Bugs & Wish list

Calendar: Update all events with this repeat rule doesn't update any event | Tiki Wiki CMS Groupware :: Development
Calendar: Update all events with this repeat rule doesn't update any event

Status
 🟠 Pending

Subject
Calendar: Update all events with this repeat rule doesn't update any event

Version
18.x

Category
- Usability
- Regression
- Bug

Feature
Calendar

Resolution status
Needs discussion

Submitted by
hman

Keep informed
Torsten Fabricius

Lastmod by
hman

Rating
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ (1) ❓

Description
When you update a recurring calendar event (say, a yearly commemoration date) then you have a selection, to update only the current event or all events with the same rule of repetition (radio buttons).

If you check the latter, none gets updated. Not even the current one.

Oh, there are so many bugs in the calendar feature...

Thanks
hman

The calendar feature needs a deeper investigation and it has been done a lot of development around versions 21 LTS and 24 (trunk, future LTS).
This and possible further calendar bugs have to be reviewed, discussed and fixed in a broader context.

Regards,
Torsten

Importance
8

Easy to solve?
    5

Priority
    40

Demonstrate Bug (Tiki 19+)

Please demonstrate your bug on show2.tiki.org

Version: trunk ▼

Demonstrate Bug (older Tiki versions)

Ticket ID
    7662

Created
    Thursday 04 February, 2021 22:37:20 GMT-0000
    by hman

LastModif
    Saturday 04 December, 2021 13:09:53 GMT-0000

Comments

Torsten Fabricius 02 Dec 21 09:18 GMT-0000

Need to test and to confirm in show and or locally for v.18 and further versions.
I am currently working on a test environment for calendars related to a calendar project.
Regards
Torsten

hman 02 Dec 21 10:21 GMT-0000

Thanks! Appreciate this!
I believe, the underlying problem is the fact that Calendar doesn't actually have a feature for recurring events. I does claim so, but in fact, it merely makes N copies of an event, thus creating the need to make N updates if you, for instance, simply correct a typo in the text. And it will consume N times the amount of storage, which could be considered a waste... The same is true for "all day". Although there is a checkbox for that, if you store a new all-day event, you will notice it runs from midnight to midnight, which leads in some views to an event being visible on the subsequent day, which spoils the usage of "all-day" for commemorative events that recur every year...

Torsten Fabricius 03 Dec 21 08:22 GMT-0000

So you are saying, Tiki uses a wrong concept of dealing with recurrent events?

hman 04 Dec 21 12:40 GMT-0000

Well, to me it seems to be obvious. The concept doesn't scale (at all). Recurring events like "July 4th" are simply impossible with that. An eternal commerative event on the 4th of July cannot be created with this. IF it would be created, it would shatter all memory limits of the DB. Which is why Tiki only allows for 99 recurrencies. Which will create 99 copies of the event. And since editing them is impossible due to the bug, the mere correction of a small typo yields to the task of having to edit 99 events manually...

Torsten Fabricius 04 Dec 21 14:35 GMT-0000

I see the problem.
Can you explain to me, how this is resolved in other applications?

Do you know, if Nextcloud has a solution for that?
Nextcloud uses SabreDav aswell for Calendar Sync, thus if this is resolved or better made with Nextcloud and other local systems, like Thunderbird or Outlook have a solution for that, it should be possible to enhance Tiki.

Then after evaluation and verification of problem and solution we have to solve the issue of financing the code, especially in case it would be necessary to rewrite a lot of code.

hman>Torsten Fabricius 04 Dec 21 16:08 GMT-0000

Replied to
I see the...

Well, to my knowledge neither Outlook nor Thunderbird (with its Sunbird calendar extension that is now part of Thunderbird) seem to have such problems. Since Thunderbird/Sunbird are FOSS you could look into their code.

If you ask me what data model could be useful (I am not a specialist in data modeling) I would assume you could introduce a flag in the data model of an event "recurring" and an enum with the recurrence scheme. If calendar is to present a given day, you would have two SQL SELECTs to extract the data for display. One with specifically the data from that date, and one for every recurrence scheme to look for a recurring event that matches that particular date. So you would not have to sift through the DB to find them. Just my 2 cents...

hman>hman 04 Dec 21 16:53 GMT-0000

Replied to
Well, to...

I created two events in MS Outlook, on a MS Exchange Enterprise server. Although this does not give us a clue on how MS handles recurring events internally, Outlook allows for exporting events into Apple's iCalendar text (ASCII) format.
I'll attach both. The only difference between the two is that the first event recurs every year,

for all eternity. The second has a fixed termination in 2023. You will notice that both are just shy of 2 kBytes in size... Imagine the data consumption of an event in Tiki calendar repeating for millenia...

Apple's iCalendar handles this with this rule:

```
RRULE:FREQ=YEARLY;BYMONTHDAY=4;BYMONTH=12 or
RRULE:FREQ=YEARLY;COUNT=3;BYMONTHDAY=4;BYMONTH=12
```

So actually Outlook handles termination in 2023 the same as 3 repetitions. Please note that Outlook will display a recurring event in every period that it recurs in just like every other event in that period. If you want to open (or edit) you will be asked whether you want to open/edit the specific event, or the series of events together.

So when creating an event series, you can make each event different afterwards (for instance, to customize the venue). You could even customize the hours...

This of course might lead to a possible future improvement: Import/export of .ics data...

Attachments

filename	created	hits	comment	version	filetype
test event yearly #2.ics	04 Dec 21 17:10 GMT-0000	0	Yearly test event, fixed termination		
test event yearly.ics	04 Dec 21 16:53 GMT-0000	0	Yearly test event, no termination		

The original document is available at
https://dev.tiki.org/item7662-Calendar-Update-all-events-with-this-repeat-rule-doesn-t-update-any-event