FreeBSD Foundation January-March 2017 Update

Message from the Executive Director

Dear FreeBSD Community Member,
Welcome to the first FreeBSD Foundation newsletter of 2017. We're trying something new this year and moving to a quarterly issue. Doing so allows us to offer content more immediately via our blog and social media channels. You can subscribe to the rss feed of the blog here.

From new partnerships to attending conferences around the world, it's been a very busy quarter for the Foundation team. Take a minute to see what we've been up to and thank you for your continued support!

Deb

Q1 Development Projects Summary

We've been busy during the first three months of 2017. Please take a look at the highlights from our more recent Development Projects summaries.

January: A Review of the Project Grant Process
Take a look at how the FreeBSD Foundation identifies, reviews, and chooses projects to be undertaken by paid development staff and by recipients of project development grants. Read more...

February: Blacklistd Porting Project Completion
The Foundation awarded Kurt Lidl a grant to port blacklistd to FreeBSD and integrate it into a set of base system and ports daemons. This project is now complete and blacklistd is available in FreeBSD. The FreeBSD-CURRENT development branch has the most up-to-date version. Read more...

March: More on the Intel Partnership
As announced at AsiaBSDCon 2017 in Tokyo, Intel is making a financial contribution and supporting the Foundation with access to resources to ensure FreeBSD is well supported on Intel platforms. Intel sees
FreeBSD as a viable open-source operating system, and seeks broader collaboration between themselves, the Foundation, and the FreeBSD Community. Read more...

-- contributed by Ed Maste

**Fundraising Update: Jumping into 2017**

It’s hard to believe it’s already the end of March. Kicking off a new year of supporting FreeBSD is always exciting and invigorating for us. It’s almost like starting with a clean slate with months ahead of us to accomplish our new goals and plans for supporting the FreeBSD community in our efforts to continue making FreeBSD the best platform for computing, research, education, and products in 2017.

Before I talk more about 2017, I wanted to send a heartfelt thank you to everyone who invested in FreeBSD in 2016. We raised over $1.5 Million Dollars, which will allow us to continue and increase our support for FreeBSD.

If you haven’t seen our thank you video yet, please check it out here.

Last year, with your financial support, we were able to:

- Accelerate OS improvements, including employing our technical staff to maintain and improve critical kernel subsystems, add features and functionality, and fix problems. This also includes funding separate project grants like the arm64 port, blacklistd access control daemon, and integration of VIMAGE support, to make sure FreeBSD remains a viable solution for research, education, computing, products and more.
- Provide full-time release engineering support, resulting in timely and reliable releases.
- Provide outreach and advocacy for FreeBSD, which includes sponsoring many BSD and non-BSD conferences; sending FreeBSD contributors to these conferences; improving the new user experience; supporting work on creating curriculum to be taught in schools and universities; publishing the high-quality FreeBSD focused magazine, The FreeBSD Journal; and providing more informational and training material.
- Build and improve FreeBSD infrastructure to provide the latest technologies for testing and developing on the FreeBSD platform.
- Provide face-to-face opportunities like developer and vendor summits and company visits to help facilitate collaboration between commercial users and the Project, to help get changes pushed into the FreeBSD source tree, and to create a bigger and healthier ecosystem.

**Why Choose FreeBSD?**

Microsoft is building best-in-class platforms and productivity services for a mobile-first, cloud-first world, and our mission is to empower every person and every organization on the planet to achieve more.

Microsoft Hyper-V is a hypervisor-based virtualization system for x86-64 systems which provides virtualization of services for Microsoft’s cloud computing platform known as Microsoft Azure, a growing collection of integrated services – analytics, computing, database, mobile, networking, storage, and web – for moving faster, achieving more, and saving money.

The drive to make FreeBSD on Hyper-V successful rests almost exclusively on the fact that many major appliances (network, storage, security and etc.) leverage FreeBSD as their base OS to build their product.

With the continued trend of virtualization, appliance vendors are increasingly moving from the physical...
Thank you again for investing in FreeBSD and the Foundation last year.

2017 is already off to a good start. First of all, meeting our fundraising goal in 2016 will allow us to add support in current and new areas. Some of these new areas include:

- Increasing FreeBSD presence at Open Source Conferences around the world. With our two new board members, Kylie Liang and Philip Paeps, we are giving FreeBSD presentations, talks, and promoting FreeBSD in India and China.

- Supporting more developer summits around the world, to give more opportunities for FreeBSD contributors to work together on solving problems and improving FreeBSD.

- Improving the developer tools to make contributing to the Project more efficient, and to help bring on new people and improve the onboarding experience.

- Opening a Canadian satellite office to bring in 1-2 interns every four months, to work on FreeBSD through the University of Waterloo Co-op program.

- Actively recruiting more FreeBSD contributors to give FreeBSD presentations at conferences around the world.

- Working with a select number of universities to promote FreeBSD to their students, and include FreeBSD in their curriculum and computer labs.

- Working with the Project to improve freebsd.org

With your support, we can make the above list a reality.

Secondly, if you haven’t already heard, we’re thrilled to announce a new partnership and $250,000 donation from Intel. Find out more about our upcoming work with Intel here.

We’re very grateful for the significant commitments for large donations we’ve already received! Help us keep the momentum going and make a donation in 2017.

Thank you for your support!

-- contributed by Deb Goodkin

Q1 2017 Conference Recaps

From sponsoring events to attending conferences, the Foundation continued its mission of advocacy in early 2017. Over the past few weeks, members of the Foundation team represented the Project and the Foundation at events around the world. Below are just a few of the conference recaps.

FOSDEM 2017
FOSDEM 2017 was held on the first weekend of February. After last year’s success of having a one day FreeBSD devsummit during the first conference day, we decided that this year, we’d do an extra day (Friday) right before FOSDEM. This ensured that there was no overlap with talks that attendees wanted to see (or give) and gave everyone an opportunity to catch up with development efforts in the new year. The FreeBSD Foundation generously sponsored the lunch and hotel conference room where we could sit and discuss issues. Read more...

SCALE 15x
The 15th annual Southern California Linux Expo (SCALE) was held March 2-5, 2017 at the Pasadena Convention Center. This was the largest SCALE to date with over 200 presentations over 14 tracks and 4 days and an expected record breaking attendance of nearly 2000 open source enthusiasts. The FreeBSD Foundation was pleased to once again share a booth with the folks at iXsystems which base their TrueOS and FreeNAS software on FreeBSD. This year, the expo hall was open for three days and the booth traffic was pretty much non-stop throughout the event. Read more...

AsiaBSDCon 2017
The FreeBSD Foundation was proud to sponsor the 12th AsiaBSDCon 2017, held in Tokyo, Japan, March 9-12. Though we’ve been a sponsor for at least 11 of these conferences, this was my first time attending this conference.

Like most BSD conferences, there was a two-day FreeBSD Developer Summit that preceded the conference. It was organized and run by Foundation Board Director and Core Team member, Benedict Reuschling. I thought he did a wonderful job facilitating interesting presentations and engaging discussions. The event was also live-streamed, so people who weren’t in attendance could still watch the talks. Read more...

Submit Your Work! Check Out Open CFPs
Presenting at a conference is an excellent way to spread the word about the work you’re doing, while raising awareness for FreeBSD. Below is list of upcoming Calls For Participation.

vBSDcon 2017: September 8-9, 2017, Reston, Virginia
The Call for Presentations for vBSDcon 2017 is now open. Presentation proposals should be of a technical nature and apply to some aspect of the BSD
community. Accepted presentations will be selected by a planning committee comprised of BSD community members.

Submission Deadline: April, 29, 2017
Find out more here.

EuroBSDcon 2017: September 21-24, 2017, Paris, France
EuroBSDcon is the European technical conference for users and developers of BSD-based systems. The tutorials will be held on Thursday and Friday to enlisted participants and the talks are presented to conference attendees on Saturday and Sunday.

Submission Deadline is April 30th, 2017.
Find out more here.

-- contributed by Anne Dickison

Faces of FreeBSD Series: Joseph Kong
Next up in the Faces of FreeBSD series reboot is Joseph Kong. You can find his full interview on the blog. Please take a minute and read more about Joseph and stay tuned for future interviews with FreeBSD enthusiasts who are advocating for FreeBSD, improving FreeBSD, writing for FreeBSD, running conferences, and helping in other various ways.

-- contributed by Anne Dickison

Google Summer of Code Student Application Deadline Approaching!
Calling all students! Join the FreeBSD Project in the Google Summer of Code. There’s still time to submit your proposal! Student applications are due April 3, 2017. Know any potential applicants? Download and share this informational flyer, or find out more here.

-- Contributed by Anne Dickison