

William Desmarais

Entrepreneurial ruby developer and team leader

about

419 S Main St
Andover, MA 01810

wickbill@yahoo.com
lnkdin.me/bdesmarais

+1.978.809.2597

programming

Ruby, JavaScript, C++
Rails, CSS3, HTML5

education

BS, Computer Science
Hartwick College, 1998
Oneonta, NY
Minor in Mathematics

interests

Board Games
Home Charcuterie
Cooking
Homebrew

experience

PayPal

Software Engineering Manager – 3 Teams, 17 People

Boston, Massachusetts
March, 2012 – Present

Responsible for three application development scrum teams

Campaign Manager – Advertising management in RoR with Redis, MySQL, and RabbitMQ

- Delivered a 1.0, replacing an unmaintainable legacy system
- App focus on enabling a small ops team to manage millions in high-value ads
- Delivered REST API and pub/sub integration interfaces
- Fought for promotions, critical talent recognition, and hires

Whiteglove – Streamlined Advertising product creation tool in RoR

- Delivered a 1.0 of a Ruby on Rails app with Angular front-end
- Developed an all-RCG team into Ruby on Rails professionals producing their first app
- Managed development/relationships with Northeastern Coop program participants for team growth.

Shared Services – Geolocation and assorted related place-centered services in Java

- Led the team for 6 months as they reorganized, with a focus on streamlining
- Identified new team leads as one too-large team was broken into more rational chunks
- Improved team through Personnel Improvement Plans and hiring

Boston Lead, Bar Raisers – Interview training and support for hiring managers

Agile Facilitator – Focused on retrospectives, supported teams' continuous improvement efforts

Proventys, Inc.

Software Engineer

Newton, Massachusetts
March, 2011 – January, 2012

Proventys CDS – Clinical decision support software in RoR with Redis and Postgres

- Rails 3.1 app to provide clinical decision support for treatment of cancer
- Innovative system for authoring of clinical content with a ruby dal and git
- Extreme/Pair programming in an agile/kanban environment
- Design and implementation of features, with contributions to architecture
- Heavy TDD/BDD with spec, factory girl, and cucumber

Tribune Company

Mobile Software Engineer

Chicago, Illinois
January, 2010 – March, 2011

PingPing.com – Social messaging and news sharing with RoR and Erlang

- Contributed design and implementation of geo location support
- Implemented graphic design changes
- Overhauled data ingestion systems

Application Middleware – Java Play server supporting tribune mobile apps

- Software supports iPhone apps for Tribune properties like the LA Times, Chicago Tribune, Baltimore Sun, etc.
- Implemented certificate management system for transition to a one-server architecture
- Upgraded push for iOS devices to support latest Apple options

iOS Feature Development – contributed features to various iOS product lines

- Contributed image gallery feature, hiding sections with no associated galleries
- Implemented client-side obfuscation of api keys

Innovations Team – Winner, one of five teams to compete for Tribune innovations prize

- Worked with Chief Innovation Officer at Tribune to devise new approach to serving a news vertical
- Worked with team to create video presentation and tech demos for the new product

experience

Pilsen Labs, Inc.

Founder

Chicago, Illinois

October 2010 – June, 2014

Anno – A history and memory game for iOS

- Build card authoring system in RoR to provide game content
- Authored most of the game content
- Contributed features to iOS app
- Ran marketing efforts

WitSaid Studios, Inc.

Founder

Chicago, Illinois and Andover, Massachusetts

January 2008 – March, 2012

Company founded to house personal projects and provide consulting to young technology companies