

2020 Speaker Biographies



Liam Allan

Seiden Group

Software Developer

Website: <https://worksofbarry.com/>

Liam Allan, IBM Champion and consultant with Seiden Group, helps IBM i development teams transform their applications and bridge the gap between traditional and modern development practices. He specializes in DevOps, RPG, ILE, Node.js, PHP, PASE and open source. Founder of [Works of Barry](https://worksofbarry.com/), he also supports the community by creating open source tools—such as the [ILEditor](#) and [NetRPG](#)—that make IBM i development more intuitive for the next generation. He also co-hosts the [IBM Bi-Weekly](#) technical podcast.

Liam's passion for bringing IBM i and the world of open source closer together has earned him two COMMON Innovation Awards. After joining the Club Seiden open source community in 2015, he quickly earned high standing among the IBM i development community. In early 2016, COMMON named him recipient of the Student Innovation Award, and he found himself on the speaking circuit teaching audiences his techniques for integrating open source with RPG. IBM further honored his work by naming him a “Fresh Face of IBM i” and, soon after, an IBM Champion.

Most recently, COMMON presented him with the 2019 Innovation Award for his work on barryCI.

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Patrick Behr

Software Developer

Twitter: https://twitter.com/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.



Jim Buck

imPower Technologies

President and Founder

Website: www.impowertechologies.com

Jim is the president and founder of imPower Technologies where he provides professional IBM i online/onsite training (imPowerTechnologies.com). He is active in the IBM i community working to help companies train their employees in the latest IBM technologies and helps companies develop the next generation of IBM i professionals.

Jim Buck's career in IT has spanned more than 36 years, primarily in college education, manufacturing, and healthcare industries. Past president (13 years) of the Wisconsin Midrange Computer Professional Association (www.wmcpa.org) and has served on several teams developing IBM and COMMON certification tests. Jim has co-authored several IBM i books with Bryan Meyers that are used by many companies and in colleges worldwide, "Programming in ILE RPG" 5th Edition being the latest in 2015.

Other accomplishments include; recipient of the 2007 IBM System i Innovation – Education Excellence Award, 2014 COMMON Presidents Award and named 2013/2016/2017/2018 IBM Champion - Power Systems.



Erwin Earley

Zend by Perforce

Senior Solutions Consultant

Website: www.zend.com

With over 20 years working in the IBM i community previously at IBM and now with Zend by Perforce, I have worked with a number of technologies on the POWER platform including cloud (PowerVC), Dev/Ops solutions (Docker, Chef), Open Source technologies (Linux, MySQL/MariaDB, PHP). I have expertise in a variety of technologies including virtualization, storage, networking, and operating systems including AIX, IBM i, and Linux. I am a frequent speaker at various user groups and technical conferences and have authored numerous articles on Linux, PHP, virtualization, and systems management.



Jesse Gorzinski

IBM

Business Architect of Open Source Technologies.

Twitter: @IBMJesseG

Jesse Gorzinski works for the IBM i development lab in Rochester, MN. He is the Business Architect of open source technologies. Jesse, who was doing RPG programming at the age of 18, is an expert on application development on IBM i, as well as system access and modernization. His hobbies include playing with his dog, replacing complex applications with 5-line Python programs, and advocating for the use of new technologies on IBM i! Prior to his 2006 employment at IBM, Jesse worked with the AS/400 as an I/T administrator for an IBM customer in the finance/mortgage industry, where he specialized in data backup/recovery, process optimization, and information integrity. He has a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science as well as a Master of Business Administration degree.



Charles Guarino

Central Park Data Systems

CEO

Website: 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.

Charles can be reached at cguarino@centralparkdata.com.

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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.



Mark Irish

IBM

Software Engineer

Website: 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

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.



Mike Larsen

Central Park Data Systems

Project Manager and Senior Developer

Website: www.centralparkdata.com

Mike Larsen is a Project Manager and Senior developer at Central Park Data Systems and has been working with IBM i systems for over 20 years. He specializes in RPG, CL, and SQL and recently has been working with PHP and Python. Current projects have given Mike the opportunity to work with generating and parsing XML and JSON from SQL and consuming SOAP and REST web services. Although his main area of expertise is on IBM i, Mike has a passion for learning other languages and how he can integrate other platforms with IBM i.



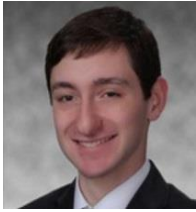
Doug Mack

IBM Power Systems Lab Services

Analytics Consultant

Website: www.db2webqueryi.blogspot.com

Doug Mack is a DB2 for i Analytics Consultant in IBM's Power Systems Lab Services organization, employed by IBM in the United States. Doug currently leads the Analytics team for the DB2 for i Lab Services team delivering Query/400 modernization, DB2 Web Query, Data Warehouse design, skills transfer, and implementation guidance services worldwide. Doug is a regular speaker at customer events including COMMON, IBM Technical Conferences and Executive Briefings, and has written many articles and white papers on the attributes of DB2 for i for analytics. You can follow Doug on Twitter @mckdrmoly or via his blog at db2webqueryi.blogspot.com.



Aaron Magid
Eradani

VP, Open Source Technologies
Website: www.eradani.com

Before I came to the IBM i, I led the JavaScript web application development for an IoT company. Now I'm working to bring the IBM i together with the world of open source technology. I'm always happy to chat about web technology, IoT, IBM i in the cloud, modern devops, or just about anything else!



Dan Magid
Eradani

CEO
Website: www.eradani.com

At Eradani, we have experts in Open Source for IBM i, Modern Languages like JavaScript, Java, Python and PHP, Open Source DevOps tools like Git for IBM i and IBM i in the Cloud. We help customers modernize their systems and adopt these new technologies. He can be reached at dan@eradani.com.



Pete Massiello
iTech Solutions

President
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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.



Barbara Morris
IBM

Lead Developer for RPG Compilers

Website: www.ibm.com

Barbara Morris is the lead developer for the RPG compilers in the IBM Toronto Lab. She has been working on the RPG compilers since she started at IBM in 1989 after receiving a Computing Science degree from the University of Alberta. The first enhancement she developed was the ENDIF/ENDDO opcodes for RPG/400 in V2R1. Some of her most recent enhancements were the ON-EXIT, DATA-INTO and DATA-GEN opcodes and overloaded prototypes. A few of the other notable enhancements that she developed for RPG include subprocedures, qualified data structures, call-interaction with Java, Open Access: RPG Edition, and fully-free-form RPG.

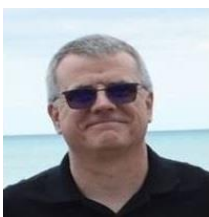


Eamon Musallam
Fresche Solutions

Senior Account Executive

Website: www.freschesolutions.com

Eamon Musallam has specialized in IBM i modernization for over 23 years, helping hundreds of customers successfully leverage their legacy RPG and COBOL applications, taking full advantage of web, mobile and cloud technologies. Both proficient in technology and business value creation, Eamon helps guide IBM i customers so that they acquire the necessary funding and resources to ensure their modernization efforts provide maximum effectiveness to the underlying business. He has been a frequent speaker at COMMON, DevCon, OCEAN and other IBM i community events, and has authored articles in several IBM i publications on the subject of application modernization.



Mike Pavlak
Profound Logic Software

Solutions Architect

Website: www.profoundlogic.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, 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.



Steve Pitcher

iTech Solutions

IBM i Systems Engineer and Account Executive

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

Steve has been involved with IBM i since 2001 primarily in the manufacturing and distribution industries. Over that period he's been a systems administrator, developer, IT Manager and IT Director. He joined iTech Solutions in 2017 in a combined sales/technical role, bringing additional expertise in security, Domino and WebSphere.

A longtime IBM Champion, first as part of the inaugural group for IBM Collaboration Solutions (2011) and then as an IBM Champion for Power Systems (2016-present), you'll find Steve speaking at events around the world about IBM i administration, modernization and security. He's been a community advocate on the COMMON Americas Advisory Council since 2012 and is currently serving a 2nd term on the COMMON Board of Directors.



Stephanie Rabbani

Seiden Group

Senior Consultant

Website: www.seidengroup.com

A senior consultant for Seiden Group, Stephanie Rabbani has been developing web applications on the IBM i for nearly 20 years. She previously worked for BCD Software Professional Services.

In her IBM i career, she has developed a large range of applications such as APIs, shopping carts, ordering, dashboards, mobile/responsive apps, warehousing, and many others for small to Fortune 500 companies.

Stephanie's favorite technologies include PHP, Python, Node.js, RPG, WebSmart, and Git. She also has in-depth experience with DB2, SQL, and the IBM i environment. She speaks at local and international conferences and provides developer training to IBM i teams. Stephanie has been recognized by IBM as a "Fresh Face of IBM i" and an IBM Champion. **LinkedIn:** www.linkedin.com/in/jordiwes
Twitter: [@jordiwes](https://twitter.com/jordiwes)



Richard Schoen

Pegasystems

Senior Solutions Consultant

Website: <http://www.richardschoen.net>

Richard has over 30 years of software development, system integration, document management and process automation experience on all system platforms including IBM i, Windows, Linux and Mac. Richard started RJS Software Systems in 1990 and served as President and CTO until the company was acquired in 2014. Richard currently works for Pegasystems as a Senior Solutions Consultant. Pega provides Low Code Process Automation, Robotics (RPA), CRM and Marketing Automation software for any platform. Richard also does part time development consulting and has developed a native IBM i git client for use with RDI/PDM/SEU (iForGit- <http://www.mobigogo.net>). Richard can be reached via Web: <http://www.richardschoen.net> Email: richard@richardschoen.net Twitter (@richardschoen) and LinkedIn. Richard's open source development projects for IBM i and other platforms are available on Github: <http://www.github.com/richardschoen>



Alan Seiden

Seiden Group

Founder

Website: www.seidengroup.com

Alan Seiden founded Seiden Group to modernize IBM i applications using open source web technologies such as PHP, Python, Node.js, and DB2 for i and RPG business logic.

Recognized as an IBM Champion, Alan hosts the [CIO Summit](#) twice per year. He and his team work with the best minds in the industry to provide objective advice and hands-on development.

Alan co-developed the popular PHP Toolkit with IBM; was one of the first Zend Framework certified engineers; co-founder of the NYC Zend Framework Meetup; charter member of IBM/COMMON's PHP Advisory Board; and a consultant for IBM's manual PHP: Zend Core for i5/OS.

An award-winning speaker, Alan has been called "the performance guru of PHP on IBM i."

He shares his expertise regularly at conferences and user groups such as COMMON, ZendCon, the RPG & DB2 Summit, OMNI, the Northeast Users Group Conference, OCEAN and WMCPA. He also mentors other developers within the Club Seiden forum.



Steven Wolk
PC Richard & Son
Chief Technology Officer
Twitter: @SWolk

Steven Wolk is the Chief Technology Officer for PC Richard & Son, a family owned and operated chain of 66 appliance and electronics superstores located throughout NY, NJ, CT, and PA. Founded in 1909, PC Richard has always been known for honesty, integrity, and reliability throughout its over 105 year history. Steve joined PC Richard & Son in 1986. In 2000, after working his way through a number of IT related roles, he assumed his current position as the company's first CTO. As CTO, he considers himself very fortunate to lead a large in-house team of very talented software developers. Together, they bring their combined extensive retail experience to bear in the application of new technologies to improve business processes and efficiency to create a competitive advantage for this unique company. Steve enjoys speaking at conferences and events, and is proud to be a member of Toastmasters International. He resides in Commack, NY with his wife and two teenage daughters. As a family, they all enjoy spending quality time travelling together.



Carol Woodbury
Independent Security Expert
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Carol Woodbury is an Independent Security Expert and is a Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP), Certified in Risk and Information Systems Control (CRISC), and has her PCIP certification. She is also a member of the ISACA organization and has been named IBM Champion for her thought leadership on the IBM i platform.

With over 25 years of experience in IT security, Carol is known worldwide as an expert in the area of computer security. During her career, Carol has architected security solutions for and educated Fortune 100 companies as well as small- and medium-sized organizations. Carol is passionate about making sure the solutions implemented meet the customers' needs—a passion that first started with her business, SkyView Partners, through her time as VP of Global Security Services at HelpSystems and now as an Independent Expert. Carol is an educator, architect, designer, implementer and an award-winning speaker and author with specialties in IBM i, i5/OS, OS/400, AS/400, iSeries, AIX, and Linux security and compliance.