FreeBSD Foundation September 2016 Update

Dedicated to supporting the FreeBSD Project and community

Upcoming Events

Ohio LinuxFest 2016
October 7-8, 2016
Columbus, OH

Grace Hopper Celebration of Women 2016
October 19-26, 2016
Houston, TX

USENIX OSDI '16
November 2-4, 2016
Savannah, GA

FreeBSD Developer and Vendor Summit
November 10, 2016
Berkeley, CA

MeetBSD 2016
November 11-12, 2016
Berkeley, CA

USENIX LISA '16
December 4-9, 2016
Boston, MA

FreeBSD Journal
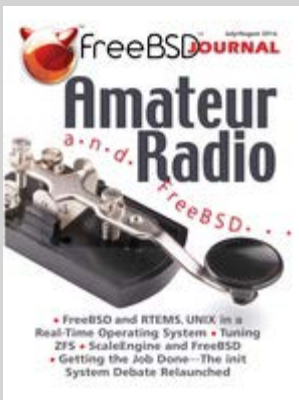
The July/August issue of the *FreeBSD Journal* is now available! Don't miss articles on Tuning ZFS,

Message from the Executive Director

Dear FreeBSD Community Member,
September was a busy month for me as I spent most of it in Europe promoting FreeBSD at various events. Every time I return from an event, I'm always amazed at how invigorating it is to spend time face-to-face with other FreeBSD community members talking about why we love FreeBSD. I also had the opportunity to meet with members from other organizations we'll be working with to help further our mission of increasing diversity within the FreeBSD Project. These new partnerships help us reach an even bigger group of potential community members, and I'm looking forward to continuing our discussions throughout the year. The rest of the Foundation team was busy this month managing development projects, working on new marketing collateral, and of course getting ready for the big FreeBSD 11.0 release.

I hope you'll take a minute to see what we've been working on this past month and help us spread the word about what we do. Your support makes it all possible.

Deb

Development Projects Update

With the much-anticipated release of the FreeBSD 11.0 right around the corner, we wanted to use this update to make sure you saw the latest message from the RE team regarding the timing of the release:

Dear FreeBSD Community:

Although the FreeBSD 11.0-RELEASE has not yet been officially announced, many have found images on the Project FTP mirrors.

However, please be aware the final 11.0-RELEASE will be rebuilt and republished on the Project mirrors as a result of a few last-minute

ScaleEngine and FreeBSD, and more.

New Feature! Browser-Based subscribers now have the ability to download and share PDFs of the articles!

Sample Issue! If you've ever wanted to read through an entire issue of the FreeBSD Journal, now's your chance. [Download] the sample issue and be sure to share with your friends and colleagues.

Not a subscriber? [Sign up] today!

See what others are saying about the Journal:

"Awesome! This is the best way to popularize FreeBSD!!" San Jose, California

"I've found it really practical, and great reading...it caters to all levels of users." Brooklyn, NY

Why Choose FreeBSD?

"[ScaleEngine] is a global video streaming and content delivery network. We specialize in delivering live and on-demand video streams to users from servers near them for lower latency to ensure the best viewing experience. Our small team of developers and systems administrators manage more than 100 servers in 38 data centers spread across 11 countries. Achieving this level of scale with such a small team is only possible because of the extensive level of documentation, observability, monitoring, and automation tooling available for FreeBSD. The ready supply of expertise also made FreeBSD especially attractive.

ScaleEngine uses FreeBSD throughout

security fixes we feel are imperative to include in the final release.

FreeBSD users already running 11.0-RELEASE will be given instructions on how to safely upgrade systems to the 11.0-RELEASE-p1 in the final announcement email. Those building from source code can obtain the latest security updates from the releng/11.0 branch in Subversion:

    svn://svn.freebsd.org/base/releng/11.0

As the FreeBSD Project strives to provide the best possible product, the Release Engineering team decided to build an updated release to include the fixes. At present, we expect to have the final release available Wednesday, October 3rd. If you have not yet downloaded 11.0-RELEASE, please wait for the official release announcement.

Thank you in advance for your patience waiting for 11.0-RELEASE, and of course for understanding the reasons behind the updated release.

Glen
On behalf of: re@

The original message can be found [here].

The Foundation team is as excited about FreeBSD 11.0 as you are, and we look forward to discussing all of the new features and improvements in the next newsletter.

Fundraising Update: Supporting New Releases

As I'm writing this update, most of my staff are working long hours aside many volunteers, on the FreeBSD 11 release. From the release engineering work, to our software developers helping to fix issues, to our marketing person working on new literature, a press release, and promoting the new release, having full-time staff helps make sure we have experienced people available to help the Project in areas that are in need. Getting FreeBSD 11 out, just a little past the actual scheduled release date, is a big deal.

This is a major release that many companies are depending on. With the support we are providing, companies can plan their product schedule confidently on our release schedules.

Offering this kind of support is one of the key areas where we focus our funding to support the FreeBSD Project.

Other key areas include:

its entire infrastructure. With more than 1000 TB of storage to manage, access to frequently updated OpenZFS is a critical component to our products. We also make extensive use of bhyve, jails, and the general extensibility of FreeBSD.

ScaleEngine sponsors the FreeBSD Foundation to ensure that we have access to regular timely releases and that the FreeBSD project gets the support it needs to flourish."

– Allan Jude,VP Operations, ScaleEngine, Inc.

- FreeBSD Advocacy and Education to recruit more FreeBSD contributors and users.
- Software development work to keep FreeBSD innovative, reliable, and secure.
- Sponsor and run FreeBSD and BSD-related events to provide face-to-face opportunities for FreeBSD contributors to work with each other and with commercial vendors.
- Hardware purchases and support to improve the FreeBSD infrastructure.

We are passionate about supporting FreeBSD, and we need your financial assistance to continue these efforts. So far, we've only raised $265,000 towards our fundraising goal of $1,250,000. Our spending is the same as last year, so we are continuing to use our reserves to cover our expenses. We strongly believe the resources and support we are providing to the FreeBSD Project and community are investments in the future of FreeBSD.

We need your help!

Please consider making a donation today. If you work for a company that benefits from FreeBSD, then talk to them about supporting our efforts. If you aren't comfortable doing that, we would be happy to talk to the appropriate people about the work we are doing, and the value it is providing to your company.

Together we can keep FreeBSD the reliable, stable, and secure operating system that many people and companies depend on.

Thank you!

-- contributed by Deb Goodkin

Conference Report: WomENcourage 2016

WomENcourage is a yearly conference organized by ACM-W Europe, for women in computing. It was held this year on September 11-12 in Linz, Austria, and we were proud to be a Silver Sponsor.

Our purpose for attending this conference was to increase our efforts in promoting FreeBSD in Europe and to recruit more women to the Project. We had a good turnout of students and professors stopping by our table to talk about FreeBSD. Many attendees were PhD students who talked to us about their research projects, and asked how they could incorporate FreeBSD into their research.

We recently created new fliers on promoting the Google Summer of Code program and TeachBSD.org, to promote internships and teaching with FreeBSD at conferences like womENcourage. We handed out these fliers, and the Getting Involved in FreeBSD flier to almost all the attendees. The interest from the attendees in FreeBSD, was significant and supported our decision to attend this conference.

During a slow period, a woman stopped by to talk to me about FreeBSD, since she was familiar with it. It turns out that she was a journalist for Austria Public Radio. We talked about FreeBSD for a long time and I ended up doing an interview with her. She used a snippet of it in her story about the conference a few weeks ago. She's also planning on doing a segment on FreeBSD using my full interview, and we'll post that once we receive it.

Next year, the conference will be three or four days, which will offer us opportunities to give a workshop and presentation on FreeBSD. We'll reach out to FreeBSD contributors to volunteer for this next year, as we anticipate this being a larger event, with more attendees, and more opportunity to increase awareness of FreeBSD in Europe!

-- contributed by Deb Goodkin

More on the Fall Conference Season

A quick glance to the left of this newsletter and you'll see the lengthy list of conferences we'll be sponsoring and attending over the next few months. As we've mentioned before, making sure there is a FreeBSD presence at both BSD and non-BSD events is a very important part of the Foundation's mission to advocate for the Project. From introducing FreeBSD to new people, to meeting face-to-face with current users, conferences provide an excellent venue for generating conversations about FreeBSD that both improve and grow the Project. If you're attending one of the upcoming events, please come by and say hi. We'd love to talk to you about how we can work together to support FreeBSD.

If you'd like to attend an upcoming event and need help getting there, don't forget about our Travel Grant program. The Foundation provides travel grants to community members who need assistance with travel expenses for attending conferences related to FreeBSD development and advocacy.

We'll post deadlines for upcoming grant applications as they become available. **The application deadline for getting a travel grant to MeetBSD is October 18, 2016**. Grants may be available for other events not currently on our calendar. If you have an event you'd like to attend to help promote FreeBSD, please apply at least 4 weeks before the event.

More information on our travel grant policy and application, can be found [here](#).

-- contributed by Anne Dickison

BSDCam '16 Trip Report: Sean Bruno

This year, the FreeBSD Foundation sponsored my first trip to the University of Cambridge FreeBSD DevSummit (BSDCam). August is a great time to visit and the folks at Cambridge are doing amazing projects.

My goal for this trip was to engage some of the Clang/LLVM developer community to work towards a Clang/LLVM enabled build of FreeBSD MIPS64. This is work that I've been pursuing for a few months in an effort to remove one blocking item from the base system's eventual removal of GNU GCC.

Getting to Cambridge is quite a journey. Flying to the UK from the USA is always a bit of a journey, followed by an Underground trip to King's Cross Station. Getting a train to Cambridge is quite easy, however I would recommend spending more than 30 seconds figuring out which one to use. I spent a lovely two hours visiting every stop between London and Cambridge. There are quicker routes, so ask around instead of leaping on the train that has a "Cambridge" in its destination marquee.

I stayed at the provided accommodations on Churchill College. The modern art collection is ridiculously good. Spend some time walking around the buildings, you'll find it worthwhile.

Day 1 of the Devsummit (and the rest of the days) was held in the William Gates building of the computer laboratory and we had many, many things to discuss.

Read more about Sean's time at BSDCam '16 [here](#).

-- contributed by Sean Bruno