you can knit."

**Carl Franklin:** Yeah, well, like I have said it is certainly is tough and especially because not a lot of the people who are knowledgeable about this stuff tend to be just so focused and wrapped up and know what they are doing. There were just some very few, very cool people back in the early days who would actually sit down and I got to tell you that the guys at Crescent Software were like made a career out of that, where I cut my teeth back in the early days. They would write assembly language routines so that you can call from quick basic and they would out these free pamphlets about assembly language. Assembly language primer they would comment and give away their assembly language source code. They wanted people to know how to do it. Maybe it was because there is a psychological need to do that and that is how they felt good about themselves whatever but okay fine you are sharing your knowledge. You are giving me inspiration and it is great and it is a win-win. So I mean those kinds of relationships and those kind of people in companies, those are the kinds of people that you know what I am teaching, right. When I am teaching a class there are days that the lights are on but nobody is home. I look out to a sea of gaping eyes and they are just half falling asleep maybe they are a little board or whatever. Then there is one guy upfront or one girl upfront who is like looking up the ceiling and saying, "Okay, wait a minute. Can you say that again?" Then you can see like the wheels going and it clicks for them and they are like, "Oh, I get it."

**Scott Hanselman:** Yeah, it's so cool to hear that from someone because sometimes I think I'm the only one that thinks that kind of that stuff but I always joke sometimes in talks where I will say, "If I can just save the life of one child..."

**Carl Franklin:** Yeah, absolutely.

**Scott Hanselman:** One doesn't mean to use the word child in a diminutive, but we always hear that growing up, that's why people teach.

**Carl Franklin:** Well, I mean if you could reach one person that way.

**Scott Hanselman:** When you're talking to a room with a thousand people and suddenly the guy who is clearly eager enough to have sat in the front row.

**Carl Franklin:** Here's the thing. Those are the people you want on your team. Do you know what I mean? You want people like that because they're not afraid to learn and they're not afraid to show what they don't know and the more they are asking these questions and learning and stuff, they are going to surpass the people who are just afraid to look stupid and are therefore going to stay stupid.



**Scott Hanselman:** So, what can we do to make the community more friendly? I think like the ALT.NET movement. We've talked to these guys. We've talked to Dave Larabee and the different folks that are thinking about alternative ways that are not necessarily the Microsoft standard way. They have a lot to offer but the barrier to entry is really difficult. It's not exactly something you jump into. I get lots of emails that say, "How do I get started? What can I do? Where is the book?" Everyone is like, "Where is the book I can read," that magical thing that's going to make it snap. How can we make it snap for people?

**Carl Franklin:** I think we do. I think just by having these conversations, having these podcasts and talking and speaking and being engaged and involved in those blogs and things like this, I think we do make a difference and we get email to that effect all the time. I would like to encourage the listeners to be that person, to be that mentor or to actually starting with the man in the mirror, change the world by changing yourself and being that sort of champion. Just literally you will change people's lives. You will save their lives. People will owe their career to you just by sharing a little bit of time and knowledge in helping somebody not feel stupid and overcome that.

**Scott Hanselman:** I would extend that and say that you don't even have to necessarily be an expert and certainly I know some stuff but I don't claim to be an expert in many, many things; but just because you have been in the business for a long time and you're not out of work and homeless means that you're doing something right. So, you don't necessarily have to be the best at X technology to sit down with someone who is maybe just out of college or only a couple years in the industry and help them out.

**Carl Franklin:** No, no, but I mean you set a good example by showing people how to learn things and they don't know them and how to look things up and where to go to get good information and all of that and just by answering some simple questions, you never know. I mean some people will have a mental block about something and once they get over that block, they realize, "Oh, this isn't so hard I can do this," and then they're off. It could be just one thing.

**Scott Hanselman:** Yeah, I think you're right. Well, I think that's a show.

**Carl Franklin:** I think so too.

**Scott Hanselman:** Well, it's nice to have you back. We should do this more often.

**Carl Franklin:** Yeah, we should and I'm happy to anytime you want, but if you don't want, if you want to do interviews by yourself too, that's totally cool with me. I've been enjoying the time off, but it's always good to talk to you, Scott.

**Scott Hanselman:** Cool. Well, thanks a lot and this has been another episode of Hanselminutes. We will see you again next week.

**Carl Franklin:** Bye-bye.