

NEWS BREAK

MACINTOSH USERS GROUP, ONEONTA, NEW YORK

Volume 18, Number 2

March 2003

MARCH 4, 2003 MEETING

“Taxes on a Mac”

— Terry Helser

Join us on **Tuesday, March 4th** from 7:30 to 9:00 PM in **Lecture Hall 4** of Hodgdon IRC on the SUNY College at Oneonta campus (see map, back page).

Terry Helser will take us on a timely tour of Quicken’s *TurboTax*. He’ll demonstrate the online features of this year’s version, how to import data from Quicken, and how to file electronically, as well as other things you need to know.

Come learn something new, try your luck in the raffle, and share refreshments. Join us for a warm respite from this cold, cold winter. Remember, the room tends to be overheated—dress in layers!



Get an iLife—iTunes 3, iPhoto 2, iMovie 3 and iDVD 3.

APPLE ENGINEER DAVE MARRA RETURNS!

Mark your calendar and make sure to invite all your friends—Apple Senior Engineer Dave Marra is returning to MUG ONE! Dave is a presenting legend who gives his own time to tour Mac and PC user groups in the Northeast, sharing the latest and greatest that Apple has to offer. Dave wowed us last spring, and has agreed to come back for a repeat engagement on May 6, 2003.

Dave can pack more energy and information into a meeting than anyone we’ve ever seen. Don’t miss him! For a taste of what’s in store, check out Dave’s web site at <http://www.marrathon.com>.

O'REILLY SAFARI TECH BOOKSHELF

O'Reilly & Associates is offering user group members a 14 day free trial of Safari Tech Bookshelf, and a chance to win prizes for themselves and their groups.

Safari Tech Bookshelf is an online service that offers access to over 1000 technology books from O'Reilly, New Riders, Peachpit Press, Adobe Press, Macromedia Press, SAMS, QUE, Prentice Hall PTR, Java, Alpha, Sun Microsystems, Cisco and Microsoft Press. Not all books from all publishers are available, but new books are being added all the time. To see current holdings, go to <http://safari.oreilly.com/>

Between now and April 30, user group members who submit brief (2-3 sentence) comments or tips on using Safari Bookshelf will be eligible to win tee shirts, bookbags and other surprises from O'Reilly. Each week a group member and their group will be selected as winners. To be eligible for prizes, be sure to include your user group name in the Company Name field when you sign up for your free trial.

Details on the free trial and prize drawings are available at

<http://www.oreilly.com/safari/ug>

Visit MUG ONE’s web site at <http://www.mugone.com>

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FEBRUARY 4, 2002 MUG ONE MEETING

It was a cold and blustery night when twenty-eight members and guests found our new room, which is quite warm. Be advised to dress in layers for future meetings!

Announcements

President Elsa Travisano began by introducing herself and welcoming us. She noted that the recent issue of Newsbreak was done with *InDesign 2.0*, the software she also reviewed therein. And her program was done in Apple's new presentation software *Keynote*. As for announcements, Jake Richstmeier has moved on to grad school in Baltimore, which means we need a new Vice President. Given our recent track record, if you want to leave the North for an exciting job opportunity, all you need to do is agree to serve as our VP.

The Mac OS X Buyers Guide magazine was still available for \$5 a copy, and two sold tonight. The three left will be in the raffle next month. Joanne Johnston reported that we had \$1092.92 in the bank before tonight. She was also collecting checks for the current Peachpit Press book order.

Elsa noted that Microsoft is offering a \$6.95 instructional DVD on *Entourage*, now available for OS X as a separate purchase for \$99. Ask her for details. She also announced a special educator deal from Apple, offering *Keynote* (\$99) plus the *iLife* package of *iPhoto 2*, *iMovie 3*, *iDVD 3* and *iTunes 3* (normally \$49.95), for only \$14.95. The bundle can be ordered at the Apple web site, and must be delivered to a teacher's school address. The announcements finished with several members announcing new and used items for sale.

Questions and Answers

Joanne began the Q&A with a request for teachers who use content filtering software to help her choose one for her school. This morphed into a short demonstration of setting up the junk mail filter on *Entourage*, which automatically puts what it considers junk in the "Deleted Items" folder. Check that folder regularly to ensure needed emails are not included before emptying it. Note that *Entourage* gives you a chance to check "this is not junk" on suspect emails.

A query about web design software drew testimonials for Adobe's *Go Live 6*, which integrates well with other Adobe products, and for *Dreamweaver MX* from Macromedia. For genealogy, Jo Koenig and Dave Griswold are using *Reunion*, which allows the inclusion of photos, and seems to be the Mac standard. A question about sizing images for the web and printing led to a suggestion that we offer a program on these questions. For now, you should first save any photo as a .tiff file to prevent degradation as you play with it. Your software manuals, Peachpit's "Little..." and "Visual QuickStart Guide" series all contain helpful information. Elsa closed the session by advocating moving to Jaguar (a.k.a. OS X 10.2), now that the new Apple applications (many of them free) are optimized for Jaguar, and some require it.

Program: One Thing Old, Some Things New

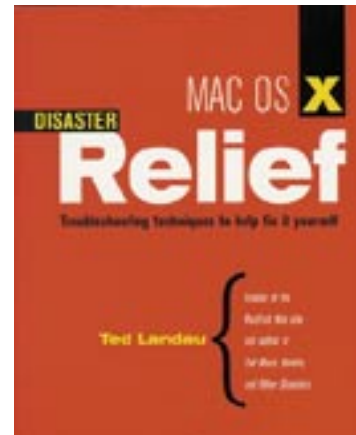
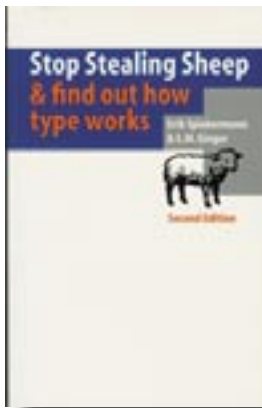
Brian Foley started off the program with "Beginner's Spotlight," a new meeting feature this year. He gave some basic tips on databases and spreadsheets, and tips for differentiating between the two kinds of applications. Essentially database programs like *FileMaker Pro* (*AppleWorks* has a simpler version) are like a recipe card box—great for storing, sorting and displaying data. MUG ONE uses *FileMaker Pro* to track our addresses and membership information. A database allows one to sort records by birth dates, for example. Spreadsheets like Microsoft *Excel* and the spreadsheet portion of *AppleWorks* are for crunching numbers, like managing a grade book, mortgage payments or your investments. You know, the ones that used to be worth more than the paper they are printed on.

Elsa then used *Keynote* to share the highlights from January's Macworld Expo in San Francisco. In hardware, we saw the new 12" and 17" PowerBooks, along with the commercial featuring Houston Rockets center Yao Ming and "Mini Me" Vern Troyer. The speed-bumped 17" 1 GHz iMac is \$1,799 and flat panel displays are \$699 (17"), \$1299 (20") and \$1999 (23", was \$3499 before!) If you bought yours right before the price drop, ask your vendor for a refund of the difference—many vendors have a 10 day price-difference policy. Another great buy is *Final Cut Express*, which for \$299, has most of the video editing features of the \$1000 *Final Cut Pro*.

Elsa ended with looks at Apple's new presentation software *Keynote* and at *Safari*, Apple's free web browser now in a beta version. Both require an upgrade to Jaguar, and *Keynote* needs a G4 with 1 Gb of disk space. She demoed several *Keynote* transitions from slide to slide and showed how to select one and to change the themes (canned backgrounds) with it. *Keynote* does not allow for hot link embedding yet (soon). The program is compatible with *PowerPoint*, and you can burn a CD to take your show to another Mac or PC. As for *Safari*, she showed us several features, including the little orange SnapBack return arrow icon that takes you back to the top of a site once you've gone several pages deep. That's nice. And since it is a beta (B) version, not yet ready for prime time, it has a bug (literally) button to send Apple reports of problems you encounter. Nifty. One member suggested saving your bookmarks as a web page, so as not to lose them when changing browsers.

Elsa drew the winning tickets for the raffle from a plastic bag. Software, books, T-shirts, magnets, pens, luggage tags and other booty went to the lucky raffle winners. Without the good luck vibes of his hat (our traditional raffle ticket container), your deserving secretary got to take home NOTHING. Every member in attendance got to pick a very nice, black fabric CD wallet donated by MacAddict Magazine, Much more next month! The diet and regular 7-Up, raspberry brownies and Oreos® disappeared as we all communed. Thanks to everyone who made it a memorable program.

—TERRY L. (SNOOPY) HELSER



BOOKS: STOP STEALING SHEEP, DIGITAL PHOTO POCKET GUIDE, MAC OS X DISASTER RELIEF

Stop Stealing Sheep & find out how type works, 2nd. ed., by Erik Spiekermann and E. M. Ginger. 188 pp. Adobe Press, 2003. \$30. A best-seller since it was first published in 1993, *Stop Stealing Sheep* has been widely hailed as a classic handbook on typography. Now the second edition is here, updated and revised with coverage of new type faces, new technology, and how to choose the best type for the web and for monitors of different sizes. Written by two world-renowned type experts, *Stop Stealing Sheep* is an informative, entertaining, thought-provoking and stylishly presented guide “for people who want to communicate more effectively with type.”

Spiekermann and Ginger discuss the history and characteristics of type, understanding typefaces, choosing type for a particular purpose, the importance of space between letters and around words, and rules of effective placement on the page. The reader is advised that “Good designers learn all the rules before they start to break them.”

The book’s enigmatic title refers to a quote from type designer Frederic Goudy, who once remarked with disgust, “Anyone who would letterspace lowercase would steal sheep.” *Stop Stealing Sheep* is a must-read for graphic designers, and is recommended for anyone who wants to use type effectively.

Digital Photography Pocket Guide, by Derrick Story. 114 pp. O’Reilly & Associates, 2003. \$14.95.

Derrick Story’s excellent *Digital Photography Pocket Guide* is designed to be read with camera in hand. Small enough to tuck in a pocket or a camera bag, the engaging text teaches amateur photographers how to use all the functions of their digital cameras, and gives professional tips and techniques for taking great pictures.

The guide starts with an illustrated quick reference to the components of a digital camera. Read this section with your manual handy, so you know can learn the features of your particular camera. Features are rated as suitable for beginning, intermediate and advanced photographers, a big help if you’re

in the market for a camera. The second section describes how to use the camera’s buttons, dials and menus, with lessons on technique and practical examples of tasks like setting exposure to capture dark or light objects. The third section offers professional advice on shooting in 15 different situations, from taking pictures from the stands at sporting events to capturing engaging travel portraits. Especially handy are the quick reference charts which show how to adjust for common problems.

A bargain at \$14.95, this guide can’t help but make you a better photographer. Most highly recommended.

Mac OS X Disaster Relief: Troubleshooting techniques to help fix it yourself, by Ted Landau. 598 pp. Peachpit Press, 2002. \$34.99.

Remember Marilyn Monroe and Jane Russell singing “When Love Goes Wrong, Nothing Goes Right” in *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes*? That pretty much sums up the feeling when your Mac is acting up. The majority of Mac maladies don’t require a trip to the repair shop. What they do need is effective troubleshooting—that is, identifying and eliminating problems. *Mac OS X Disaster Relief* is a superlative guide to troubleshooting and, better still, preventing the problems that can arise in OS X.

Author Ted Landau—who also wrote *Sad Macs, Bombs and Other Disasters*, the standard work on solving problems in OS 9—is considered by many to be the guru of Mac troubleshooting. He draws on years of experience at the MacFixit web site (www.macfixit.com) and as contributing editor for *Macworld* Magazine as he guides the reader through diagnosing, recovering from and preventing crashes, freezes, printing problems, networking glitches and a variety of other woes. He also gives advice on copying, moving and deleting files, and introduces the reader to Unix commands that help the troubleshooting process.

Whether you’re an advanced beginner or a more experienced user, if you use OS X and are ready to tackle troubleshooting your Mac, *Mac OS X Disaster Relief* is the book to choose.

— ELSA TRAVISANO

Newsbreak is the monthly newsletter of MUG ONE
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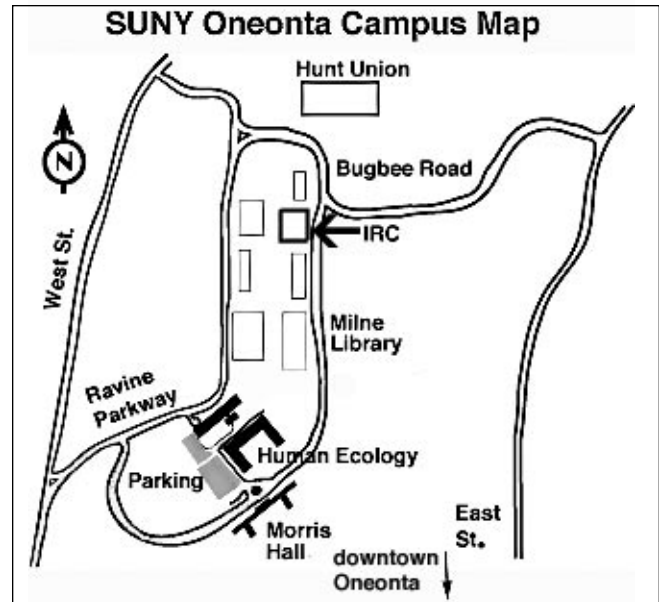
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DISCOUNTS FOR MUG ONE MEMBERS

The MUG Store

Visit the MUG Store web site or call 1-800-689-8191 to find out what's available this month. For example, just added are 11 different styles of new Titanium PowerBooks, all built-to-order by Apple and all at very special MUG Store prices. In addition, every new or refurbished Mac from the MUG Store comes with a free Epson C42 printer (after rebate)! Remember that every dollar spent at the MUG Store creates points for your group to use on anything the Mug Store sells.

<http://www.applemugstore.com>

The password schedule to enter the site is as follows:

* *For MUG members only.* *

MacWarehouse User Group offer

Brian Caputo, a corporate account executive at MacWarehouse, is offering 10% off on almost all non-Apple hardware and software and 5% off most Apple products to user group members in the U.S. through May 31. MacWarehouse offers great specials along with 24/7/365 product support for the life of the product. For more information, contact Brian by email at Brian.Caputo@warehouse.com or call him at 1-800-622-6222, ext 57408.

*Offer expires May 31, 2003. * For MUG members only. **

Habitat for iPod

Bubble Design is offering MUG members a discount on Habitat for iPod and Secure Habitat for iPod, the new desktop cradles for the iPod. The Habitat is made in the U.S.A. from crystal clear injection molded polycarbonate. It supports your iPod at an angle optimized for viewing the iPod's screen and for single-handed operation, and features holders for the iPod's earbuds and FireWire cable. The Secure Habitat includes a stainless steel anti-theft bracket compatible with any PC lock currently available.

MUG members receive a 15% discount on both Habitat models. The

Habitat for iPod retails for \$24.99; MUG price is \$21.25. The Secure Habitat retails for \$39.99; MUG price is \$34. To receive the MUG discount, email your order to *** For more information, visit

<http://www.bubbledesign.com>

*Offer expires May 31, 2003. * For MUG members only. **

SuperScrubber

Getting rid of an old computer? You know it's smart to shred paper documents, but what about a computer that's filled with electronic documents? Deleting files, emptying the trash, or even reformatting your hard drive doesn't really erase the files. *SuperScrubber* does. Protect your email, financial figures, client correspondence, address book, student records, business plans, medical records, graphics, and more. Use *SuperScrubber* to permanently erase all the files and data on your hard drive or partition. It's easy to use, it's bargain priced, it's the smart thing to do.

Retail Price: \$29.99, MUG Discount: 20% Available worldwide via our web site, <http://store.jiiva.com>

Promotion Code: ***. Authorization Code: ***

*Offer expires May 31, 2003. * For MUG members only. **

Copper.net

First 3 months of Internet service for only \$5! Copper.net provides fast reliable connections, virus and spam filter, no annoying ads, no setup fees, no contracts, over 3400 access numbers Nationwide, toll free technical support, and a great referral program.

To take advantage of this special offer, please sign up online at:

After 3 months of service, your credit card will be charged our normal low rate of \$9.95 a month. Please call or email us if you would like to take advantage of our annual rate of \$99. That's only \$8.25 per month.

*Offer expires December 31, 2003. * For MUG members only. **