James Reed Swiernik

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Skills

- Comfortable programming and problem solving with Python, Golang, Ruby, Perl, C/C++ and infrastructure as code tools Pulumi, Terraform, Ansible, and Packer
- Strong knowledge of cloud computing design and architecture, with an emphasis on Kubernetes
- Knowledge of Linux system internals, including use of common command line tools
- Experience participating in 24x7 on-call rotations for mission critical systems
- Thrives when collaborating, specifically managing cross team complexity

Work Experience

Senior Software Engineer II - Dutchie (dutchie.com) - Remote

May 2022 - Present

Platform Infrastructure

- Was the lead developer for a greenfield service deployment tool written in Python that provided fast and safe
 deployments with an easy to use interface. This tool was a critical piece of Dutchie's cloud consolidation project and
 enabled our move onto Kubernetes which saved millions in infrastructure costs per year
- Collaborated with and provided education for many teams during migration to deliver consolidated platform on time
- Developed and maintained cloud infrastructure using infrastructure as code (Pulumi) to deploy Kubernetes (AWS EKS), IAM, RDS, Elasticache, ECR, Cloudfront, and Cloudflare
- Participated in on-call rotations and distributed system debugging and troubleshooting

Backend Software Engineer - Plum Inc. (plum.wine) - Remote

June 2019 - May 2022

- Managed and developed cloud infrastructure in AWS using infrastructure as code to deploy ECS, RDS, Elasticsearch, Cloudwatch, IAM, AWS Networking (VPC's, ELB/ALB's), and Containerized Services
- Built developer tooling for safely running Terraform, Ansible, and Packer
- Built CI/CD tooling with Jenkins to facilitate well tested, container based deployments
- Built monitoring tooling with Cloudwatch and Elasticsearch
- Developed backend web services and on-appliance code for the Plum smart wine dispenser in Python and C++
- Participated in on-call rotation including root cause analysis, postmortems, and ticket triage

Site Reliability Engineer - Dropbox Inc. (dropbox.com) - San Francisco, CA

June 2016 - Feb 2019

Core Data - Caching, Placement, and Routing [~6 months]

- Reduced toil and operational load in supporting Memcache by moving to automated deployment tools, improved alerting and dashboarding, and creating disaster recovery tests to prove and enforce service level agreements
- Defined SLA's and helped create disaster recovery tests for an inhouse strongly consistent caching solution
- Reduced on-call load by moving services to automated workflow based deployments

Monitoring [~1 year]

- Improved tooling that greatly reduced operational toil surrounding existing large Nagios deployment
- Created a disaster recovery test framework that enabled others on the team to run safe and effective DRT's
- Worked over the span of several months to migrate Hbase backed time series storage solution between regions

Physical Infrastructure Tooling (PhIT) [~1 year]

- Developed and productionalized full disk encryption support in the Dropbox System Installer (DSI)
- Created a testing and canary framework that allowed others to efficiently and safely test changes to the installation process within the DSI

Education Rochester Institute of Technology [2012 - 2016]

Bachelor of Science in Applied Networking and Systems Administration