CRAIG BUCHEK

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Summary

- Software developer with over 20 years of IT experience.
- Agile practitioner, with a focus 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, in order to bring developer jobs back to the USA.
- Consistently active member of local developer communities.
- Co-host of This Agile Life podcast.
- Frequent conference speaker.

Professional Experience

Sr. Software Developer at Ghost Management Group (2019)

- Built web app for a retail marketplace in a 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 provider directory 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 on 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 on 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.
- 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.
- Adopted architectural practices more amenable to large-scale use with Rails.

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

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

- Consulting services, implementing and upgrading web sites.
- Guided companies with 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 on 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 Ruby - Co-organizer
- STL Polyglots - Co-founder
- This Agile Life podcast - Co-host
- 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
- 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