

## 2008 Symposium Abstracts & Bio

Title: ooRexx Group Therapy  
Presenter: Rick McGuire  
Abstract: A largely unstructured presentation designed to help attendees overcome object-phobia and better understand the benefits of the object-oriented approach to programming. Attendees should come prepared to ask questions (lots of questions!) about what they don't understand or find unsettling about object-oriented programming.

Title: Open Object Rexx Project Update  
Presenter: Rick McGuire  
Abstract: Update on the ooRexx project. A summary of what's been going on with the ooRexx project since the 2007 Symposium, including details on the 3.2.0 release and the progress on the 4.0 release targeted for later this year.

Title: ooRexx Internals  
Presenter: Rick McGuire  
Abstract: An informal tour of how the ooRexx code is structured and organized.

Title: New Features Available in ooRexx 3.2  
Presenter: Rick McGuire  
Abstract: An overview of many of the new features added in the last official release (3.2) of ooRexx.

Title: The ooRexx Incubator...Hatching Future Extensions  
Presenter: Rick McGuire  
Abstract: The ooRexx project has a number of projects in various stages of completion in its project incubator. Rick will give an overview of some of the projects in the works, including a new regular expression class, some XML classes, a RexxDoc generator, the CSVStream, and Rexx serialization support.

Title: A Proposed Decimal Formatter Class For ooRexx  
Presenter: Lee Peedin  
Abstract: After seeking input from the members of the RexxLA, Lee has put together a decimal formatter class. This presentation will demonstrate its purpose and ease of use.

- Title: A 21<sup>st</sup> Century Version of RexxTry  
Presenter: Lee Peedin  
Abstract: Using several not so well known features of ooRexx, Lee will demonstrate a GUI application that works very similar to the RexxTry that we've come to love and use over the years. ooRexxTry currently uses the ooDialog classes which means this is a "Windows only" utility; however, discussion will be held in regards to any desire that a cross platform GUI library be used.
- Title: Programming Internet Protocols in ooRexx  
Presenter: David Ashley  
Abstract: Using classes to encapsulate sockets, mime types and internet protocols like SMTP. It presents a set of classes that perform this task and some example programs.
- Title: RexxGTK  
Presenter: David Ashley  
Abstract: Programming a platform independent GUI applications with ooRexx on Linux and Windows.
- Title: The ooRexx 4.x APIs and creating extension classes in C++  
Presenter: David Ashley  
Abstract: Using the RexxGTK library as an example show and explain the new ooRexx 4.x C++ APIs.
- Title: An experimental INCLUDE facility for Rexx  
Presenter: Les Koehler  
Abstract: Les will present the rationale, requirements, development and results of his experimental INCLUDE function as applied to the four programs implementing Excel Automation that he presented last year in Tampa. This INCLUDE capability is low overhead and easily integrated with existing code, which is how it was developed. The presentation will show some of the pitfalls that were overcome and examine the execution time impacts.
- Title: DUMPVARS - A wrapper for SysDumpVariables  
Presenter: Les Koehler  
Abstract: Les will present his DUMPVARS function which is used to extend the syntax of SysDumpVariables to increase it's usability by automatically naming dump files to tie them to the program being executed, allowing multiple generations of dump files and providing a cleanup capability. The presentation will explain the syntax of DUMPVARS and the results of the various types of invocation.

Title: IEEE 754r arithmetic for Rexx  
Presenter: Mike Cowlshaw  
Abstract: The IEEE 754r revision committee has almost completed the task of adding decimal arithmetic to the IEEE 754 standard, derived from the decimal arithmetic currently in Rexx. In this talk, Mike will summarize the current Rexx arithmetic and the differences and enhancements in the IEEE draft standard and then make a concrete proposal for how this might be added to Rexx.  
URL: <http://www2.hursley.ibm.com/decimal>

Title: Startingo OO Design Parts 1 & 2  
Presenter: Gil Barmwater  
Abstract: This will be a 2 part “tutorial type” presentation where Gil will demonstrate and explain each part of the tutorial written by Jon Wolfers and housed in the ooRexx Wiki.

Title: SlickEdit Version 2008  
Presenter: Scott Westfall  
Abstract: At the invitation of the 2008 RexxLA Symposium Planning Committee, Mr. Westfall is scheduled to present an overview of this powerful programmer’s editor. As per <http://www.slickedit.com/>: At SlickEdit, our belief is that it’s the code that really matters. We are a company of power programmers working to develop the tools that power programmers demand, tools that provide the best editing capabilities to help you write your code the way you want. We take great pride in delivering unparalleled power, speed, and flexibility to our customers. Our goal is to remove the tedious tasks involved with programming, allowing you to focus on the reason you first got into programming: the thrill of writing great code.

Bio: Rick McGuire

Rick was the developer charged with integrating Mike Cowlshaw's original Rexx interpreter into VM/CMS back in 1982. From 1982 until 1995, Rick was IBM's lead architect for Rexx issues and principal developer of the Classic Rexx and Object Rexx interpreters for OS/2. Since 1995, Rick has been heavily involved in IBM projects involving programming languages, including 3 years as a member of IBM's Java Virtual Machine development team

Bio: Lee Peedin

Lee is Vice President of Research and Development at Safe Data, Inc. - a North Carolina corporation that specializes in providing both web and telephony data collection and dissemination services to the agriculture and home-care/hospice industries. Lee first used Rexx under OS/2 in 1997. Much of Lee's work involves the creation and use of external libraries and tools available to ooRexx - Rexx/SQL, Microsoft Office Automation with ActiveX/OLE, BSF4Rexx, and the RxVB.PrinterObject, an ActiveX dll that provides full printing capabilities to ooRexx on the Windows OS.

Bio: David Ashley

David is the project leader for the ooRexx Project. He works for IBM Lab Services as a System P consultant.

Bio: Les Koehler

Before his retirement from IBM after 37+ years, Les was an application and tools programmer. First at Research Triangle Park, NC and then with the "Special Planned Products" group that offered time-sharing computing from new facilities in Tampa after the Consent Decree expired. Les has presented at previous Symposiums many times, finally breaking out of the dinosaur age of foils and an overhead projector to using a PC at the 25th Annual Symposium in Germany in 2004.

Bio: Mike Cowlshaw

Mike Cowlshaw has worked in both hardware and software design and is the leader of the IBM decimal arithmetic initiative and the editor of the IEEE 754 standard. He has long been interested in the human aspects of computing, including the Rexx programming language, color perception, text processing, cognition, and decimal arithmetic. He is an IBM Fellow, a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering, and is a Visiting Professor in the Department of Computer Science at the University of Warwick. For more detail, google 'mike cowlshaw'

Bio: Gil Barmwater

Gil Barmwater is an independent computer consultant who has been using Rexx since it first became available within IBM more than 25 years ago. In addition to programming Rexx in the mainframe environment, he has been developing Rexx solutions on OS/2 and multiple versions of Windows for the past seven years. He currently serves as the Secretary/Treasurer of the Rexx Language Association and is a member of the Symposium Planning Committee.