

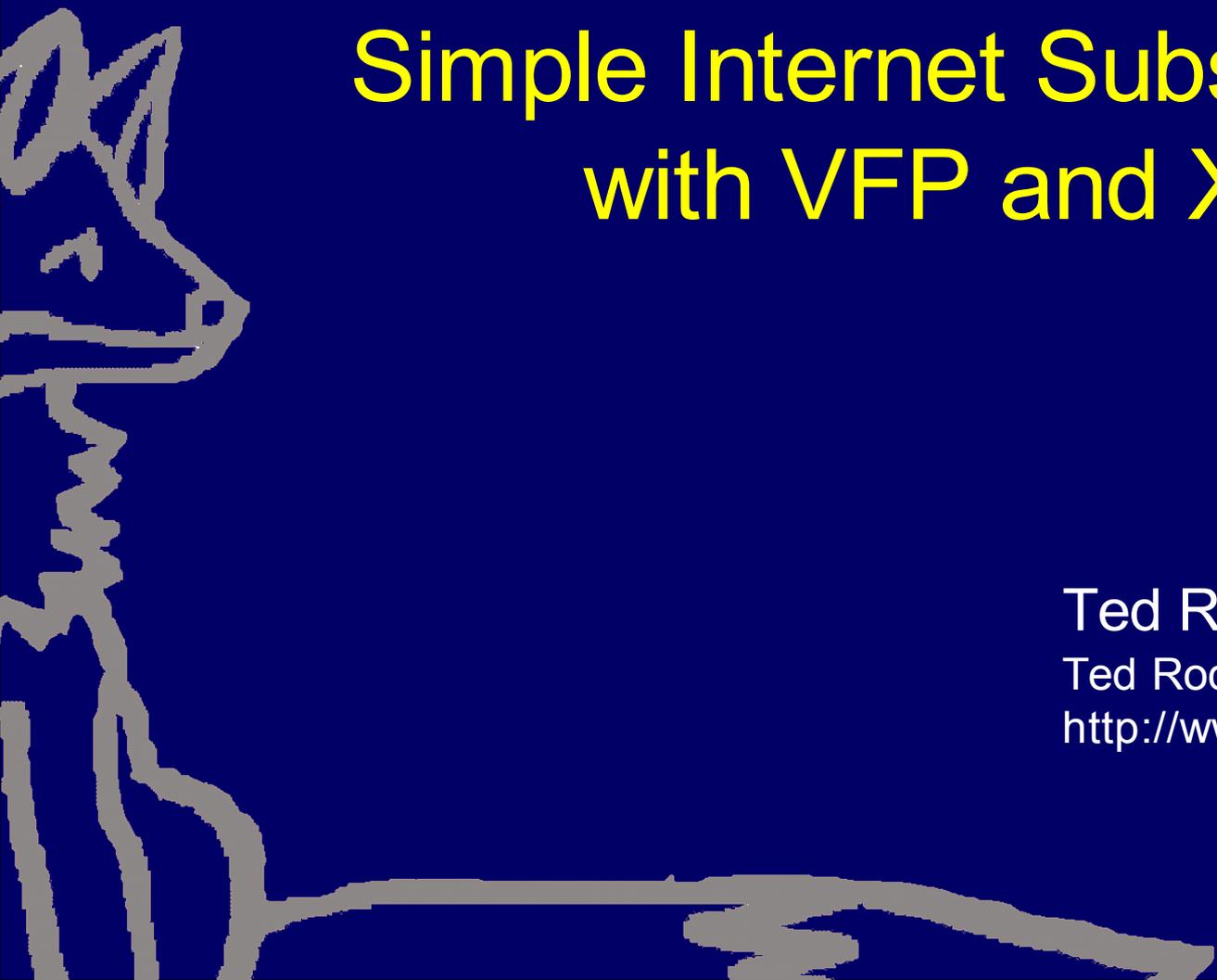
Session 34

# Simple Internet Subscriptions with VFP and XML

Ted Roche

Ted Roche & Associates, LLC

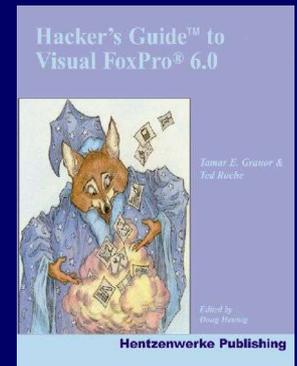
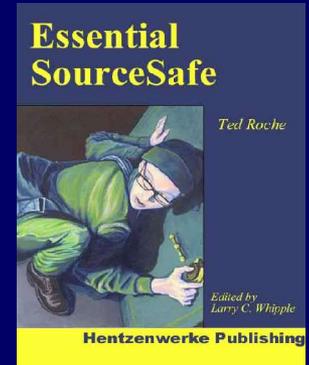
<http://www.tedroche.com>





# Who Am I?

- Independent Consultant
- Software developer & mentor
- Author: HackFox, SourceSafe
- MCSE and MCSD  
(wrote 1/2 VFP Dist. exam)
- 8-time Microsoft MVP '94-'02



# Agenda

- What's all this about blogging and news aggregators?
- What is RSS and how does it work?
- How do we consume and create RSS in VFP?



# Blogging

- Not just people's diary about their cats and their problems
- Journals of leading industry figures, project leaders and technologists
- Also, RSS news feeds from nearly all major publications, and links



# RSS, Subscriptions, Aggregators and Blogging

- Easy way to describe documents
- Lightweight update notification
- News providers can post news
- Aggregators can skim content changes, detect phrases of interest
- **DEMO**



# RSS History

- Started with RDF, pre-XML  
Resource Description Format
- My.Netscape.com portal  
RDF Site Summary (RSS)
- MSFT: Channel Descriptor Format
- Portal failed, but subscriptions  
continue



# RSS Versions 0.9x, 1.0, 2.0

- What's the difference?
- 0.9x Netscape portal derived
- Dave Winer, UserLand 0.91-0.94
- 1.0 IETF Working Document
  - RDF-based, namespace support
- 2.0 Ad-hoc, real-world
  - Namespace?, single vendor



# RSS 2.0 Document Structure

XML declaration

RSS Item – topmost, outer

Channel

Image

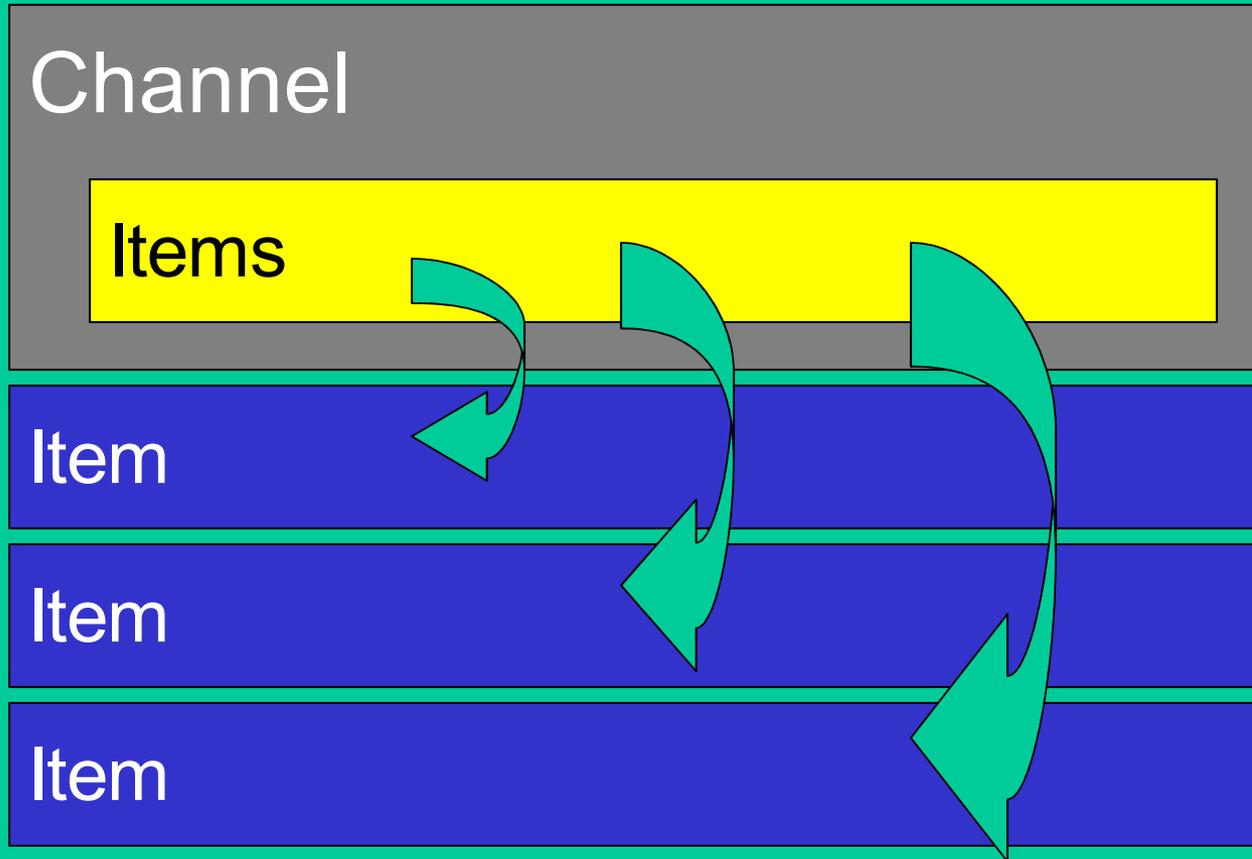
TextInput

Item

Item

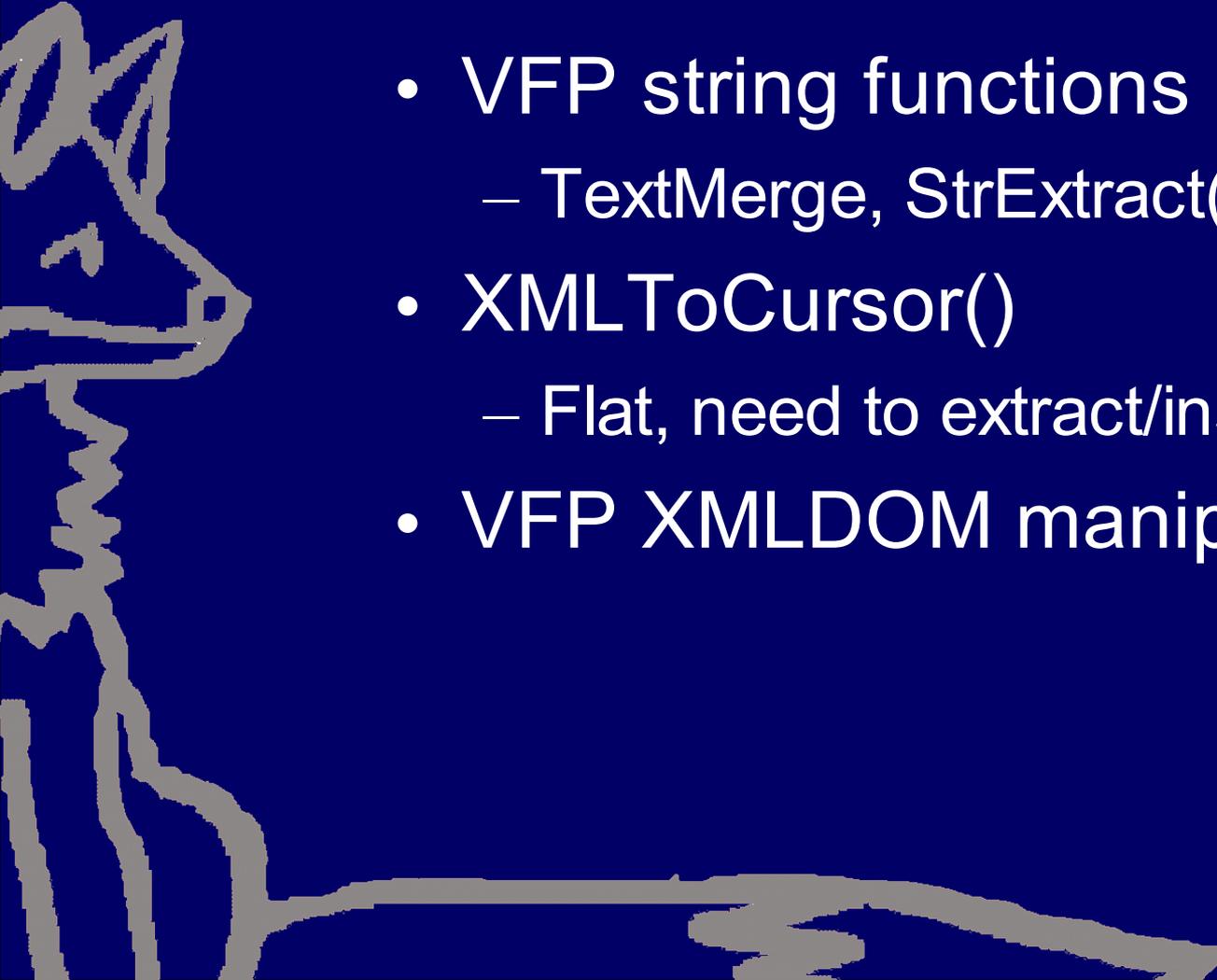
# RSS 1.0 Document Structure

RDF envelope



# How to read and write RSS

- VFP string functions
  - TextMerge, StrExtract()
- XMLToCursor()
  - Flat, need to extract/insert
- VFP XMLDOM manipulations

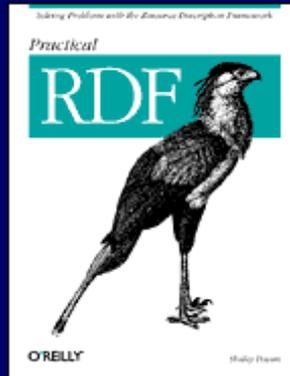


# Demo

- View an RSS document
- Demo of blogging
- News aggregation
- Generate an RSS Feed
- Consume an RSS Feed



# More Resources



# GLGDW Web Update Page

[www.hentzenwerke.com](http://www.hentzenwerke.com)

This session will/will not have web updates.





# Thank you!

Please remember to fill  
out your evaluation.