

Summary

- Software engineer with over 25 years of industry experience.
- Agile player/coach, focused on improving how teams work - both their processes and their technical practices.
- Experienced Ruby on Rails web developer with strong DevOps skills.

Highlights

- Team lead, improving team processes and technical skills.
- Mentored developers in Agile methodologies and Java programming.
- Consistently active member of local developer communities.
- Frequent speaker at conferences and local user groups.

Professional Experience

Principal Software Engineer at Binary Noggin (2019 - 2021)

- Built web back-end to manage electronic poll books and aggregate data.
- Guided development team to make improvements to processes and technical practices.
 - Agile practices: retrospectives, TDD, pair programming, Kanban.
- Improved application performance, in preparation for traffic spike due to presidential election.
 - Added telemetry/metrics to track performance.
 - Optimized MySQL queries and indexes.
 - Employed background jobs and batching.
 - Tuned Kubernetes settings for scaling pods to meet load demands.
 - Implemented load shedding.
- Upgraded application from Rails 4.2 to 6.0.
- Automated infrastructure build-out.

Tech Stack: Ruby, Rails, Sidekiq, RSpec, jQuery, Kubernetes, AWS, Terraform

Sr. Software Developer at Ghost Management Group (2019)

- Built web app for a retail marketplace in a fast-growing industry.
 - Management of retailers and products.
 - Categorization and tagging of products.
- Implemented and consumed APIs within a complex service-oriented architecture.
- Promoted Agile practices within team.

Tech Stack: Ruby, Rails, Grape, RSpec, Sidekiq, CoffeeScript, jQuery

Sr. Software Developer at F5 Networks (2017 - 2019)

- Developed web app for network services (load balancers, proxies, DDoS prevention).
- Upgraded web app to Rails 5.0.
- Promoted Agile practices within team.

Tech Stack: Ruby, Rails, Ansible, Nginx, Sidekiq, CoffeeScript, Vue.js

Engineering Manager, Software Engineer at CenturyLink Cloud (2015 - 2017)

- Managed a team of 6, implementing WordPress as a cloud service.
 - Boosted team productivity from 17 to 60 "points".
- Managed a team of 14, deploying Cloud Foundry clusters.
- Built a monitoring system for cloud servers.
- Promoted Agile practices within teams.

Tech Stack: Ruby, Sensu, Grape microservices, Docker, Ansible, Nginx, Bash, Kubernetes, RabbitMQ

Consultant, Software Engineer at Mercy (2014 - 2016)

- Contributed to rewrite of hospital system's patient portal.
- Maintained legacy patient portal through its end-of-life.
- Wrote application for patients to find doctors by specialty.
 - Developed in 5 weeks, on time and on budget.
- Championed efforts to improve teams' Agile practices.
 - Assessed existing practices, recommended and implemented process improvements.

Tech Stack: Ruby, Rails, Node, Angular, Java, Spring Roo, CoffeeScript

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

- Improved and re-architected a complex application.
 - Increased test coverage and reduced technical debt.
- Promoted Agile transformation efforts to increase team performance.
 - Instituted retrospectives, pair programming, TDD, refactoring, continuous integration, code reviews.
 - Mentored teammates to improve their Ruby skills.

Tech Stack: Ruby, Rails, RabbitMQ, RSpec, Capybara, PostgreSQL, HAML, jQuery, Resque

Cloud Engineer at Express Scripts (2012 - 2013)

- Built an internal cloud infrastructure, automating deployment of Java applications.
- Developed web interface to view information about web applications deployed to the cloud.
- Coordinated with other development groups to advance the company toward the strategic goal of utilizing the cloud infrastructure.

Tech Stack: Python, Java, Bash shell, F5 load balancers

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

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

Tech Stack: Ruby, Rails, MongoDB, Elasticsearch, Devise, HAML, SASS, Spine, CoffeeScript, Capybara, Cucumber, RSpec, Jasmine, Java, Cucumber-JVM, Selenium, Jenkins, JUnit

Consultant at BoochTek, LLC (2006 - present)

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

Tech Stack: Ruby, Rails, RSpec, PHP, jQuery

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

Community Involvement

- STL Tech Slack - Co-admin
- STL Ruby - Co-organizer
- STL Polyglots - Co-founder
- This Agile Life podcast - Co-host (2013-2019)
- Roy Clay Sr. Tech Impact program - Instructor, Mentor
- STL Elm - Founder
- STLLUG - Chairman (2001-2014)
- SLUUG - Board of Directors (2001-2004, 2007-2013), Secretary (2004-2015)

Conferences

- RubyConf - 2014 (presenter), 2015 (presenter), 2016 (presenter), 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020
- RailsConf - 2007, 2008, 2010, 2014, 2015 (presenter), 2016, 2018 (presenter), 2019 (presenter)
- Agile Alliance Technical Conference - 2017 (presenter)
- Madison+ Ruby - 2015 (presenter)
- Southeast Ruby - 2018, 2019
- Windy City Rails - 2015
- Midwest Ruby Conference - 2011
- Strange Loop - 2011, 2012, 2013, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018
- RacketCon - 2015, 2016, 2018
- Elm-Conf - 2016, 2017, 2018
- Elm Europe - 2017