

## 2022 Speaker Biographies



**Liam Allan**

**IBM**

Software Advocate

Twitter: @notesofbarry

Liam Allan, an IBM Champion, helps IBM i development teams modernize their applications and bridge the gap between traditional and modern development practices. Founder of Works of Barry, he specializes in DevOps, RPG, ILE, Node.js, PHP, PASE and open source. He also supports the community by creating open source tools — such as the ILEditor — that make IBM i development more intuitive for the next generation. His passion is to bring IBM i and the world of open-source closer together.



**Patrick Behr**

Software Developer

Twitter: @P\_Behr

With a career in IT spanning 20 years, Patrick Behr has been working on IBM i (and its predecessors) for all of it. He spent most of his career working with RPG and Db2, and earned the ILE RPG Developer Certification, and has also worked in web development and application and database modernization. Patrick is a COMMON Speaker of Merit and Bronze medal winner, and has spoken at conferences and user groups across the country.



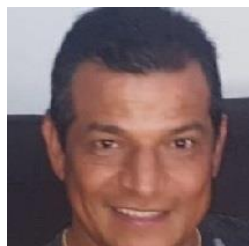
**Andrew Clark**

**Arcad Software**

DevOps Product Manager

Website: <https://www.arcadsoftware.com>

Andrew Clark has been working on Enterprise platforms for more than 30 years, starting his career as an intern at IBM working on the secret "Mankato Project" with RS/6000, mainframe, and pre-release versions of OS/400; advancing from testing to a Team Leader on the QQ (Query) team, he continues to build broad expertise on cross-platform SQL. His major responsibilities have shifted from development in multiple languages (RPG, C++/C# and Java, among others) on 5250, Windows and mobile devices, to Software Management. Most of his time now is dedicated to DevOps projects, especially those centered on the Cloud and Merlin.



**David Contreras**

**Meridian IT Inc.**

IBM Power Systems Specialist

Website: <https://www.themeridian.com>

My over 35 years of experience range from Senior System Architect, Systems Analyst, Senior System Engineer, Project Manager, Technical Manager, and I.T Specialist. I have the ability to work effectively with different levels of staff from executive to technical. I have traveled extensively in the United States including Alaska, Canada and the Caribbean and I have supported business partners and customers in Asia, Europe, and South America.

I have Managed numerous and extensive projects that have included Software Implementations, Disaster Recovery, System Design/Setup, Migrations from on Premises into the Private and Public Clouds, Operating System Upgrades – Security, Database Modernization, Maintenance and Data Conversion. I adapt well to high pressure 24/7 responsibilities. Managed and upgraded over 30, 3rd Party Software Applications, which include Extol/EDI, Island Pacific, JDEdwards, HelpSystems, Kronos, Mapics, & Manhattan Associates(WMS),to name a few.

System Performance and Right Sizing in the Cloud. Db2 Database Modernization

Db2 SQL Database Conversion – DDS to DDL, Files to Tables, Index to Views

Db2 SQL Tuning/Performance Optimization – iNavigator, Plan Cache, Visual Explain, Index Advisor, Indexes, Tables and Views. iDoctor/Performance Navigator. – Batch Job/Query/SQL Performance Optimization

High Availability Expertise – 28 years of Configuration, Journal Analysis, Performance, Security & Training, with Multiple Logical Replication Solutions in the IBMi space.



**Scott Forstie**

**IBM**

Senior Technical Staff Member

Twitter: @Forstie\_IBMi

Scott Forstie is a Senior Technical Staff Member within IBM i development and spends most of his time working as the Db2 for i Architect. He has worked on IBM operating system development since joining IBM in 1989. Scott is a frequently published author, speaker at industry events around the globe and can be found @Forstie\_IBMi and [forstie@us.ibm.com](mailto:forstie@us.ibm.com). Scott is an avid runner and enjoys cooking. Websites: <http://ibm.biz/Db2foriServices>, [http://ibm.biz/IBMi\\_ACS](http://ibm.biz/IBMi_ACS)



**Charles Guarino**

**Central Park Data Systems**

CEO

Website: [www.centralparkdata.com](http://www.centralparkdata.com)

With an IT career spanning over 30 years, Charles Guarino has been a consultant for most of them. Since 1995 he has been founder and President of Central Park Data Systems, Inc., a Long Island and New York City area based IBM midrange consulting and corporate training company. In addition to being a professional speaker across the United States and Europe, he is a frequent contributor of technical and strategic articles and webcasts for the IT community. He is a member of COMMON's Speaker Excellence Hall of Fame and The Long Island Software and Technology Network's Twenty Top Techies. In 2015 Charles became the proud recipient of the Al Barsa Memorial Scholarship Award. Additionally, he currently serves as a member of COMMON's Strategic Education Team (SET) and is also the monthly Q&A host and chairman of the speaker committee for LISUG, a Long Island IBM i User's Group [www.lisug.org](http://www.lisug.org).

Charles can be reached at [cguarino@centralparkdata.com](mailto:cguarino@centralparkdata.com).

**LinkedIn** - <http://www.linkedin.com/in/guarinocharles> **Twitter** - @charlieguarino



**Birgitta Hauser**

**Diplom-Betriebswirt (BA)**

Database and Software Architect

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/BirgittaHauser>

Birgitta Hauser has worked on the IBM i and its predecessors since 1992. She graduated with a business economics diploma, and started programming on the AS/400 in 1992. She worked and works as traditional RPG Programmer but also as Database and Software Engineer, focusing on IBM i application and database modernization.

She also works in education as a trainer for RPG and SQL developers. Currently she is self-employed and works in Consulting and Application and Database Modernization on IBM i and Db2 for i. Since July, 2019 she is occasionally working for Fresche Solutions Inc. (Montréal) as a contractor. Since 2002 she has frequently spoken at the COMMON User Groups and other IBM i and Power Conferences in Germany, other European Countries, USA and Canada. In addition, she is co-author of two IBM Redbooks and also the author of several articles and papers focusing on RPG and SQL for the ITP Verlag (a German publisher), IT Jungle Guru and IBM DeveloperWorks. In 2015 she received the John Earl Speaker Scholarship Award. In 2018 she received the Al Barsa Memorial Scholarship Award. She is an IBM Champion 2020.



**Simon Hutchinson**

Author

Website: [www.rpgpgm.com](http://www.rpgpgm.com)

Simon's experience with IBM midrange started over 30 years ago in the United Kingdom, in a pre-AS/400 world. Since immigrating to the USA, in 1992, he has worked mostly in the South West and is currently IT manager responsible for Power servers and IBM i for large bank in Central Texas. Simon has been writing his acclaimed IBM i blog, RPGPGM.COM, for over 10 years sharing his knowledge, experience, and giving many detailed examples of the latest RPG, SQL, and CL. He was recognized by IBM as an IBM Champion for Power in 2022, IBM i Community Contributor in 2020, and IBM i Community Contributor Influencer in 2021.



**Mark Irish**

**IBM**

Software Engineer

Website: [www.ibm.com](http://www.ibm.com)

I am a software engineer at IBM working on open-source software enablement for the IBM i. I am particularly knowledgeable about Node.js and Machine Learning software libraries. Feel free to talk to me about your open-source questions and tell me what open-source software you'd like to see on the IBM i!



**Scott Klement**

**Profound Logic Software**

Director, Product Development and Support

Website: [www.profoundlogic.com](http://www.profoundlogic.com)

Scott Klement is the Director of Product Development and Support at Profound Logic Software. He also volunteers as a member of COMMON's Board of Directors and Strategic Education Team. He is the author of around 1000 articles and a dozen open source projects. Scott's efforts to help out the IBM i Community have resulted in dozens of awards and accolades, including an IBM Innovation Award, Gary Guthrie Award, Al Barsa Scholarship, John T Earl Scholarship, medals from the American Society of Business Publication Editors, and the COMMON Speaker Excellence Hall of Fame. IBM has named Scott an IBM Champion for Power Systems.



**Pete Massiello**

**iTech Solutions**

President

Website: <https://www.itechsol.com>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/Petem59>

Pete Massiello has been working with the AS/400, iSeries, IBM i since 1989, focusing on systems management and technical support. He has held numerous technical positions through out his career. He is the President of iTech Solutions Group, an IBM Premier Business Partner delivering solutions and services to IBM i shops throughout the world. He is a member of IBM's certification test writing team, an IBM Certified Systems Expert with certifications in IBM i Design, System Administration, LPAR, Virtualization, Implementation, and HMC management. Pete has a BS in Computer Science from Hofstra University, and an MBA from the University of New Haven. He was President of COMMON from 2010 to 2012, and again in 2014. He is a COMMON Hall of Fame speaker, and a frequent speaker at user groups all over the world. In 2011 IBM established the Champions award for Power Systems, Pete was one of the first recipients. In 2016, they revived the program and he was again made an IBM Power Systems Champion. Lightning struck for the third time in 2017, and that is the year he was also made the first Power Systems Lifetime Champion, an honor he continues to hold.

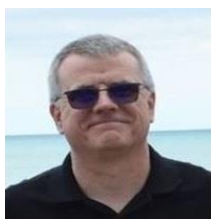


**Eamon Musallam**  
**Fresche Solutions**

IBM i Transformation Advisor

Website: [www.freschesolutions.com](http://www.freschesolutions.com)

Eamon Musallam has been closely involved in the IBM i community for over 28 years. As a transformation expert at Fresche, he has worked closely with many IBM i customers to assist them with their application modernization requirements and database & code transformations, leading to successful digital transformation initiatives.



**Mike Pavlak**  
**Zend by Perforce**

Solutions Architect

Website: [www.zend.com](http://www.zend.com)

Mike Pavlak has been working with IBM midrange solutions since 1992 and IBM Mainframes before that. After years of developing applications using RPG, CL and PHP he managed IT development and IT for power protection manufacturer Tripp Lite. Later Mike was instrumental in developing the adoption of PHP as a primary solution for web development on IBM i working with Zend Technologies. Today, as a Solutions Architect at Zend by Perforce, Mike helps companies around the world approach the challenges of modernization and open source technologies. In addition to several roles as a volunteer with COMMON the premier IBM midrange user group, Mike also teaches PHP & Python classes part time at Moraine Valley Community College in Suburban Chicago.



**IBM**

Business Architect Application Development & Systems Management for IBM i

Twitter: @TimRowe\_IBMi

Tim Rowe is the Business Architect responsible for Application Development and Systems Management for the IBM i operating system. His responsibilities include helping to make sure that the IBM i has what is needed to be successful both today and into the future. He spends much of his time also helping customers understand what is possible on our platform when it comes to modernization.

**HelpSystems**

Global Director of Security Technologies

Website: [www.helpsystems.com](http://www.helpsystems.com)

Robin Tatam is HelpSystems' Global Director of Security Technologies and a COMMON subject matter expert (SME). As an award-winning speaker on security topics, Robin has been interviewed and quoted by industry magazines and has published numerous trade articles. Robin's extensive Power Server experience has resulted in more than 20 IBM certifications and the highly sought after designation of ISACA-certified Information Security Manager (CISM) and PCI-Professional (PCI-P). He is also co-author of IBM's Redbook publication on IBM i Data Encryption.

**DXR Security**

President, CTO, Co-Founder

Website: [www.dxrsecurity.com](http://www.dxrsecurity.com)

With over 25 years experience in the area of IT security, Carol is known world-wide as an expert in the area of computer security. During her career, Carol has architected security solutions for Fortune 100 companies as well as small and medium-sized organizations. Carol is passionate about sharing her knowledge of IBM i Security and helping clients make improvements to their IBM i Security one step (bite-sized chunk) at a time rather than overwhelming them with a huge list of risks. Carol has been an IBM Power Champion since 2018. Carol is an educator, architect, designer, implementer and an award-winning speaker, specializing in IBM i Security. Carol is a Certified Information Systems Security Professional, Certified in Risk and Information Systems Control (CRISC), has her PCIP certification and is a member of the ISACA organization.

Carol has written many books. IBM i Security and Administration, 3rd edition is available at MCPressOnline or amazon.com. Her latest book, Mastering IBM i Security is a 'how to' guide for implementing and managing security using SQL Services, New Nav and ACS. It includes all the latest in IBM i 7.5 and can be ordered from MCPressOnline <https://www.mc-store.com/products/mastering-ibm-i-security>