

# Research Triangle Software Symposium

Marriott RTP

July 20 - 22, 2007

<http://www.nofluffjuststuff.com/sh/2007-07-raleighdurham>  
(event schedule as of July 21, 2007)

The No Fluff Just Stuff Java Symposium Series is proud to announce the return of the Research Triangle Software Symposium on July 20 - 22, 2007. RTSS 2007 will be held at the Marriott RTP.

Since 2002, the No Fluff Just Stuff Java Symposium has been regarded as the premier Java/Agility event series anywhere serving over 16,000 attendees with some 100 events. The popularity of the NFJS symposium series can be traced to the following:

- 1). Exceptional Speakers
- 2). Limited Attendance - capped at 250 people
- 3). No Vendors, No Sales Pitches, No Marketecture
- 4). Excellent networking opportunity with speakers and fellow attendees because of small size.
- 5). The Best Value in the Java conferencing space period.

The Research Triangle Software Symposium 2007 will offer 5 concurrent tracks with a total of 55 sessions to choose from with some of the topics including:

- 1). Groovy
- 2). Grails
- 3). OSGI
- 4). Domain Driven Design
- 5). Annotations
- 6). Java 6.0
- 7). REST
- 8). JRuby
- 9). Enterprise Ajax
- 10). JPA and many more!!

## **REGISTRATION:**

The registration fee includes a three day all access pass to RTSS 2007, all meals and snacks during the show, custom laptop NFJS bag, binder for handouts and CD with all presentation content.

**Early Bird Registration:** \$750/person good thru 7/2/07 after \$750

**Excellent Group Discounts Available** - bring your entire development team to the show - no travel required!! Rate good thru 7/2/07

## **Registration Fees**

Attendees	Before Jul. 2, 2007	After Jul. 2, 2007
5-9	\$675	\$750
10-14	\$650	\$725
15-24	\$625	\$700
25+	\$600	\$675

Go to <http://www.nofluffjuststuff.com/sh/2007-07-raleighdurham> and register today!

# Research Triangle Software Symposium

## -Session Schedule-

(event schedule as of July 21, 2007)

### Friday, Jul. 20

12:00 - 1:00 PM : REGISTRATION

1:00 - 1:15 PM : WELCOME

1:15 - 2:45 PM - Sessions

#### **Session #1 @ Salon A&B : Groovy: Greasing the Wheels of Java by Scott Davis**

This is the year of the dynamic scripting language. Ruby (and Rails) has won the hearts and minds of many independent software developers. JavaScript is experiencing a renaissance thanks to the wild success of AJAX and websites like Google Maps. And Groovy (JSR-241) brings the same level of excitement and "scripting goodness" to the Java platform.

#### **Session #2 @ Salon C : The Busy Java Developer's Guide to ClassLoaders by Ted Neward**

If you've ever gotten a ClassCastException and just knew the runtime was wrong about it, or found yourself copying .jar files all over your production server just to get your code to run, then you probably find the Java ClassLoader mechanism to be deep, dark, mysterious, and incomprehensible. Take a deep breath, and relax--ClassLoaders aren't as bad as they seem at first, once you understand a few basic rules regarding their operation, and have a bit more tools in your belt to diagnose ClassLoader problems. And once you've got that, and hear about ClassLoaders' ability to run multiple versions of the same code at the same time, and to provide isolation barriers inside your application, or even compile code on the fly from source form, you might just find that you like ClassLoaders after all... maybe.

#### **Session #3 @ Salon D : JavaScript for Ajax Programmers by Justin Gehrtland**

This presentation covers JavaScript from the perspective of an Ajax programmer. We assume that you may be using an Ajax toolkit, but still need to be able to read, modify, and test the JavaScript code in your application. You will learn the common idioms of JavaScript by looking at working code from the Ajax toolkits themselves.

#### **Session #4 @ Raleigh : Agile Immersion by David Hussman**

Have you heard about SCRUM or XP but never done it? If you want to give it a try, this session will allow you to participate in planning and executing several agile iterations. A working knowledge of either XP or SCRUM will be helpful but not mandatory.

#### **Session #5 @ Durham : Annotation Hammer by Venkat Subramaniam**

Annotation is an interesting feature in Java. However, like any features, there are good uses and bad uses. When should you use Annotation? This presentation will answer that question for you.

2:45 - 3:15 PM : BREAK

3:15 - 4:45 PM - Sessions

#### **Session #6 @ Salon A&B : Groovy and Java: The Integration Story by Scott Davis**

I'm attracted to Groovy because of its spirit of inclusiveness. Because it extends my platform of choice, not replaces it -- include a single JAR in your classpath and you are Groovy-enabled. Because it offers full bidirectional integration with Java. Because it offers a nearly flat learning curve for experienced Java developers. Come see how you can use Groovy to augment your existing Java codebase.

#### **Session #7 @ Salon C : The Busy Java Developer's Guide to Java Platform Security by Ted Neward**

Permissions, policy, SecurityExceptions, oh my! The Java platform is a rich and powerful platform, complete with a rich and powerful security mechanism, but sometimes understanding it and how it works can be daunting and intimidating, and leave developers with the basic impression that it's mysterious and dark and incomprehensible. Nothing could be further from the truth, and in this presentation, we'll take a pragmatic, code-first look at the Java security platform, including Permissions, the SecurityManager and its successor, AccessController, the Policy class and policy file syntax, JAAS, and more.

#### **Session #8 @ Salon D : Prototype: Ajax and JavaScript++ by Justin Gehrtland**

Learn to simplify Ajax development with Prototype through a series of real-world examples. Along the way, learn to code in Prototype's modern JavaScript style, taking advantage of Prototype's extensions to JavaScript's object model

#### **Session #9 @ Raleigh : Creating Agile Requirements by David Hussman**

Successful project communities balance written requirements with a healthy amount of discussion. This is at the core of requirements that could be deemed #agile#. Many agile projects choose to use user stories, but others may be using use cases or other forms of written requirements. This session is for anyone wanting to improve their requirements, including the creation of good requirement and the presentation styles that help people focus on creating great software products, and stop focusing on documents.

#### **Session #10 @ Durham : Java 6 Features, what's in it for you? by Venkat Subramaniam**

What benefit do new Java 6 features offer you. Are there issues with using these features. The objective of this presentation is not simply to introduce you to the features, but to the effective use of these as well.

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4:45 - 5:00 PM : BREAK

5:00 - 6:30 PM - Sessions

### **Session #11 @ Salon A&B : JavaServer Faces: A Whirlwind Tour by David Geary**

JavaServer Faces (JSF) has arrived. The standard Java-based web application framework based on Struts, JSF really took off in 2006. Embraced by developers, vendors, and open-source projects, JSF has hit its stride. If you haven't come up to speed on JSF basics, this is the place to start.

### **Session #12 @ Salon C : The Busy Java Developer's Guide to Debugging and Monitoring by Ted Neward**

Bugs? We all know your code has no bugs, but someday, you're going to find yourself tracking down a bug in somebody else's code, and that's when it's going to be helpful to make use of the wealth of tools that the Java Standard Platform makes available to you--tools that your IDE may not know exist, tools that you can make use of even within a production environment.

### **Session #13 @ Salon D : Real World Grails by Scott Davis**

Scott Davis is the Editor in Chief of aboutGroovy.com. The website, in addition to being, umm, about Groovy, is implemented in Grails. This talk shows you how to get started with Grails, but also talks about the experience of using it in a live, production web site.

### **Session #14 @ Raleigh : Executable Documentation by David Hussman**

Why is so much documentation worthless? Wouldn't it be nice if your documentation actually reflected what your system does? One way to do this is through executable documentation. If you are struggling with ambiguous requirements, lack of contact with the business, or a chasm between development and testing, this session is for you.

### **Session #15 @ Durham : OSGi: A Well Kept Secret by Venkat Subramaniam**

In this presentation we will introduce OSGi and discuss how it can help modularize and version your enterprise Java applications.

6:30 - 7:15 PM : DINNER

## **Saturday, Jul. 21**

8:00 - 9:00 AM : BREAKFAST

9:00 - 10:30 AM - Sessions

### **Session #16 @ Salon A&B : Enterprise Applications with Spring: Part 1 by Ramnivas Laddad**

This session (part 1 of the two-part session) shows the core concepts in the Spring Framework -- the most popular lightweight container that recently crossed 1 million downloads.

### **Session #17 @ Salon C : 10 Ways to Improve Your Code by Neal Ford**

No one writes perfect code, and every developer eventually falls into a slump where they just crank out the same code day after day. This session illustrates 10 different ways to improve your code, covering sacred cows, good citizens, smells, and more.

### **Session #18 @ Salon D : RAD JSF with Seam, Facelets, and Ajax4jsf, Part One by David Geary**

In this session, see how you can get Ruby On Rails-like productivity on the Java side of the house with this compelling combination of technologies.

### **Session #19 @ Raleigh : Drooling with Groovy and Rules by Venkat Subramaniam**

Rule based programming allows us to develop applications using declarative rules. These can simplify development in applications where such rules based knowledge is used for decision making.

### **Session #20 @ Durham : Getting Agile Planning and Tracking Up and Running by David Hussman**

If your company is using agile or thinking about it, this session will show you how to plan and tracking an agile project. Examples projects will be discussed, including the glory and horrors. Various planning tools that help distributed teams will be presented as well as a collection of lo-fi tools which truly help find and address the issue that plagues so many projects: #when are we going to complete this project#.

10:30 - 11:00 AM : BREAK

11:00 - 12:30 PM - Sessions

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### **Session #21 @ Salon A&B : Enterprise Applications with Spring: Part 2 by Ramnivas Laddad**

This session (the second part of the 2-part session) will cover advanced concepts in the Spring framework. While the core concepts in the first session will get you started with Spring, the advanced concepts in this session will make you effective at developing Spring-based applications.

### **Session #22 @ Salon C : Building DSLs in Static and Dynamic Languages by Neal Ford**

This session discusses building Domain Specific Languages and DSL-style code in Java, Groovy, and Ruby. It discusses the different types of DSLs, details on how to implement them in Java, Groovy, and Ruby, and example problem domains where DSLs make sense.

### **Session #23 @ Salon D : RAD JSF with Seam, Facelets, and Ajax4jsf, Part Two by David Geary**

A continuation of a 2-session presentation on Seam, Facelets, and Ajax4jsf.

### **Session #24 @ Raleigh : Everything Old Is New Again by Glenn Vanderburg**

The early years of computers -- the '50s and '60s -- were characterized by furious exploration of a huge variety of different ideas. Since then many of the hot topics of those days have moved to the fringe, largely ignored by the mainstream of software development. But some of them are being rediscovered, and a lot of what we think of as "new developments" are really just some old ideas returning to center stage.

### **Session #25 @ Durham : Cutting an Agile Groove: Agile Transition Tips by David Hussman**

If you are thinking about, just starting, or in the midst of transitioning to agile, this session is overflowing with practices, tip, techniques, and experiences. Stop talking about whether or not you are doing agile and come learn how to setup and maintain agility that extends beyond a single project.

12:30 - 1:30 PM : LUNCH

1:30 - 3:00 PM - Sessions

### **Session #26 @ Salon A&B : Introduction to Hibernate by Scott Leberknight**

This session introduces the Hibernate Object/Relational Mapping (ORM) framework, showing the basics of persisting Java objects to relational databases. No prior knowledge of Hibernate or ORM is assumed.

### **Session #27 @ Salon C : Domain Driven Design: Simplifying Enterprise Architecture by Ramnivas Laddad**

Domain-Driven Design (DDD) recommends dealing with complex software system using a domain model and preserving the model through implementation. A direct mapping between domain model and software artifacts creates simple to understand, inexpensive to implement, and easy to evolve systems. The DDD approach suggests ways to distill domain knowledge into a model and offers patterns to design and implement that model.

### **Session #28 @ Salon D : The Google Web Toolkit, Part One by David Geary**

Developing highly interactive web applications, for the most part requires knowledge of a wide array of technologies: HTML, CSS, JavaScript, XMLHttpRequest, JSP, JSF, etc. With the Google Web Toolkit (GWT), Google turns that notion of development on its head. Instead, you implement Ajax applications by writing almost entirely in Java. You use an AWT-like API, which the Google compiler compiles to JavaScript that runs on the client.

### **Session #29 @ Raleigh : Java Performance Myths by Brian Goetz**

Performance myths about the Java platform abound, from the general "Java is slow", to the more specific "reflection is slow", "allocation is slow", "synchronization is slow", "garbage collection is slow", etc. Many of these myths have their root in fact (in JDK 1.0, everything was slow); today, not only are many of these statements not true, but Java performance has surpassed that of C in many areas, such as memory management.

### **Session #30 @ Durham : Distributed Teams: Remote Agility by Jared Richardson**

How do you keep a team scattered across time zones in sync?

3:00 - 3:15 PM : BREAK

3:15 - 4:45 PM - Sessions

### **Session #31 @ Salon A&B : Advanced Hibernate by Scott Leberknight**

This session covers advanced Hibernate topics beyond simple object persistence including session management, object locking, detachment and versioning, lazy loading performance issues and query tuning, advanced O/R mapping support, legacy database considerations, and the Hibernate cache architecture.

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### **Session #32 @ Salon C : The Busy Java Developer's Guide to Reflection by Ted Neward**

If you've never used Reflection (`java.lang.reflect`), you don't know what you're missing. In this presentation, we'll take a code-first, soup-to-nuts look at the Java Reflection APIs, from how to examine the class metadata that Reflection provides, to using annotations to enhance that metadata with your own information, even through the use of Java Dynamic Proxies to create flexible object "interceptors" that can layer services in front of ordinary method calls with nothing more complicated than an interface and a factory.

### **Session #33 @ Salon D : The Google Web Toolkit, Part Two by David Geary**

The second part of a 2-session presentation on the Google Web Toolkit.

### **Session #34 @ Raleigh : Leveraging annotations with AOP by Ramnivas Laddad**

Specifying metadata using annotations has gained huge popularity since its introduction in Java 5. However, the story on consuming annotations isn't as clear. Reading and processing annotations is still a complex process often requiring you to understand byte-code manipulation tools and their low-level API. As a result, most developers shy away from using custom annotations, limiting their usages of annotations only those prescribed by frameworks. The result is missed opportunities for programming simplification. In this session, we explore how AOP can make it a simple task to consume annotations in a powerful manner.

### **Session #35 @ Durham : Build Teams, Not Products by Jared Richardson**

A great team builds great software, but how do you build a great team?

4:45 - 5:30 PM : BIRDS OF A FEATHER SESSIONS

## **Sunday, Jul. 22**

8:00 - 9:00 AM : BREAKFAST

9:00 - 10:30 AM - Sessions

### **Session #36 @ Salon A&B : Intro to Java Persistence API (JPA) by Mark Richards**

In addition to providing a simplified API, the new EJB3 specification (JSR-220) defines a standard ORM Java Persistence API (JPA) that is rapidly gaining in popularity. As you will see in this session, JPA bears a striking resemblance to popular ORM solutions like Hibernate and Toplink. In this session we will explore in detail the new Java Persistence API offered by JSR-220. We will start by discussing the overall design and architecture of the JPA and how the major components within JPA interact. We will then look at defining mapping objects (entities) and how to use the EntityManager to manage these entities. Through interactive coding examples we will investigate the pros and cons of detached entities and merging, how to map and use entity relationships (1-1, 1-N, N-1, and N-N), discuss Lazy Loading, and finally see how to use XML mappings rather than annotations. More advanced features of JPA will be covered in a separate session.

### **Session #37 @ Salon C : Implementing SOA by Neal Ford**

This talk avoids SOA hype and gets to the meat of the matter: how do you implement a Service-Oriented Architecture, what are the technological pitfalls, how do you test it, and what traps should you avoid. No marketecture: just implementation details.

### **Session #38 @ Salon D : Structuring concurrent applications in JDK 5.0 by Brian Goetz**

JDK 5.0 is a huge step forward in developing concurrent Java classes and applications, providing a rich set of high-level concurrency building blocks.

### **Session #39 @ Raleigh : JRuby by Justin Gehrtland**

JRuby is not one, but two great technologies: the Ruby language, and the Java Virtual Machine and libraries. In this talk you will learn the basics of programming JRuby, and how to integrate JRuby code into existing Java projects.

### **Session #40 @ Durham : Introducing Agility to Large Organizations by David Bock**

For several years, I was a member of a team of people caught in the middle of a 200+ person software development company, with senior management wanting "buzzword compliant process improvement" such as CMMI, and engineers wanting more "agile" solutions (and people on both sides confusing Agile with ad-hoc). We were responsible for sorting it all out. Reconciling this was a herculean effort, and can be a source of lessons learned for your own process improvement efforts. Are you trying to be more agile in your organization? Are you expecting it to be harder than it needs to be because of political and bureaucratic forces beyond your control? Do you have to "educate" your senior management to protect them from buzzwords? Come learn from my successes... and mistakes.

10:30 - 11:00 AM : BREAK

11:00 - 12:30 PM - Sessions

### **Session #41 @ Salon A&B : Advanced Java Persistence API (JPA) by Mark Richards**

This session picks up where the Intro to JPA session left off and covers some of the more advanced topics in the Java Persistence API. Some of the topics covered in this session include switching persistence providers, versioning, compound keys, entity inheritance, and finally handling both simple and complex stored procedures. Some knowledge of JPA is recommended for this session as I will not be

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covering the basics of JPA (that is covered in a separate Intro to JPA session). Through a combination of slides and interactive coding I will demonstrate these advanced topics using both Hibernate and Toplink JPA.

### **Session #42 @ Salon C : The Zen of REST by Scott Davis**

Google quietly deprecated their SOAP search API at the end of 2006. While this doesn't mean that you should abandon SOAP, it does reflect a growing trend towards simpler dialects of web services. Google joins a number of popular websites (Yahoo, Flickr, YouTube, del.icio.us) that offer all of the benefits of web services without all of the complexity of SOAP.

### **Session #43 @ Salon D : Effective Concurrent Java by Brian Goetz**

The Java programming language has turned a generation of applications programmers into concurrent programmers through its direct support of multithreading. However, the Java concurrency primitives are just that: primitive. From them you can build many concurrency utilities, but doing so takes great care as concurrent programming poses many traps for the unwary.

### **Session #44 @ Raleigh : Rails for JRuby by Neal Ford**

This session explains all the hype surrounding Ruby on Rails, in a context familiar to Java developers. It covers convention over configuration, ActiveRecord, controllers, views, Ajax, scaffolding, testing, and deployment...on the JVM, using JRuby.

### **Session #45 @ Durham : get Fit by Venkat Subramaniam**

Unit testing tells you, the programmer, that your code (and the change) meets your expectations. How do you know if you are meeting your customers' expectations? Agile development is all about feedback and doing what's relevant to the customers, isn't it? Framework for Integration testing or Fit helps you to automate tests for customer expectations.

12:30 - 1:15 PM : LUNCH

1:15 - 2:15 PM : EXPERT PANEL DISCUSSION

2:15 - 3:45 PM - Sessions

### **Session #46 @ Salon A&B : Getting Started with Grails by Jason Rudolph**

Grails is an open-source web application framework that's all about getting things done. Grails combines best-of-breed Java technologies (including Hibernate and Spring), convention over configuration, and the powerful and dynamic Groovy language. Together with these elements and Groovy's ability to seamlessly integrate with your existing Java code, Grails finally legitimizes rapid web application development for the Java platform.

### **Session #47 @ Salon C : The Java Memory Model by Brian Goetz**

What's the worst thing that can happen when you fail to synchronize in a concurrent Java program? Its probably worse than you think -- modern shared-memory processors can do some pretty weird things when left to their own devices.

### **Session #48 @ Salon D : Internationalization and Localization in Java by David Bock**

Internationalization and Localization in Java is easy, right? Everyone knows you just store your strings in some resource bundles, set the locale, wave your hands a little bit, and your application is good-to-go. Right? Maybe not... Java provides some great utilities to get started, but leaves you needing more when it comes to things like screen layout, cultural sensitivities, semantic differences in translation, use of color and iconography, and other issues.

### **Session #49 @ Raleigh : EJB3 Core Specification (JSR-220) by Mark Richards**

The new EJB 3 specification (JSR-220) offers some great improvements over the prior EJB specs in terms of development simplicity and new features. In this session we will discuss why EJB is still important, and explore in detail some of the new features of the core EJB 3 specification. Included in this session will be defining and accessing session beans, JTA transaction management, declarative security, and interceptors. For those of you who still like to code in XML, I will also discuss and show how we can use XML rather than annotations within EJB3. During the session I will demonstrate the new features of EJB 3 through interactive coding examples. Note: this session does not cover the new Java Persistence API (JPA) - that topic is covered in separate JPA sessions.

### **Session #50 @ Durham : Metrics-driven Agile Development by Neal Ford**

Agile software development is a highly disciplined way to build software, and one of the side effects of this discipline is the ability to gather meaningful metrics. This session describes what makes agility perfectly suited to metrics gathering and what kinds of real-world metrics you can generate.

3:45 - 4:00 PM : BREAK

4:00 - 5:30 PM - Sessions

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### **Session #51 @ Salon A&B : Advanced Domain Models in Grails: Enterprise Integration Made Easy by Jason Rudolph**

Have you seen someone develop a Rails or Grails application in a matter of minutes, only to later discover that their domain model and database schema followed conventions that are different from your existing systems? Or perhaps you're interested in using Grails, but you don't want to duplicate your existing Java domain classes in Groovy. In this session, we'll see how Grails makes it easy to hook into your pre-defined schemas or existing entity classes, while still getting all the rapid application development (RAD) goodness that Grails has to offer.

### **Session #52 @ Salon C : Making The Right Persistence Framework Choice by Mark Richards**

Java Persistence has come a long way in the past 4 years. We have many viable options available now, including JPA, Hibernate, iBATIS, Toplink, and OpenJPA. With so many options available now it is difficult to know when to use which framework. In this session we will focus on native Hibernate, JPA, and the iBATIS framework, and discuss the main strengths and weaknesses of each approach and what the decision criteria is for using each of these frameworks. Knowing that it is not a one-size-fits-all situation when it comes to Java Persistence, through interactive coding we will take a look at how to use iBATIS together with native Hibernate or JPA and when this makes sense. By attending this session you will gain the knowledge necessary to make informed decisions about which Java Persistence Framework to choose for your current or next Java-based application.

### **Session #53 @ Salon D : Maintaining Project Integrity with JDepend, Macker, PMD, Maven, and other open source tools by David Bock**

How many times have you started a new project only to find that several months into it, you have a big ball of code you have to plod through to try to get anything done? How many times have you been the ?new guy? on an established project where it seems like the code grew more like weeds and brambles than a well-tended garden? With a few good structural guidelines and several tools to help analyze the code, we can keep our project from turning into that big ball of mud, and we can salvage a project that is already headed down that path.

### **Session #54 @ Raleigh : Power Regular Expressions in Java by Neal Ford**

Regular expressions should be an integral part of every developer's toolbox, but most don't realize how important it is. Regular expressions have existed for decades, but many developers don't understand how to take full advantage of this powerful mechanism, either through command line tools and editors or in their development.

### **Session #55 @ Durham : Shippers Unite! by Jared Richardson**

An overview of the Agile software approach from the book Ship It! A Practical Guide to Successful Software Projects.