

Craig Buchek

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Summary

- Agile player/coach, specializing in helping teams improve the way they work - both their processes and their technical practices.
- Software developer with 20 years of IT experience.
- Experienced Ruby on Rails web developer with strong DevOps skills.

Highlights

- Helped several teams improve their processes and technical skills.
- Built web sites in Ruby on Rails for several different companies.
- Mentored developers in Agile methodologies and Java programming, in order to bring developer jobs back to the USA.
- Implemented method of automatically configuring cable modems for a large Internet Service Provider, with approximately 20,000 cable modem customers per site.
- Consistently active member of local developer communities.
- Co-host of This Agile Life podcast.

Technical Expertise

- **Programming languages:** Ruby, JavaScript, UNIX shell, Python, Java, PHP, C, C++
- **Web development:** HTML/CSS, JavaScript/AJAX, Ruby on Rails, jQuery, XML/XSLT
- **Development practices:** Agile methodologies (XP, Kanban, Lean, Scrum), test-driven development (TDD), behavior-driven development (BDD), pair programming, continuous integration, source control, configuration management (Ansible), deployment automation
- **Development tools:** Git, RSpec, Capybara, Cucumber, Selenium, Capistrano
- **Operating systems:** GNU/Linux (Debian, Ubuntu, Red Hat), Mac OS X, Windows
- **Network services:** Web servers (Apache, Nginx), Web proxies (HAProxy, Squid), Email (Postfix), file services (Windows, Novell, Samba, NFS), DNS (BIND), LDAP (OpenLDAP)

Conferences

- RubyConf - 2014 (presenter), 2015 (presenter), 2016 (presenter)
- RailsConf - 2007, 2008, 2010, 2014, 2015 (presenter), 2016
- Agile Alliance Technical Conference - 2017 (presenter)
- Madison+ Ruby - 2015 (presenter)
- Windy City Rails - 2015
- Midwest Ruby Conference - 2011
- Strange Loop - 2011, 2012, 2013, 2015
- RacketCon - 2015, 2016
- Elm-Conf - 2016

Professional Experience

Engineering Manager (Acting) / Software Engineer at CenturyLink Cloud (2015 - present)

- Managed a team of 6 implementing WordPress as a cloud service.
 - Improved team performance from 17 to 60 "points".
- Managed a team of 14 deploying management of Cloud Foundry clusters. (Java)
- Developed a monitoring system as a cloud service. (Sensu, Ruby, Docker)
- Helped teams improve their Agile practices.

Consultant / Software Engineer at Mercy (2014 - 2016)

- Helped to rewrite a patient portal for hospitals. (Node, Java, Angular)
- Maintained legacy patient portal application through its end-of-life. (Rails)
- Wrote application to help patients find local doctors by specialty. (Java, Spring Roo)
- Helped teams improve their Agile practices.

Sr. Software Developer at Liaison International (2013 - 2014)

- Worked to improve a large complex Ruby on Rails application.
 - Increased test coverage.
 - Reduced technical debt.
 - Re-architected several components.
- Helped transform a team to employ Agile practices to increase performance.
 - Implemented retrospectives, pair programming, TDD, refactoring, continuous integration, code reviews.
 - Mentored them to improve their Ruby skills.

Cloud Engineer at Express Scripts (2012 - 2013)

- Worked on a team building an internal cloud infrastructure.
 - Automated deployment of Java applications to cloud servers.
- Developed web interface to view information about web applications deployed to the cloud. (Python)
- Helped existing projects modify their practices to deploy their applications to the cloud.
- Acted as liaison to coordinate with other groups to push the company toward the strategic goal of utilizing the cloud infrastructure.

Sr. Software Developer at Asynchrony Solutions (2010 - 2012)

- Designed, implemented, and deployed large-scale web applications for several companies.
 - Social networking and data gathering site for patients with type 1 diabetes. (Rails)
 - Provisioned load-balanced servers for 200,000 concurrent users.
 - Assisted with system administration and configuration management tasks.
 - Asset management system for a large company (12 million digital assets). (Java)
 - Developed, maintained, and documented APIs for several mobile client applications. (Rails)
- Practiced Agile/Lean methodologies: pair programming, Kanban, acceptance testing, TDD, BDD, refactoring, continuous integration, retrospectives.
- Traveled to and consulted at a large corporation (7000 employees) to teach their developers how to implement Agile practices.

- Implemented pair programming, Kanban, TDD, refactoring, continuous integration.
- Mentored them to improve their Java skills.
- Installed and used Cucumber-JVM, Selenium, Jenkins, JUnit, Eclipse.
- Adopted architectural practices more amenable to large-scale use with Rails.
- Utilized cutting-edge technologies with Ruby on Rails:
 - MongoDB/Mongoid, Elasticsearch/Tire, Devise, HAML, SASS, Spine, CoffeeScript, Capybara, Cucumber, RSpec, Jasmine

Consultant / Web Developer at BoochTek, LLC (2006 - present)

- Provided consulting services to companies implementing and upgrading web sites.
- Provided guidance on technical and process improvements.
- Designed and implemented web applications for several companies.
 - Social networking hub, integrated with other social networking sites. (Rails)
 - Management system to track tutoring sessions. (Rails)
 - Conversion of Access application for aggregating feedback forms. (Rails)
 - Online sales quote system. (Rails)
 - Web forms for non-profit companies. (PHP)
- Provided bug fixes and feature updates to existing web applications.
 - Reduced code size and complexity to simplify on-going site maintenance.
- Developed bug tracking and feature request procedures and sites for customers.
- Developed source code revision control and deployment best practices to easily add features to production sites, with ability to back out changes quickly if necessary.

Community Involvement

- Co-host of This Agile Life podcast
- Founder of STL Elm User Group
- Co-founder of St. Louis chapter of PLIBMTTBHGATY
- Active member of St. Louis Ruby Users Group
- Active member of St. Louis GNU/Linux Users Group
 - Chairman, 2001 - 2014
- Active member of St. Louis UNIX Users Group
 - Board of Directors, 2001 - 2004, 2007 - 2013
 - Secretary, 2004 - 2015
- Mentor for Roy Clay Sr. Tech Impact program

Education and Training

- Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology (Terre Haute, IN) - Computer Science major
- Pragmatic Programmers Advanced Rails - 2007
- Strange Loop
 - Hadoop - 2012
 - Idris - 2015
 - Elixir Phoenix - 2015