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Brian Elliott Finley

Senior Systems Engineer



Q: What was your first computer?

A: An Atari 400 was the first pseudo-real computer we had at the house. The Commodore 64 and the Apple II series are what I was first taught to program on. Later my mom, who was a teacher, brought home a Trash 80 from school.

Q: How/When did you get started with Linux?

A: Summer 1993. The WAN guy at UT Southwestern Medical Center, where I worked, gave me the Slackware "A" and "N" diskettes. I first installed it on a Compaq Deskpro 386/20e with 2MB of RAM and was enthralled! I was the NetWare sysadmin for a genetic engineering lab at the time, and had never worked with a *NIX before. I started installing it on everything dual-boot. All the people in the lab were saying, "What's this lilo thing?" I responded, "Oh, that's Linux!"

Q: What brought you to VA Linux?

A: The opportunity to work with Linux full time. And the ability to be a pioneer and help usher in this new era of computing that is Linux and Open Source.

Q: What are your hobbies?

A: My wife, my dogs, Racquetball, Snowskiing, Waterskiing.

Q: Do you have any suggestions for web sites that people who are new to Linux might find interesting?

A: <http://linux.com/>

Q: What is your position on siege weaponry of the Middle Ages, and which is your favorite one? Why?

A: Fortunately far, far away from it. Never even sustained a mere scratch! But one never knows when one might need that swiss-army knife of the Middle Ages: a good shrubbery.

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