

The Omni User



August 2011

Omni Technical Conference 2011 is the Final Salute to IBM Oakbrook!

Thanks to longtime Omni IBM Liaison **Joe Thompson**, Omni has hosted many great events over the last decade at IBM's beautiful Oakbrook Terrace training facilities. Another tenant is expanding to take the entire building, and IBM's suburban facilities will soon be consolidated into Schaumburg.

There's enough time for **one last great Omni event** in the IBM Oakbrook Terrace training facility on **Tuesday, September 13th**. Please join us for *your best value in IBM i on Power Systems education!*

Omni has assembled a stellar lineup of IBM i on Power Systems speakers, and a great group of sponsoring vendors will showcase their latest and greatest solutions. Get more details and register at <http://omniuser.org>

Speaker Highlights

Omni's Technical Conference keynote speaker is COMMON President **Pete Massiello!**



Pete will lead a closing keynote discussion "Skills Required Now and in The Future" and will also present educational sessions on Upgrading i5/OS to 6.1 or 7.1 and System Director Navigator Console.



COMMON Speaker Excellence Hall of Fame Member **Charlie Guarino** may be new to some Omni members, but not for long! Charlie's a COMMON board member and Subject Matter Expert, and a board

member and the monthly Q&A host at LISUG... the Long Island IBM i users group. Omni is thrilled to welcome Charlie to Omni & Chicagoland.



Enjoy a full day of RPG with **Scott Klement**. Scott will present advanced RPG sessions from one of Omni's favorites. ILE, Web Services, IFS, UDTs, UDFs, RPG web integration... wow!



IBMer **Dan Cruikshank** will bring the DB2 database sessions. SQL DDL, SQL with RPG/OA, SQL DML, Accessing Non-Relational data with SQL. Put your database to work!



Omni favorite **Larry Bolhuis** (the one & only Dr. Franken) returns to present sessions on Work Management, Advanced Work Management, and more Work Management... no, not the 3rd one, instead he'll get "Inside HMC / LPAR" before "Managing PTFs."

continued...

more **Technical Conference speakers...**
 other Omni technical conference speakers
 whose official bios and abstracts will soon be
 posted on the Technical Conference registration
 page...



Shay Howe of
 letscountthedayz will share his
 knowledge of HTML5 and
 CSS3 with Omni members
 thirsty to learn more about
 these leading-edge web
 technologies.



David Gibbs of PTC and
 midrange.com will present
 email Security and Eclipse
 Plug-In Development.
 These sessions are very
 interesting and have been
 very well received!



Longtime Omni board member
Jerome Hughes will present
 on Zend Building Blocks and
 building web apps with the
 Zend Framework, an open
 source PHP MVC web
 application framework.

Register now! <http://omniuser.org>

Technical Conference 2011 Vendor Sponsors



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A big Omni **thank you!** to our Technical
 Conference 2011 Vendor Sponsors... Please visit
 them in the Vendor Expo to discuss the great IBM i
 on Power Systems solutions they offer to help your
 business deal with the challenges it faces. While
 you're visiting, get your bingo card filled to enter the
 raffle drawing for Vendor prizes and the Technical
 Conference Grand Prize... an Apple iPad 2!



August Monthly Meeting

Wednesday August 17th

Image Catalogs: How They Changed My Life

Jeff Carey, SXC Health Solutions

Pompei
17W744 22nd St
Oakbrook Terrace IL

5:00 Registration and Networking

6:00 Dinner and Break

6:45 Business Meeting, Presentation, Q & A

Image Catalogs: How They Changed My Life!

Create your own virtual software distribution media! Stop working nights! Stay home on the weekend! Are you currently using image catalogs and virtual optical drives in IBM i? If not, find out why you should be! If you are, find out how to use them better! Upgrades can become a breeze, PTF's can easily be distributed across systems, and Linux software can be downloaded right from the web to IBM i! Starting in V5R1, IBM introduced the capability of creating virtual optical devices and media. See the impact this seemingly simple technology can have on the routine tasks. Not just for administrators!

Jeff Carey

is an IBM i professional with over 18 years experience on the platform. He currently works for SXC Health Solutions in Lisle, IL. He occasionally contributes articles to System i News. He has been a COMMON Speaker of Merit since 2005 and is a member of the COMMON Speaker Excellence Hall of Fame. He is President Omni User Board of Directors, Treasurer of COMMON and a member of Toastmasters. Follow him on Twitter at @i_jeffcarey

Dinner is ala carte (cafeteria style) for this meeting at Pompei. A wide range of delicious foods are offered.

[Pompei menu](#)

[Pompei specials](#)

Register now! <http://omniuser.org>



2nd Annual WMCPA and Omni User Group Golf Outing

by Cathy Kramer, Golf Chairperson

Who says you can't play Golf in 118 Degrees Heat Index? We proved that to be wrong!

The Second Annual WMCPA and OMNI User Group Golf Outing was held July 21st at Bonnie Brook Golf Course in Waukegan, Illinois.

Attendees came from as far North as Green Bay, Wisconsin and as far South as Indiana. We had a great turnout of 8 Teams-- 9 registered but 1 cancelled, probably due to the forecast of extreme heat.

The Golf Course was absolutely beautiful and the entire staff welcomed us and made us all feel like we were at a private golf club! We were very fortunate the facility was open as just one week prior to the outing, the course was damaged by storms in the area. The folks did an excellent job in cleaning up the course and we were all appreciative for the remaining trees that provided shade!

The Banquet Facility served a phenomenal BBQ of Pork and Chicken with many sides and a dessert table. The food was excellent!

This year the 1st place Team scored four under par.

The winning team members were...

Keith Anderson, Triplite

Jim Oberholtzer, Agile Technology Architects, LLC

John Boswell II, Partners Mutual

Tom Fitzgerald, Supreme-Systems

10 Contest Holes were Vendor sponsored. The winners...

Emily Teitz and Tom Fitzgerald – Straightest Drive

Ambrose Martin – Longest Drive Men Hole #9

Emily Teitz – Longest Drive Women Hole #2

Rex Smith – Closest to Pin Men

Carol Tietz – Closest to Pin Women

Emily Teitz – Longest Drive Women Hole #15

Ambrose Martin – Longest Drive Men Hole #14

We raffled off the two prizes for Hole #17, a very small circle on the green that no one seemed to place their ball in!

Thank you to our Sponsors...

CSDA ~ S4i Systems, Inc. ~ Best Consulting Services, Inc.

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Agile Technology Architects ~ Rodin/ Coglin Mill

Help/Systems ~ ServIT ~ Washburn Computer Consulting

Supreme Systems International ~ IBM Systems Magazine

Bobby's Golf Center ~ Pregis Corp.

Special Thanks to the Volunteers that helped make this day fun! Our Golf Committee... Cathy Kramer, Golf Outing Chair; Shane Poad, Sponsor Director & Photographer; James Buck, WMCPA President; Jerome Hughes & Matt Gross, OMNI Board; Bruce Guetzkow, Bruce Battersby, Chandra Krieg and Brian Rusch, WMCPA Board

Without your help and teamwork, these events would not succeed, Thank You!

note photo above by Shane Poad - an Omni team that tied for 2nd at 3 under par, L-R Jerome Hughes, Rex Smith, Floyd Del Muro, Bill Parks - more Shane Poad photos will appear before long (from his camera, he took this one with Jerome's)

Omni wins Maxava grant!



Thanks to Omni President Jeff Carey and the grant application he wrote, The Omni User is a winner of the Maxava iFoundation IBM i User Community Grant, which was established by Maxava to provide financial assistance to not-for-profit initiatives and organizations dedicated to growing and strengthening the IBM i community.

Initial funding of \$50,000 has been provided by Maxava to allow the foundation to offer grants of up to \$2,000 for each qualifying organization.

“Maxava is exclusively focused on the IBM i and is therefore very committed to the continuing success of the platform.” said Allan Campbell, CEO of Maxava. One of our main goals of the iFoundation is to encourage momentum and help the IBM i community continue to move forward. ”

COMMON Fall Conference...

St. Petersburg, Florida October 3-5

Mark your calendars and save the date for the 2011 COMMON Fall Conference & Expo, a conference event designed to satisfy the needs of the COMMON community.

This three-day Power Systems educational and networking event will be packed with over 100 educational sessions on a large variety of topics, including vendor-led sessions, and four pre-conference workshops.

As expected from all COMMON conferences, attendees will have the opportunity to further enhance their education through numerous networking events and meeting with leading solution providers in the tabletop-style expo.

find more at <http://www.common.org/>

“If the IBM i can regain momentum, it will certainly ensure enhanced prospects and security for the ISVs, customers and technical professionals that have, and will, build their businesses, environments and careers in the 400 bloodline.”

Launched in March and promoted at the recent COMMON 2011 Annual Meeting and Exposition in Minneapolis and at Common Europe in Milan, Italy, the Maxava iFoundation offers grants to interest groups for the general promotion and free exchange of knowledge, ideas, and skills related to IBM i. Applications for grants are welcomed from any not-for-profit organization helping to enhance the broader IBM i community in any part of the world.

The grants can be used to support activities such as, but not limited to, educational conferences and workshops, speaker expenses, marketing, educational collaboration with local colleges and universities.

A big Omni Thank You goes to Maxava!

find more at <http://www.maxava.com/news/ibm-i-user-community-grant-deadline-30-june/>

Omni wins COMMON Education Foundation Challenge!

Omni is proud to announce that we won the COMMON Education Foundation Challenge at the Spring COMMON in Minneapolis last May.

Our donation of an Apple iPad 2 garnered the largest silent auction donation, and so we'll be receiving some nice COMMON Education Foundation pens, which may be yet another reason to attend the August Dinner meeting, board meeting, or an upcoming Conference Committee meeting.

Many thanks from Omni to Michelle August of Moraine Valley Community College and the COMMON CEF for her tireless work promoting education with an IBM i on Power Systems curriculum!

find more at <http://www.common.org/index.php/ed-foundation.html>

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