



Good morning everyone! My name is Aaron Kalin and I work for DNSimple, we're happy to be sponsoring again this year.

The logo for dnssimple, featuring the word "dnssimple" in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font centered on a solid blue rectangular background.

dnssimple

We're a domain management automation company and looking to expand our operations team in the Europe or Asia Pacific regions so if you have some chef experience and looking for work, please come talk with us. We have also brought some cool t-shirts and stickers to share with everyone here.



To introduce myself for those who don't know me, my name is Aaron Kalin and yes I generally have red hair. I've had it long enough for it to be on my passport and drivers license, you could say it's one of my favorite colors. My pronouns are He and Him. If you want to reach me via social media, my twitter handle is at martinisoft and you might see me as this fuzzy fox like in the opening slide. We can talk about that over a pint later if you like.



As you can tell from my appearance and accent, I am not from around here. How I got here is the story I'd like to tell you today.



Let's go back about 5 years. Around July 2012. I had been working for a ruby consulting company about 6 months. Clients started asking about us automating their deployments and infrastructure so I began researching this topic. I came across Salt, CF Engine, Puppet, and of course Chef. Puppet and Chef had me curious because they were written in Ruby so I could understand the code.

The word "meetup" is written in a red, cursive font. The letters are thick and rounded, with a slightly informal, handwritten style. The 'm' and 't' have prominent loops and curves. The word is centered within a white rectangular box that has a thin black border.

After searching for local meet ups, I found two free training sessions. One from the Puppet and Chef teams. Sadly I had just missed the cutoff for the Chef meetup, so I reserved my spot just in time for the Puppet training. Upon arrival at the training session they had two tracks, one for training and another for developers to hack on Puppet. Not knowing anything at the time, I went with the training session and sat down with my laptop, ready to learn.

“Oh, you work for that  
company...”

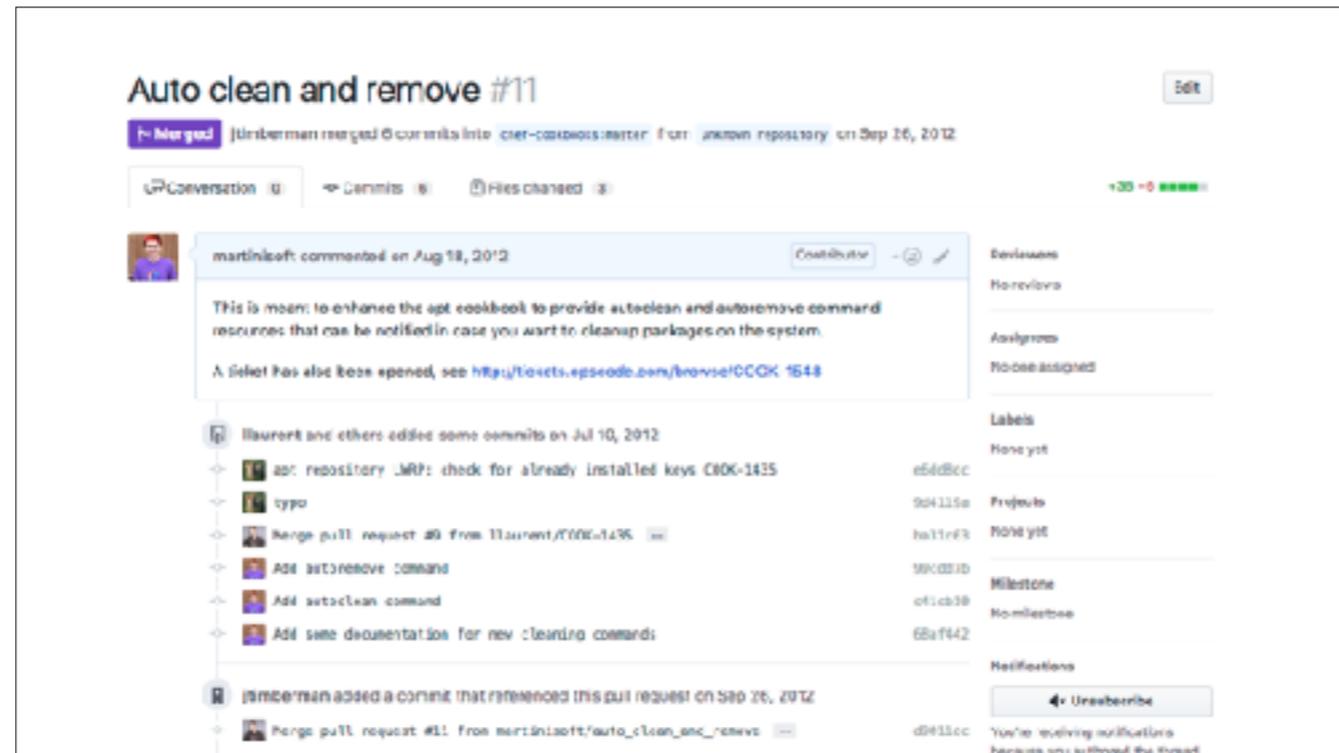
Shortly after sitting down, one of the trainers at the time noticed my shirt with my consultancy's logo on it and asked me what it was like to work there. He also asked if I ever worked with a certain person at that consultancy with a harsh tone. The kind of tone that sounded like this person gave them a rather bad experience and I felt a little uncomfortable staying for the training. I quietly moved over to the developer side of the training session and proceeded to pull up rubymine and documents about how to get on the Puppet mailing list for submitting patches. Yes, back then you had to send in a diff via email with reference to a ticket number to submit a patch. No CI, three steps at a minimum, so I greatly appreciate how easy it is to contribute to Chef now, but I digress.

“There is no way that can  
work”

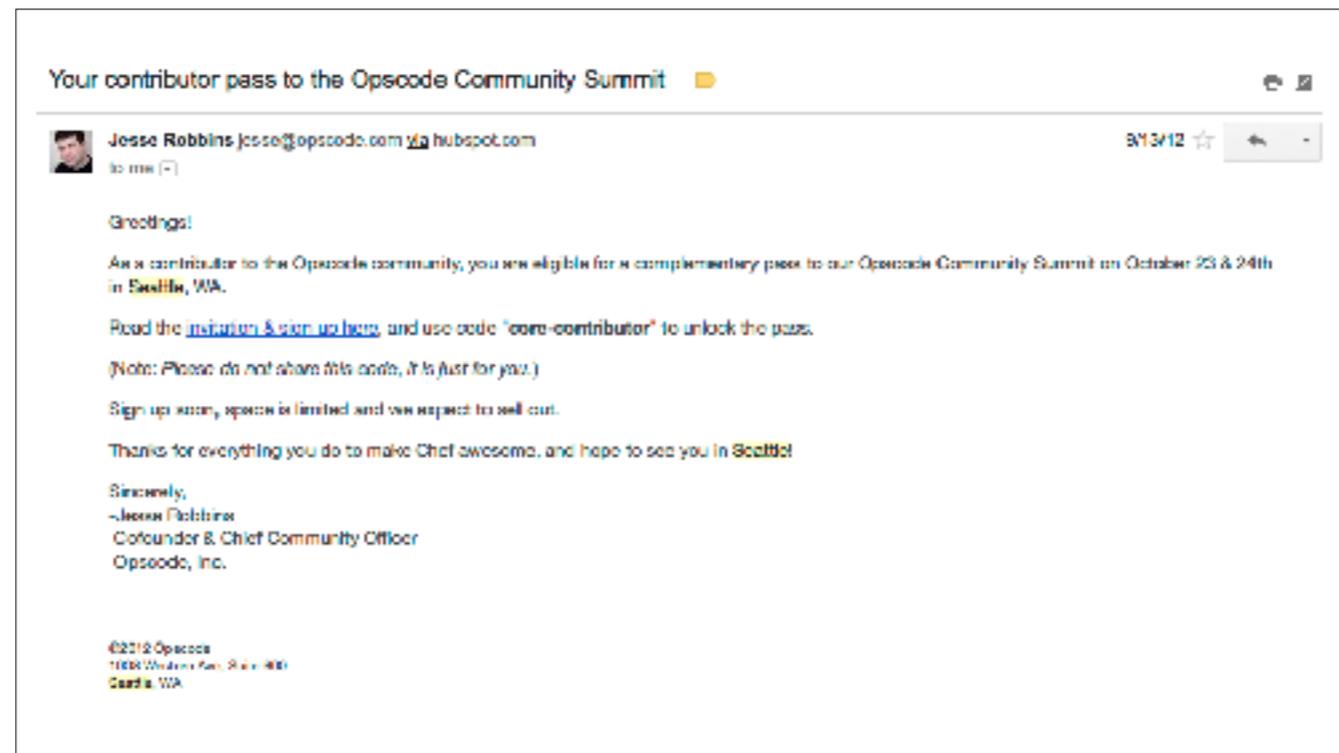
The rest of my day was spent on a bug with Puppet and right when I got ready to submit my patch, one of the lead developers at the time came over to review my patch. Each little change, especially my tests were nit picked, which happens because it's a code review. The weird part of that experience was explaining how a certain test worked and the developer not believing that it would work, despite me demonstrating a passing green test right in front of them.

<martinisoft> I'm a bit lost, can  
someone help?  
<@jtimberman> Where are you  
stuck?

I went home that day with a pretty uneasy feeling. When I sat down to my workstation at home, I pulled up the documentation to Chef. Back then it was in a Wiki with a single tutorial page which I began to follow. At some point, I hit a problem while following the tutorial and I proceeded to look around for how I could find some help. I was directed to an IRC channel for Chef where I asked what I thought was a kind of dumb newbie question about the tutorial. I don't remember the specific question, but I will never forget the person who replied. A user name jtimberman replied to me and the answer made a lot of sense which let me begin my journey into the Chef community.



His help got me going, which lead to my first pull request. Notice this was not against Chef, but the Apt Cookbook which was still managed by Chef. jtimmerman was there to help review and merge my change which was my very first contribution to Chef.



Shortly after my contribution I got this mail from the current Chef Community Officer, Jesse Robbins inviting me to the second ever Chef Summit in Seattle with a free pass. At the time, I was now working for a different company and they did not want to pay for sending me over so I paid my way to the summit and I am glad I did.

“You’re doing this all kinds of  
wrong. We’ll show you a better  
way”

- Adam Jacob & Jamie Winsor

It was at that summit I met Fletcher who would talk about this new thing he was working on called Jamie CI which would eventually be merged in to Test Kitchen. I also showed my current Chef setup at work to Adam Jacob who sat me down with Jamie Winsor to not only tell me my setup was wrong, but this new tool called Berkshelf would make my problem suck a whole lot less. To this day the Chef Summits are my favorite event and I have attended every year since then, including the London summits now with exception of the first New York summit.

## Resolve edge case for CHEF-3555 #451 Edit

**Closed** martinisoft wants to merge 1 commit into `chef:master` from `martinisoft:CHEF-3555`

Conversation 1 | Commits 1 | Files changed 1 | +2 -0

**martinisoft** commented on Oct 24, 2012 Member

Coerces `cookbook_path` into an array in case it's a string

See <http://tickets.opscode.com/browse/CHEF-3555>

**Resolve edge case for CHEF-3555** `98b7bfd`

**btm** commented on Dec 3, 2012 Owner

Fixed in 10-stable + master, thanks.

**btm** closed this on Dec 3, 2012

Reviewers: No reviews—request one

Assignees: No one—assign yourself

Labels: None yet

Projects: None yet

Milestone

It was at that first Seattle Summit where I submitted another bug fix to core Chef. Since then I have become a maintainer for the FreeBSD Chef Client and contributed to many Chef Cookbooks and now Habitat.

The screenshot shows a GitHub pull request page for the repository 'chef / chef-rfc'. The pull request is titled 'rfc-for-hugs #164' and is marked as 'Merged'. It was merged by 'adamlieff' on Nov 20, 2015, merging 7 commits from the 'master' branch of the fork 'martinladJJ/rfc-4-hugs'. The page shows 138 watchers, 132 stars, and 77 forks. There are 13 pull requests, 0 projects, and 1 insight. The pull request details include 45 conversations, 7 comments, and 1 file changed. The commit message is 'Initial commit for rfc-for-hugs' with the hash 'f82d9af'. The pull request was created by 'nathenharvey' on Nov 4, 2015. A comment by 'jjasghar' on Nov 4, 2015, states: 'There was discussion at the London summit 2015 on how to hug. Joking aside, this should be added as an RFC so our community acknowledges that this is a accepted policy. /cc @martinsoft and @jjasghar'. The pull request has no reviews, no assignees, no labels, and no projects.

My first RFC for Hugs was written while at the London summit with JJ. Yes, there is an RFC for how we show physical affection in the Chef Community.



I've been part of this community for over 5 years now. I have watched this community grow and mature all while returning every year to see many of the kind and smart people that were IRC handles once upon a time. They all took their time listening to and helping solve my problems in Chef and I could not be happier I found this community years ago. All of them accept me for who I am, as weird I am and make me feel like one of their own.

*Thank you*



@martinisoft

I'd love to thank Chef for the opportunity to speak today and for everything they have done to remind me of why I still love to be part of this community. Many of the people you saw in those pictures and mentioned earlier are in this room as I speak. If it weren't for jtimberman answering that stupid question 5 years ago, it is very likely I would not be up here talking to all of you. Thank you for listening and for your time.