

NEWS



BREAK

MACINTOSH USERS GROUP, ONEONTA, NEW YORK

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SPECIAL NOVEMBER MEETING: FLASH 5, FREEHAND AND MORE with Macromedia Representative Kim Elko

Join us on **Thursday, November 9** (*note date change*) at 7:30 in Hodgdon IRC, Classroom #1 on the SUNY Oneonta campus for MUG ONE's November meeting.

Our special guest will be Kim Elko from Macromedia, Inc. She plans to demo *Flash 5* and *Freehand 9*, as well as *Dreamweaver* and *Fireworks* if time permits. She promises **door prizes, price specials and other goodies**. We're very fortunate to be on the short list of user groups hosting a Macromedia rep. Spread the word, and don't miss this meeting!

For more information, contact Terry Helser at 436-3518 or email mugone@stny.rr.com.



Raffle winners descend on the prize table following the October meeting. Photo by Doug Kinney

TELECENTER MAC LAB IN THE WORKS

The Macintosh computer classes scheduled to be offered by Oneonta's Telecenter have been postponed, pending the construction of a brand new Mac lab. According to Telecenter director Krystine Hilton, the lab will feature twelve iMac DV models plus an instructor station, comfortable seating and windows (the glass kind). If all goes well, the lab should be completed in the early part of the new year. The new lab promises to be an exciting resource for the area's Mac users.

APPLE MUG STORE NOVEMBER UPDATE

Refurbished G4 Cubes, iBooks, and barely used iMac DV 450s headline the Apple MUG Store's current offerings, available only to MUG ONE and other user group members..

When you place an order, please make sure to identify yourself as a member of MUG ONE. Points from your purchases help us buy door prizes and hardware for our group. You can reach the Apple MUG Store on the web at www.applemugstore.com, or by calling 1/800/689-8191.

New Apple MUG Store passwords:

10/1/00- 11/30/00: User ID: G4 / Password: cube

12/1/00- 1/31/01: User ID: ibook / Password: indigo

*Don't forget - MUG ONE meets
on Thursday, November 9th!*

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OCTOBER 3, 2000 MEETING

Vice President Elsa Travisano began by telling us that Christine Manning was hospitalized after a fall and loss of consciousness. We passed around a card to be sent wishing her a speedy recovery. We then reelected the current slate of officers for another year.

Questions and Announcements

The Q&A session started with Elsa asking how we wished to handle the new books we are getting through the publishers' deals she arranged at MacWorld. The consensus was to raffle off older books and circulate the new ones through the library, as suggested by Dave Griswold. So the new Mac OS 9, Audio CD and Non-Designer's Web books will be available from the library soon. You can obtain a current list and PDF file of the Library's holdings from our Web site, www.mugone.com, or check the May Newsbreak. Tips: rebuilding the desktop (Command + Option on startup at least once/month) and/or zapping the PRAM (Command + Option + P + R on restart 3 times) are general good housekeeping measures, and may prevent bombs when Adobe Type Manager is active. "Pit Droids" was recommended as a good game for a present for a 10 year old. High speed interactive satellite access to the Internet should be here in a couple months. Watch our Web site for announcements. Finally, if you can't print from Netscape, you may need to use Internet Explorer, particularly with AOL.

Program: Internet Explorer and Outlook Express

Since Jay couldn't be at the meeting, Elsa presented the program on Microsoft's *Internet Explorer 5.0* and *Outlook Express 5.02*. Before starting either program, Elsa suggested that you might want to increase their memory. Click on the program's alias icon, then press Command + R to find the original application. Then press command + I to Get Info. When the info box appears, press the General pop-up menu and select Memory. Increase the numbers in Minimum and Preferred by 1000 or more, depending on how much RAM you have. This only works when the program is not running.

That done, Elsa showed the menus and features of the *Outlook Express* web browser. She showed how to open several pages at once, how to use "Collapse Bars" in the Views menu to gain usable space in windows, and how to customize colors and use text zoom. You will want to fill in the information in Autofill under the View menu to automatically fill in order forms, etc. to save time and mistakes. To prevent the "tiny type" problem, you need to change the default screen resolution from 96 dpi (Windows machines) to 72 dpi under the Preferences menu. Select the Language and Font Resolution menus to do this, or just up the font size to 16 or 18 point if you're nearsighted.

A nifty trick is to use Command + ~ to cycle between open windows, and Command + Tab to cycle between open programs. I tried that while typing this in WordPerfect and the latter worked fine but the "~" one crashed the program and I

lost a couple paragraphs I hadn't saved. Hopefully it works better in I.E. 5. [Ed. note: Command + tilde ~ is for IE only; Command + Tab works for all programs.]

The History menu is a way of tracking everywhere you or your teenager went on the Internet. Useful when you can't remember how to get back to a page you found earlier. As for your teenager, they probably already know about how to delete this information, which you will want to do after a while to save disk space. Elsa also showed how to do an address search and save images to the Scrapbook. The Page Holder panel lists only the hot links from a page so you can select them without having to go back and forth between the original page and linked pages. You can use Command [and Command] to go back and forward, however.

There was some discussion about whether to throw out your prior browser when installing I.E. 5, and the consensus suggested to put I.E. 5 in a new folder and use the "test drive" option when you first start it. That way you can see what works and what the problems might be before committing to it. To a question about opening Eudora messages on Zip disks, Elsa suggested trying the *MacLinkPlus Deluxe* software (\$99.95, \$39.95 upgrade) from Dataviz, which opens most file types. Check out www.dataviz.com for the list of what formats the software can open. Barbara Dauria reminded us to be sure to save a copy of a file before you attempt a conversion. ALWAYS sound advice.

Elsa then did a brief overview of *Outlook Express 5.02*, the e-mail software. She showed how to compact databases by holding down the Option key when launching the program. Like rebuilding the desktop with Command + Option on startup, a box pops up to ask if you want to compact it. If you click yes it may take a while to finish but will improve the performance, sometimes dramatically. Also under Tools, you can Schedule when the program automatically checks for new mail, or set up Rules in "if ..., then..." format to automatically file incoming mail, etc. Nifty. Elsa decided to stop there and leave the rest of *Outlook Express* for Jay to cover at a future meeting. Thanks Elsa for an excellent "pinch hit" performance.

Door Prizes

Raffle winners took home StuffIt Deluxe (J. Koenig), a CD rack (J. Sellers), Zip Disk Tower (D. Gersch), and more. We still have software, T-shirts, mugs, mouse pads, markers and other prizes for future raffles. And all helped consume the chocolate chip and ginger cookies, Oreos and sodas.

The next meeting will be "Macromedia Programs" on Thursday, November 9 at 7:30 pm in Hodgdon IRC, lecture hall 1. Note the move to Thursday night. Please publicize this widely, since we need to make a good showing to induce these major companies to support our programs. Join us and bring a friend!

— TERRY HELSER, SECRETARY

SOFTWARE REVIEW: WEB DESIGN WITH ADOBE GOLIVE 5.0

Adobe GoLive 5.0

Adobe Systems Inc. www.adobe.com

\$299, \$75 upgrade from *GoLive 4*, \$99 upgrade from *PageMill*, \$150 sidegrade from Macromedia *Dreamweaver* or Microsoft *FrontPage*

System Requirements: Power PC processor, Mac OS 8.6 or 9, 48 MB of RAM (64 recommended), 70 MB of available hard-disk space, CD-ROM drive.

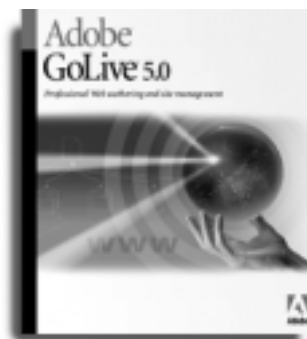
GoLive 5.0 is a major upgrade for Adobe's web design software package, and it has met with a chorus of praise. Coming barely a year after the debut of *GoLive 4.0*, the current version of *GoLive* is chock full of enhancements and improvements. The program features an interface redesign that brings it more in line with other Adobe products, as well as tighter integration with *Photoshop*, *Illustrator*, and Adobe's new web graphics and animation program *LiveMotion*. The four products are also available as a bundled set, the *Adobe Web Collection 2.0*, for \$999.

The new *GoLive* interface is a real productivity enhancer. Most functions have been moved to tabbed palettes which can be arranged and grouped through drag and drop, enabling you to customize your work space. Palettes can be tucked out of the way at the side of the screen or retrieved with a simple option-click. The manual suggests arranging the work area with the Document window located in the middle of the screen, the two-paned Site window below it and the Objects, Inspector and Colors palettes to the right. In this setup the Site pages and graphic elements are readily accessible, as are the components and stationeries that are used throughout the site. Creating links is as easy as connecting the dots - simply drag a line from the point and shoot icon on the Inspector palette to the appropriate element in the Site window, which moves to the front of the Document window and scrolls for easier navigation. Elements can be dragged from the Files palette and dropped into a Document window with similar ease.

Several new *GoLive* features make designing pages more intuitive and less frustrating. The Align and Transform palettes make it easy to line up page elements and to resize and group them. Smart Objects link *Photoshop*, *Illustrator 9* or *LiveMotion* files to their source files. Making changes to a linked file in *Photoshop* automatically updates the file in *GoLive*. *GoLive* now has a built in Save for Web function, so you no longer have to launch *Photoshop* when you want to resize an image. Other *Photoshop*-related enhancements include new ways of importing layers and tracing images as floating boxes, so that more web page design work can be done in *Photoshop*.

The History palette, cadged from *Photoshop*, makes it easy to go back to an earlier stage of design with multiple, interactable undos. Gone, thank goodness, are the problems *GoLive 4* had in handling non-standard HTML; 360Code protects source

code from being altered by *GoLive 5*. Coders will also appreciate the new capability to work in the Layout and Source views simultaneously, so that the effects of changes in one view can be seen immediately in the other view. The new Site Builder is another great addition to the program. It gives powerful tools for diagramming and designing site structure visually right in the program. No more Post-Its and posterboard!



Features of interest to more advanced web designers include support for cascading style sheets, dynamic HTML, SVG, WebDAV and *Flash*. Enhancements to the Dynamic Link module allow you to design and add database content and e-commerce features like an online store or shopping cart system. *QuickTime* editing tools allow you to create and add interactivity to *QuickTime* movies. There are also tools for delivering interactive streaming content and for creating moving, linked content. I hope the last feature doesn't get overused - it's really annoying to have to chase a link around the screen in order to click on it.

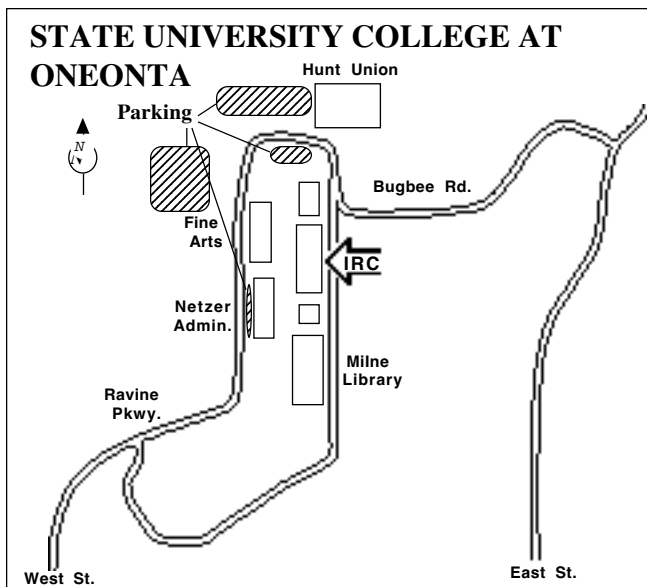
Learning all the capabilities of *GoLive 5* can be daunting. The printed manual is first rate, and the interactive Help menu has been beefed up. However, I wish Adobe had included a tour and tutorial on the CD-ROM as they did with *GoLive 4*. This would have been a better way to showcase the redesigned interface and new features of *GoLive 5*.

Adobe is plugging the training gap with online *QuickTime* training "videos". The Adobe web site offers a huge list of animated, narrated videos on specific topics, making it easy to hone in on a particular aspect of *GoLive*. Most of the online training videos are for *GoLive 4*, though tutorials for *GoLive 5* are beginning to appear. If you have a slow modem connection or no online access, the videos can be purchased on CD-ROM.

As I used *GoLive 5*, I found myself yearning for a larger monitor (I use a 17" AppleVision) in order to keep palettes open and still be able to see my document at full width. Instead I increased my monitor's screen resolution to create a larger work space. I also learned that *GoLive* needs to have Virtual Memory turned on to avoid potential freezes.

GoLive 5.0 is a superb tool for intermediate to experienced web designers, and for beginning designers who have cut their teeth in Adobe's lamentably discontinued *PageMill* or *Claris HomePage* and are looking for more power, flexibility and control. This is a must-have upgrade for current *GoLive* users.

— ELSA TRAVISANO



PARKING ON THE SUCO CAMPUS

Parking at night is permitted in any Faculty/Staff or Commuter space as well as the Visitor Spaces in front of the Administration Building. The handicapped and 30 minute parking spaces are still enforced, however, so don't park on the left side of the drive behind IRC.

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BOOKS: SAD MACS, THE NON-DESIGNER'S WEB BOOK, AND GOLIVE 5 CLASSROOM

The Non-Designer's Web Book, 2nd ed., by Robin Williams and John Tollett. 304 pp. Peachpit Press, 2000. \$34.99

Robin Williams and John Tollett offer aspiring web designers an excellent introduction to the basics of building a web site. Most importantly, they acquaint the reader with the principles of good design; how to recognize it and how to incorporate it into the page layout, color, typography, interface and navigation design of a web site. If you're entering the world of web design, this book is the place to start.

Part one explains the world wide web and searching the internet. Part two covers the elements of making web pages, including choosing web authoring software. The "Things to Know Before You Begin a Web Site" chapter covers naming and organizing files, choosing a server (and what a server is) domain names, and a checklist of what to do before you begin.

Part three covers design issues on the web including principles of print vs. web and how to recognize good and bad design. Part four covers color, graphics, type, and advanced tips and tricks. Part five includes testing, fixing, uploading and updating your site, and a crucial chapter on how and why to register your site with search engines. Each chapter is followed by a quiz, and a web-safe color chart and "Robin's Obsessive Index" round out the book.

The first edition of the Non-Designer's Web Book is one of the most-used books on my bookshelf. This second edition adds updated information on web technology as well as new software tips and design ideas.

Sad Macs, Bombs and Other Disasters [and what to do about them], 4th edition, by Ted Landau. 955 pp. Peachpit, 2000. \$34.99

In *Sad Macs, Bombs and Other Disasters*, author and top Mac troubleshooting guru Ted Landau explains why hardware and software problems happen, outlines steps to prevent trouble,

and gives step by step instructions for solving specific problems. Up to the minute Mac problems and solutions are posted at www.macfixit.com, the web site Landau started as an adjunct to earlier editions of this book. The MacFixIt site has evolved into the definitive Mac troubleshooting site.

The book has three sections. Background and Basics describes Mac hardware and software, ways to prevent problems and general troubleshooting strategies and tools. Symptoms, Causes and Cures contains eight chapter-long discussions of problem categories like "When You Can't Print" and "System Errors: Living With the Bomb" (how many of us are old enough to catch that allusion?) The final section, Disaster Relief: The Fix-Its contains sixteen topics that serve as self-contained tutorials covering problem-solving techniques from checking for problems with extensions or control panels to repairing corrupted disk directories.

Adobe GoLive 5.0 Classroom in a Book, by the staff of Adobe. 408 pp. plus CD-ROM. Adobe, 2000. \$45

Whether you're tackling *GoLive* for the first time or upgrading from a previous version of Adobe's web design software, this book can be a lifesaver.

GoLive 5 doesn't include a tutorial or tour, despite a significantly changed interface. *Adobe GoLive 5.0 Classroom in a Book* fills the gap with thirteen lessons, each designed to take about an hour to complete. The lessons include getting to know the work area, working with text and tables, laying out web pages, using smart objects, creating links, working with frames, creating rollovers, animations and forms, using actions and JavaScript, cascading style sheets, combining Adobe *LiveMotion* animations with *QuickTime* movies, and managing web sites. The CD-ROM supplies components for each lesson and includes a final version to check your own work against. It's great way to learn a complex program.

— ELSA TRIVISANO