> Adventures with illumos

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> Introduction

- Long-time systems administrator
- Many years pointing out bugs in Solaris
- Invited onto beta programs
- Then the OpenSolaris project
- Voted onto OpenSolaris Governing Board
- Along came Oracle...
- illumos emerged from the ashes

> illumos key strengths

- ZFS – reliable and easy to manage
- Dtrace – extreme observability
- Zones – lightweight virtualization
- Standards – pretty strict
- Compatibility – decades of heritage
- "Solarishness"

> Directions

- ZFS (OpenZFS)

- XPG7 standards

- Missing pieces from open code

- Cleaning cruft

  – But can we preserve heritage?

- LX brand (native Linux emulation)

> Distributions

- OpenIndiana – OpenSolaris

- OmniOS – server focus

- SmartOS – Joyent's cloud

- Delphix/Nexenta/+ – storage focus

- Tribblix – one of the small fry

- Quite a few others

> Why?

- Because it's hard

- Understand the inner workings

- Satisfy the target audience

- Make a flexible platform for development of new ideas

- Didn't like other distros!

> Tribblix values

- Modern components
- Retro styling
- Lightweight window managers
- SVR4 packaging
- Lightweight and fast
- Simplicity and "just works"

> Tribblix futures

- Zones and app deployment
  - Sparse-root, whole, partial, alien
- Simplify administration - "just works"
  - Make internals invisible
- Modern application stacks
  - Many on top of go
  - Integrated with zones and zfs

> Potholes

- Not enough time/people

- Fragmentation

  – All the work done at the distro level

- SPARC port struggling

- No cgo yet

> Further reading

http://www.illumos.org/

http://www.tribblix.org/

http://www.petertribble.co.uk/

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