

# Cathy Sarisky

Software Engineer | Web Developer | Ghost Expert

[cathy@spectralwebservices.com](mailto:cathy@spectralwebservices.com) | [github.com/cathysarisky](https://github.com/cathysarisky)

## RECENT WORK EXPERIENCE

**Spectral Web Services** — Founder. 2022-present.

- Ghost consulting, client support, data migrations, automation, theme customization, search.

**Tiny News Collective** — Contractor (“Ghost Support”). 2025-present

- Support 50 early-stage local newsrooms, including support and troubleshooting for Ghost, DNS, email, and integrations.
- Membership site overhaul, including new navbar, new landing pages, new content carousels.
- Maintain and enhance Tiny News members theme.
- Video tutorials and written how-tos for Ghost.

## PROJECTS & PRODUCTS

- **Open source contributor to Ghost**

- Internationalization & localization: Enable translations of Ghost’s native search and newsletters. Add RTL support. Replace existing theme translations package with i18next.
- New Handlebars helpers and enhancements to existing helpers.
- Overhaul editor permissions (full-stack project).
- Manage translator PRs for 65 languages in GitHub. Share best practices for i18n.
- Forum moderator & community member: 245 marked solutions, 3.2 likes.

- **Social Sign-on Integration for Ghost**

Multi-tenant app, enabling sign-on/sign-up to Ghost via multiple OAuth2 providers. Reduces sign-up friction, especially for social link shares.

- **Newsletter automations**

Create nightly automations integrating the NWS weather API, calendars, and multiple Ghost posts, to produce a daily emailed newsletter and daily updates on the Ghost website, saving up to four hours of work per newsletter.

- **Fundraising tracker for Ghost**

Retrieves donation and subscription data from Stripe for display in Ghost.

- **AI18n: an AI assistant for managing and reviewing translation PRs**

Integrates with OpenAI and GitHub to create draft reviews, including per-line comments and corrections.

- **Ghost “Staff builder”**

A React tool for bulk creation of Ghost staff users, with custom author page support.

- **Advanced search for Ghost** (in use by 20+ Ghost sites)

React search app with customization options, backed by Algolia, with Lambda webhooks to synchronize data. Accommodates advanced author pages, paywalled content, tag-based exclusions, and custom content types.

- **Multi-language Ghost sites**

Including language switcher, paired pages, cross-language comments, full UI localization.

- **Institutional access for Ghost sites**  
Provides IP- or proxy-based access for universities and libraries.
- **Asana integration for Ghost**  
Retrieves structured data from Asana for automatically building Ghost content, including release dates and downloadable calendar links.
- **Member dashboard / Ghost integration**  
Integrates external data sources and Ghost data to produce a detailed workout log, allow clients to mark workouts as completed.
- **Bookmarks for Ghost**  
Authenticates users against Ghost, store bookmarks using a custom Cloudflare-hosted API.
- **Carthacks** grocery list and recipe management app, built with React Native. (2020-2022)
  - Displays lists per-meal or per-category, stores recipe ingredients and common orders.
  - Provides one-click cart transfer to local grocery store's API with authorization via OAuth2.
  - Includes a barcode scanner and frequently ordered items to speed list additions.
  - Launched on Apple App Store and Google Play.
- **Timistry** chemistry homework platform, with algorithmic questions and gradebook (2004-2008)
  - Used by ~1500 students, 3 instructors, 3 institutions
- **The Lab Archive** (2000)
  - Database-backed website for chemistry-related file sharing, with user login, comments, ratings, categorization.

## TECH STACK

JavaScript, TypeScript, HTML, CSS, React, Node.js, Next.js, React Native, PostgreSQL, MySQL, Firebase, Supabase, Algolia, Stripe API, Netlify, Cloudflare, AWS, Linux

## OTHER EXPERIENCE

**Roanoke College** — Faculty member 2007-2024, Department Chair 2014-2022

- Led hiring committees (6), mentored junior faculty, conducted annual personnel evaluations (team of 8-12).
- Led program evaluation processes, coordinated and overhauled assessment.
- New endowment money to support instrumentation.
- Coordinated development of new majors, concentrations, and programs.

**Acorn Hosting** — Founder, 2002-2004

- Offered VPS-based hosting (via custom kernels)
- First non-dedicated server offering serving the OpenACS platform (AOLserver/tcl/PostgreSQL).
- 60 customers, 4 servers.

**FIRST Robotics, Tech Challenge, LEGO League** — Volunteer & Coach 2017-2026

- Taught programming fundamentals and problem-solving using robotics.
- Led workshops on coding and computational thinking.

## AWARDS & GRANTS (selected)

- National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship
- Burroughs Wellcome Computational Molecular Biology Fellowship
- Grants: Cottrell College Science Jeffress Memorial Trust

## **EDUCATION**

- California Institute of Technology: Ph.D. in Chemistry (thesis area: computational protein design), M.S. in Chemistry
- New College of the University of South Florida, B. A. in Chemistry
- Computer Science 350: Database Systems, Roanoke College