

NEODBUG

E L E C T R O N I C

Newsletter of the Northeast Ohio Database Users Group

Robert Catterall & Brent Gross + iPad 2 Drawing at November Meeting

November is a time for giving thanks, and we want to thank you, the northeast Ohio (and western PA) IT professionals for making our 2011 educational events so successful. And we're not done! Our last event of 2011 is **Thursday, November 17**, and we are very excited to be bringing in IBM's Robert Catterall and Brent Gross to speak to us.

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Robert Catterall is an IBM DB2 specialist. He started his IT career with IBM in 1982, and worked throughout the 1990s as a member of the company's DB2 for z/OS national technical support team. From 2000 to 2007, Robert worked as a database technology strategist at CheckFree Corporation (now part of FiServ). After working for three years as an independent DB2 consultant and trainer, he rejoined IBM in August of 2010. He is a past president of the International DB2 Users Group, a member of the IDUG Speakers Hall of Fame and was one of IBM's inaugural Information Champions. He is the author of the "Data Architect" column that appears in each issue of IBM Data Management Magazine and of Robert's DB2 Blog <http://robertsdb2blog.blogspot.com/>.



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Brent Gross is a senior technical staff member with IBM Information Management Development out of IBM's Toronto lab. He has over 25 years experience with IBM and has been developing for IBM databases since 1995. His responsibilities have included architecture and development of stored procedure support and client interfaces. Brent has presented at many IBM and user group conferences. His current role is the architect of the CLI and .NET support for IBM data servers as well as the overall DB2 Connect architect.



connect architect.

* * *

Robert's first presentation for us will be **"DB2 for z/OS Stored Procedures - Trends and Technology."** Stored procedures have been widely used for years in DB2 for Linux, UNIX, and Windows application environments. On the mainframe side, adoption of the technology was initially more limited but is becoming mainstream now, in part due to the advent of native SQL procedures, delivered with DB2 9 for z/OS and enhanced with DB2 10. This presentation will lay out a vision of a modern DB2 data-serving system in which stored procedures play a very important role. It will also provide a review of DB2 for z/OS stored procedure enhancements, with a particular emphasis on the advantages of native SQL procedures. The presentation will conclude with some hints, tips, and go-forward recommendations.



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Register for the meeting at www.neodbug.org/2_1/register.html

Robert's second presentation will be "**Key Application Enablement Features of DB2 for z/OS Versions 9 and 10.**" DB2 10 is the current release of DB2 for z/OS and DB2 9 has been available for several years, but there are still plenty of programmers and database administrators who are not very familiar with many of the application development-oriented features of these two most recent versions of the product. This presentation provides an overview of the DB2 for z/OS Version 9 and Version 10 features that he believes are of the greatest importance with respect to application enablement. Examples include the MERGE, pureXML, and index-on-expression features of DB2 9, and the temporal data support, LOB enhancements and SQLPL user-defined functions delivered with DB2 10.

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Brent's first presentation for us will be "**DB2 Connect Configurations.**" DB2 Connect is ever changing and evolving. Recent enhancements include .NET 4.0, Visual Studio 2010 and even exploitation of new datatypes in DB2 for z/OS V10. Are you positioned to take advantage of these? How would you roll out new DB2 Connect drivers to thousands of workstations in your enterprise?

There has been a lot of buzz recently about using DB2 Connect without DB2 Connect servers - what is the buzz about? Why would one want to connect directly to DB2 for z/OS, what is involved, are there licensing implications and what are the pros and cons? Can one still exploit sysplex without a DB2 Connect server?

This presentation discusses all the above points with a focus on providing best practices and full information behind each of the recommendations.

Brent's second presentation will be "**Application Development Best Practices for .NET and ODBC for DB2 and DB2 Connect.**"

ODBC and .NET applications are very common in the DB2 LUW and DB2 Connect environments. Typical applications and usage scenarios are given with examples. Techniques are then discussed for maximizing the value from these applications - using pureQuery client optimization to increase performance, stability and security and using performance monitoring to localize performance concerns. Topics include:

- Introduction to ODBC and .NET - typical apps
- Typical issues with ODBC and .NET apps
- How client optimization can provide performance and stability
- Best practices in measuring ODBC and .NET performance
- Tooling support for ODBC and .NET applications
- Deploying applications - client packages

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As you can see, the November 17 meeting will be filled with lots of useful information for application developers, DBAs and network support personnel. And if that doesn't entice you to attend, remember: we will be having our drawing for an iPad 2, compliments of NEODBUG. Register now, at www.neodbug.org/2_1/register.html!

Pre-registration will be accepted through 12:00 noon, November 14, 2011. You will receive a acceptance email but your registration is confirmed with your payment. Registration at-the-door will only be accepted on a space-available basis.

This meeting will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel and Conference Center, on Rockside Rd. at I-77 in Independence.

Register for the meeting at www.neodbug.org/2_1/register.html

Chairman's Corner By Michael James

It is fall in Cleveland. The leaves are beginning to fall (darn it), but there is not any snow yet. The Tigers swept into the title in the AL Central Division and the Indians ended the season in second place and will be watching the World Series just like the rest of us. Who do we root for now?

The Cavs have pulled off another coup: getting locked out by the owners! We still have our new point guard Kylie Irving and veteran Antoine Jamison. Anderson (Wild Thing) Varajao is still with the team. In any event, we have bunch of guys that will make this year REAL interesting, if they play at all. At least we can watch the Canton Charge, our new D-League team.

The Browns are still here and they hopefully will start winning soon, with Colt McCoy as our starting QB. Who would have thought that the Browns would be 2-3 after last year and the additions during the off-season? Are we looking at a .500 season? Hopefully! It would sure be an improvement on how the season has started.

Oh yeah, NEODBUG is going to hold its November Quarterly meeting on Thursday, November 17, 2011. See the cover story of this issue for more information.

Annual Elections: along with the usual highly informative content of our meeting, the NEODBUG business meeting and board elections will be held at the November meeting. This is where you decide if the coaching staff changes. The current Board of Trustees will present to the membership a slate of candidates and will conduct an election for the Board of Trustees for 2012. See the Board slate printed elsewhere. We are very pleased to announce that two new NEODBUG members have agreed to be placed on the Board slate for 2012: Kerry Quast from Westfield Insurance and Tim Brown from Medical Mutual of Ohio.

This organization depends on the Board of Trustees to plan our quarterly meetings, handle membership and meeting registrations, oversee the finances and generate this newsletter. Your input is necessary for NEODBUG to continue to prosper as your source for solutions to relational database technical issues. Be sure to talk to any of the Board members about your suggestions during the meetings, write your suggestions down on the evaluation form that is distributed during the meeting, call us or email us at info@neodbug.org to share your thoughts. We really read them!

Decisions: We will be holding the 2012 corporate membership fees to \$150 for early membership registration and \$175 thereafter. Member companies should receive an invoice in January.

We will again offer a special educational meeting in February or March of 2012. As in the past nine years, we are arranging for a nationally-known trainer to come in for a day at what will be a very special price for employees of member companies. We are trying to keep the cost at \$199. We will have more information after the beginning of the year, but you might want to keep this in mind for budgeting and education planning.

The Board is very pleased with the increased meeting attendance in 2011, and feel it is a direct result of our lower meeting registration fees. So, our 2012 fee structure will remain as it was in 2011: for quarterly meetings, it will cost from \$20 to \$40, depending on whether you are an employee of a NEODBUG member company and whether you are registering in advance versus at-the-door. Even at \$40, it's a great deal for a day of education!

We will continue to offer the ability to prepay for the year's meetings with your annual corporate membership payment. These coupons will continue to be redeemable for the cost of a regular quarterly meeting.

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Register for the meeting at www.neodbug.org/2_1/register.html

We will continue to offer individual memberships, designed for consultants whose companies will not support joining the user group. The cost for these memberships will remain \$25.

For every fifth person attending our special education meeting from the same company, there will be a \$20 discount.

We were very pleased that Progressive Insurance gave a member company talk at our August meeting—you can too! Just put together a short presentation about a project that your company performed and share it with the group—there is nothing like a “real world” experience. Your company will receive additional free admissions to the meeting and the exposure to what is going on in their organization—free advertising! Consider presenting at NEODBUG if you are planning to give a presentation at conferences like IDUG—we can be your “dry run” or another place for you to crow about your successes.

We are truly “thankful” for your support of our efforts in 2011 and pledge to continue in 2012. Go ~~Indians Browns Gears~~ NEODBUG!

NEODBUG Treasurer's Report

The following are the current financials for NEODBUG as of October 2, 2011.

Total Assets	\$ 17,684.74
Total Liabilities	\$ 160.00
NET WORTH	\$ 17,524.74

We had an outstanding turnout for the August 18 quarterly meeting with sixty-six paid attendees from fifteen companies.

The following companies/ individuals have sent in their corporate or individual memberships. If you don't see your company name there, you will have to pay the higher, non-membership registration fees at the upcoming quarterly meeting. Those that prepaid to send members to NEODBUG meetings have the number of remaining coupons next to their names. The coupons expire 12/31/2011:

Companies/ Individuals that have paid memberships:

BMC Software
Chris Newton
Dominion Resource Services (3 Coupons left)
Erie Insurance
Jim Szabo
Key Bank
Medical Mutual of Ohio
Mike James
Parker Hannifin
Phil Sherman
Progressive Insurance (3 Coupons left)
Sherwin Williams (2 Coupons left)

Alan P. Solnick
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Register for the meeting at www.neodbug.org/2_1/register.html

iPad 2 Drawing at November 17 NEODBUG Meeting!

As a “thank you” to our loyal meeting attendees, NEODBUG will be giving away an iPad 2 at the November 17 quarterly meeting!



All meeting attendees in 2011 (February, May, August and November), receive a chance to win. You must have been a paid attendee and checked in at the registration table at the meeting. “No-show” registrations are not eligible.

The winner does not need to be present at the November meeting. Odds of winning depend upon the number of total meeting attendees. Members of the NEODBUG Board of Trustees are not eligible.

Our 2012 Board of Trustees Slate

At the November 17 quarterly meeting, the membership will vote on the slate for the 2012 NEODBUG Board of Trustees:

Kirk Bailey, Maverick Direct
Tim Brown, Medical Mutual
Jim Budka, Medical Mutual
Michael James, S&P Solutions

Bill Moran, BMC Software
Kerry Quast, Westfield Insurance
Al Solnick, Medical Mutual
Phil Sherman, Consultant

Jim Szabo, Consultant
Bob Vargo, Progressive
Don Zamiska, Parker

Upcoming Database Events

10/23-27/2011	Information On Demand 2011—Las Vegas, NV (IBM) www.ibm.com/software/data/2011-conference
10/30-11/4/2011	The Data Warehouse Institute (TDWI) Conference—Emerging Technologies 1012—Orlando, FL http://tdwi.org/pages/education/conferences.aspx
10/30-11/4/2011	SQL Server Connections—Las Vegas, NV (Penton Media) www.devconnections.com
11/04	Enterprise Architecture and Data Warehousing 2011 Featuring Bill Inmon—Washington, DC www.dmforum.org/portal/DW2011DCnewsletter.pdf
11/09-11/2011	Nordic DB2 Symposium—Stockholm Sweden (KBCE) www.db2-symposium.com/
11/13-17/2011	CA World (CA Technologies) - Las Vegas, NV www.ca.com/us/caworld.aspx
11/14-18/2011	International DB2 Users Group (IDUG) EMEA (Europe/Middle East/Asia) Conference—Prague, Czech Republic www.idug.org
11/17/2011	Northeast Ohio Database Users Group quarterly meeting—Independence, OH www.neodbug.org
11/18/2011	Northeast Ohio Oracle Users Group business meeting—Independence, OH www.neooug.org
01/20/2012	NEOOUG business meeting—Independence, OH www.neooug.org
05/14-18/2012	IDUG DB2 Tech Conference—Denver, CO www.idug.org
06/11-14/2012	Microsoft TechEd North America 2012—Orlando, FL http://northamerica.msteched.com
09/30-10/04/2012	Oracle Open World—San Francisco, CA www.oracle.com/openworld

Register for the meeting at www.neodbug.org/2_1/register.html