

# They're Back!



## Modern tools for developing static sites.

Brian Rinaldi - @remotesynth

# Who Am I?



## I'm from Boston

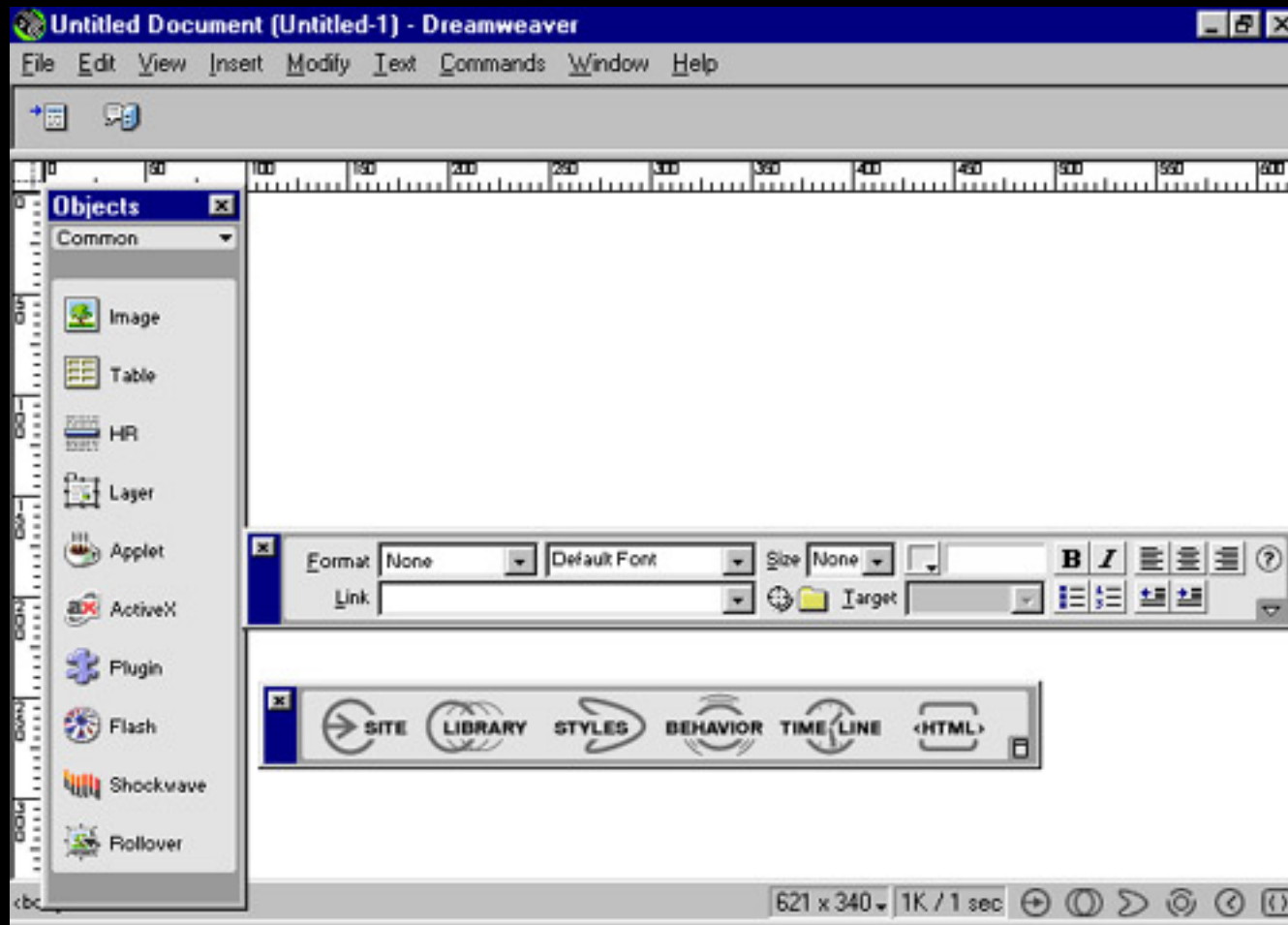
# Who Am I?



I'm a Content & Community Manager at Telerik

Background

# The Early Days





# The Early Days



# Content Manage All the Things!



# Content Manage All the Things!

**System information**: Monday, July 14, 2003 (195) - 9:00:53 PM (75%) - RAM 306.4 MB (511.5 MB)

**Board bar**: each board is a set of columns

**User logo**

**Active column**

The fixed attribute determines how the column content moves to left / right

Thumbs are displayed when the "Thumb" is pressed

Inactive file

Files are sorted by type: directories, links, programs, documents

Active file

Media player

File viewer: text, pictures, movies

Drag up or down to change the height of the viewer

Information about active partition, directory, file, link target

File size = 3.3 MB

Files 25 Encrypted 0 SelNum 0 SelSz 0 B TotalSz 3.5 MB PartSz 6.8 GB(30.4 GB) PartAttr CEQRp55f

Index 13 Sz 1.6 KB (0 B) Attr A HL 1 SC 0 Title E:\Program Files\FileMatrix\Edit.Ink Mod Sunday, May 18, 2003 (138); 11:28:58 PM (84)

Desc "The target program is used by the "Edit" function"

Type P Sz 196.0 KB (0 Attr A Title E:\Program Files\Windows NT\Accessories\wordpad.ex Mod Thursday, August 2

Locate Search Recycle Delete Close viewer MPL Options 30 3 3 3 3 6 Name High

Current file "E:\Program Files\FileMatrix\Edit.Ink". [Double LMB] = Run ([Ctrl] = automove to left; [Shift] = autoopen to right; [Alt] = autohold). [RMB] = View. [MMB] = Edit. [LMB + Drag] = File-drag menu. [RMB + Drag] = Set with source path. Drag

Set the number of columns, for each board

Set the height of thumbs

Quickly change to a new set of colors

**Toolbar**

The hint bar shows hints for controls over which the mouse is moved



# How are Static Site Engines Different?

- Manage content and data with no databases
- Easy to customize (templating support)
- Extensible tooling (plugins)
- Ease of authoring (Markdown, HTML, etc.)
- Simple build and deployment processes

# Dynamic Content

- Comments (Disqus)
- Forms/Feedback (Wufoo, Google)
- Calendars (Google)
- Data (Parse.com, Telerik Backend Services)

<http://modernweb.com/2013/12/16/moving-to-static-and-keeping-your-toys/>

These Tools are Built for Developers

# How I'm Evaluating

- Documentation
- Getting Started/Setup
- Language Support
- Templating (using defaults)
- Creating Content
- Dynamic/custom data
- Extensibility
- Project Health assessment

# 384 Existing Static Site Engines\*



Source: <https://staticsitegenerators.net/>

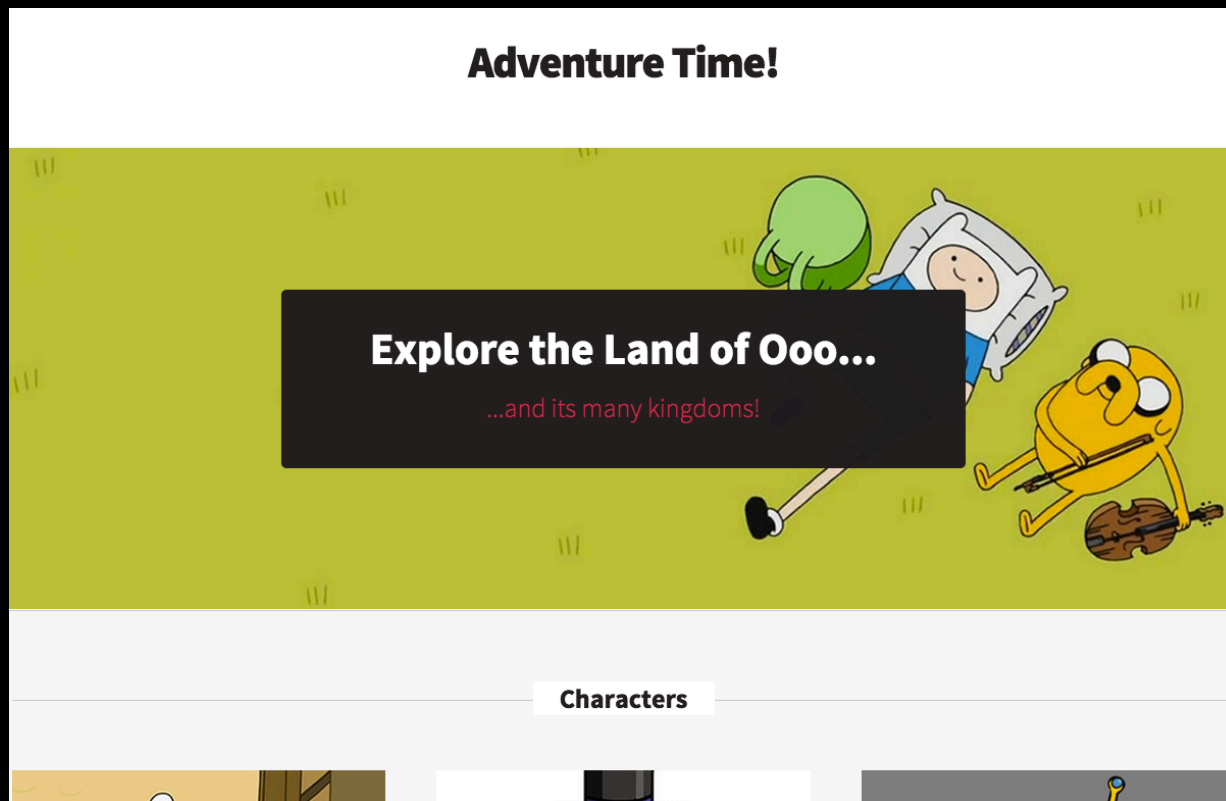


Let's Get Started

# Our Sample Project

Available on GitHub at:

<https://github.com/remotesynth/Static-Site-Samples>



# Which Engines We'll Review



*harp*

# Getting Started





# Getting Started

- Ruby-based

```
> sudo gem install jekyll
```

- No official Windows support  
(but a workaround is available)





# Getting Started

- Create a new project:

```
> jekyll new projectname
```

- Start the server  
(automatically watches for changes):

```
> cd projectname  
> jekyll serve
```



# Templating & Content

- Liquid template engine:  
<https://github.com/Shopify/liquid/wiki>
- Markdown (with YAML front-matter)
- Other options are available as plugins



# Custom Data

- YAML Front Matter
  - Global and/or per Post
  - Custom Variables
- Data files support: YAML, JSON, CSV



# Overview

Overall:	
Getting Started	
Templating & Content	
Custom Data	
Documentation	
Extensibility	
Language Support	

# Which Engines We'll Review



*harp*



# Getting Started





# Getting Started

- Ruby-based

```
> sudo gem install middleman
```

- Works on Windows with [RubyInstaller](#)



# Getting Started

- Create a new project:

```
> Middleman init projectname
```

- Add LiveReload to Gem file

```
gem "middleman-livereload", "~> 3.3.0"
```

- Activate LiveReload in the config.rb

```
activate :livereload
```

- Install the bundle and start the server

```
> Bundle install  
> middleman
```



# Getting Started

- Create a new blog project:

```
> middleman init MY_BLOG_PROJECT --template=blog
```

- Generate an article

```
middleman article TITLE
```



# Templating & Content

- Erb Templating (a Ruby standard library):  
<http://ruby-doc.org/stdlib-2.2.0/libdoc/erb/rdoc/>
  - Middleman also ships with support for the Haml, Sass and CoffeeScript
- Markdown (with YAML or JSON front matter)
- Other options are available as plugins



# Custom Data

- Set Variable in config.rb (global)
- YAML Front Matter (per post)
  - Custom Variables
- Data files support: YAML or JSON



# Overview

Overall:	
Getting Started	
Templating & Content	
Custom Data	
Documentation	
Extensibility	
Language Support	



# Which Engines We'll Review



*harp*

# Getting Started

*harp*



# Getting Started

- JavaScript-based

```
> sudo npm install -g harp
```



# Getting Started

- Create a new project:

```
> harp init projectname
```

- Use a boilerplate

```
> harp init projectname -b harp-boilerplates/hb-blog
```

# *harp* Templating & Content

- Jade templating
  - EJS, Sass, LESS, CoffeeScript also supported
- Posts/Pages can be Markdown (GitHub flavored Markdown) or Jade
- JSON metadata required
  - Separate file: `_data.json`
  - Supports custom variables










## Custom Data

- In JSON via `_data.json` file
  - Global or per post/page

# *harp*

## Overview

Overall:	
Getting Started	
Templating & Content	
Custom Data	
Documentation	
Extensibility	
Language Support	

# My Feelings About Jade







# Overview

Overall:	
Getting Started	
Templating & Content (with EJS)	
Custom Data	
Documentation	
Extensibility	
Language Support	

# Deployment

- As static pages to any web server
- GitHub pages
- Google Cloud Storage
- Azure
- Heroku
- Amazon S3
- Harp Platform

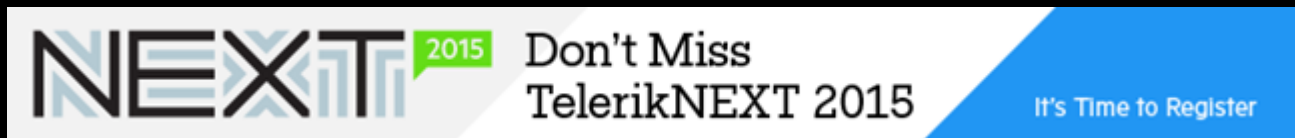
# Repo, Article & Resources

- Article (covers Jekyll, Harp and Roots)
  - <http://developer.telerik.com/featured/comparing-static-site-engines/>
- Slides and Samples
  - <https://github.com/remotesynth/Static-Site-Samples>
- Useful Lists
  - <https://staticsitegenerators.net/>
  - <http://www.staticgen.com/>

# Contact Info

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# Questions?

