

How can I emulate the `REG_NOTIFY_THREAD_AGNOSTIC` flag on systems that don't support it? part 5

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We complete our somewhat pointless exercise of emulating the `REG_NOTIFY_THREAD_AGNOSTIC` flag by making our coroutine resilient to failure partway through. This requires you to accept the anachronism of using C++20 coroutines, while also dropping Windows XP support, since we will be relying on thread pool features new to Windows Vista.

```

auto RegNotifyChangeKeyValueAsync(
    HKEY hkey,
    BOOL bWatchSubtree,
    DWORD dwNotifyFilter,
    HANDLE hEvent)
{
    struct awaiter
    {
        awaiter(awaiter const&) = delete;
        void operator=awaiter(awaiter const&) = delete;

        HKEY m_hkey;
        BOOL m_bWatchSubtree;
        DWORD m_dwNotifyFilter;
        HANDLE m_hEvent;
        LONG m_result;
        PTP_WORK m_completionWork = nullptr;
        std::experimental::coroutine_handle<> m_handle;

        ~awaiter()
        {
            if (m_completionWork) CloseThreadpoolWork(m_completionWork);
        }

        bool await_ready() const noexcept { return false; }

        bool await_suspend(std::experimental::coroutine_handle<> handle)
        {
            m_completionWork = CreateThreadpoolWork(Complete, this, nullptr);
            if (!m_completionWork) {
                m_result = static_cast<LONG>(GetLastError());
                return false;
            }

            m_handle = handle;

            if (!QueueUserWorkItem(
                Register,
                this,
                WT_EXECUTEINPERSISTENTTHREAD)) {
                m_result = static_cast<LONG>(GetLastError());
                return false;
            }

            return true;
        }

        LONG await_ready() const noexcept { return m_result; }

        DWORD CALLBACK Register(void* param)
        {
            auto self = reinterpret_cast<awaiter*>(param);

```

```

    self->m_result = RegNotifyChangeKeyValue(
        self->m_hkey,
        self->m_bWatchSubtree,
        self->m_dwNotifyFilter,
        self->m_hEvent,
        TRUE);
    SubmitThreadpoolWork(m_completionWork);
    return 0;
}

DWORD CALLBACK Complete(void* param)
{
    auto self = reinterpret_cast<awaiter*>(param);
    self->m_handle();
    return 0;
}
};

return awaiter(hkey, bWatchSubtree, dwNotifyFilter, hEvent);
}

```

The idea here is that we have two work items. The first (for which we use `QueueUserWorkItem`) is scheduled onto a persistent thread. When that first work item runs (`Register`), we register the notification and save the result. And then we submit the second work item, which brings us to a normal thread pool thread, which is where we resume the caller by invoking its coroutine handle.

As before, if anything goes wrong during the set-up, we save the error and declare that the caller shouldn't suspend. That way, it picks up the error immediately.

There's a subtlety here: You might be tempted to clean up the completion work item as soon as `SubmitThreadpoolWork` returns, but that would be wrong. There is a race condition where the submitted work runs to completion before `SubmitThreadpoolWork` returns. In that case, the coroutine has already resumed, and the `awaiter` has already destructed. The subsequent call to `CloseThreadpoolWork(m_completionWork);` is accessing an object after it has been destroyed.

Bonus chatter: Commenter Paul Jackson observed that the thread which executes `WT_EXECUTEINPERSISTENTTHREAD` work items can exit if there are no pending I/O requests. Is `RegNotifyChangeKeyValue` a pending I/O request? I'm not sure. So maybe `WT_EXECUTEINPERSISTENTTHREAD` doesn't solve the problem after all. Fortunately, this was all a pointless exercise.

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