

NEWS



BREAK

MACINTOSH USERS GROUP, ONEONTA, NEW YORK

Volume 15, Number 7

October 2000

OCTOBER MEETING: *INTERNET EXPLORER AND OUTLOOK EXPRESS*

Join us on Tuesday, October 3 at 7:30 in Classroom #1 of the Instructional Resource Center on the SUNY Oneonta campus (see map on page 4) for the October meeting of MUG ONE.

By popular request, our president Jay Manning will present a program on the latest versions of *Internet Explorer* and *Outlook Express*, Microsoft's web browser and mail software. Come and learn about the new features of *IE 5* and *OE 5.02*, then take home the software on a free CD-ROM. You may even win a Microsoft Mac tee shirt! We will also hold elections.

For more information, contact Terry Helser at 436-3518 or Jay Manning at 433-1305, or email mugone@stny.rr.com.

OCTOBER IS MUG ONE ELECTION TIME

Annual elections for MUG ONE officers will be held at our October 3 meeting. We welcome candidates for all offices, especially for the office of Program Chair, which can be shared between two people.

To learn more about the responsibilities of the offices and their attendant privileges (these include the option of free MUG ONE membership, and invitations to MacWorld User Group Breakfasts), contact any of the current officers.

DO'S AND DONT'S OF CAMPUS PARKING

In response to questions at the last meeting about parking regulations on the SUNY Oneonta campus, Dr. Terry Helser brings us the following information:

In the evening you may park in any Faculty/Staff or Commuter space as well as in the Visitor spaces in front of the Administration Building, which is diagonally across the quad from the Instructional Resource Center Building.

However, the Handicapped and 30 minute parking spaces are still restricted at that time, so don't park in the newly created 30 minute spaces on the left side of the drive behind IRC. See the revised map on page 4 for locations of parking lots.



OS X PUBLIC BETA NOW AT APPLE.COM

The Macintosh OS X Public Beta is available for download at www.apple.com/macosex/. Apple is charging \$29.99 for this preview version of the coming operating system. Note that the beta currently lacks printer drivers and other features.

Mac OS X, new from the ground up, is specifically designed for the Internet and includes advanced technologies for improvements in stability and performance. Beta testers can't wait to get their hands on the Aqua interface, shown above.

The iMac, iBook, all Power Mac G3 desktops, Power Mac G4, Power Mac G4 Cube, and PowerBooks introduced after September 1998 are compatible with the OS X Beta. 128MB of RAM is recommended, and Mac OS 9.0.4 is required.

MUG ONE OFFICERS FOR 1999-2000

Jay Manning, President	607/433-1305
email: mactech1@dmcom.net	
Elsa Travisano, Vice President	607/433-2569
email: mugone@stny.rr.com	
Terry Helser, Sec. & OSC Liaison:	607/432-8123
email: thelser@stny.rr.com	
(Office: 436-3518 fax: 436-2654)	
Joanne Johnston, Treasurer	607/432-6320
email: ejohnston@stny.rr.com	

web site: www.mugone.com • email: mugone@stny.rr.com

SEPTEMBER 5, 2000 MEETING

President Jay Manning started by welcoming new (George Lesh and Bill Masters) and returning members. Then Vice President Elsa Travisano and he handled announcements as they both worked to make the OS 8.1-equipped G3 in the podium run Elsa's demonstration which required OS 8.5 or higher. (I have been promised this machine will be updated to OS 9 by our next meeting.) The problem was solved by Tom Travisano bringing an OS 9-equipped external drive from home.

New Meeting Procedures

We implemented a couple of new procedures at this meeting. We displayed about twice the number of raffle prizes that we planned to award on the front table. This will allow every winner a good selection of prizes to choose from. The free materials were spread out on the first step of the auditorium or on the podium so they would not be confused with the prizes. Secondly, the sign-in sheet will no longer be passed around. Members and visitors must check in with the secretary on entering. Members will get raffle tickets, thus ensuring that only paid members win and we get a more accurate picture of who is attending. Both procedures worked well.

Questions and Announcements

Free materials included Microsoft *Internet Explorer* 5 CDs, a brochure on a firewall protection program for *Road Runner*, and a demo tour CD of *Virtual PC*. If you need an internet service provider (ISP), www.StarGate23.com offers a local phone number at \$12.95/month or the locally unique ability to filter your input for \$15.95/month. The MUG ONE library will soon be on display in JJ Macs in Ruffino Mall next to Jay's other shop.

Elsa announced that the Telecenter in the old Scholet Furniture store on Main Street will offer her Mac classes as well as two on Photoshop and two on Dreamweaver this fall. Contact Krystine Hilton, Director of the Telecenter at 431-6000 or Elsa for information.

Especially exciting is the November meeting, where a representative from Macromedia is scheduled to demonstrate their products. The meeting will tentatively have to move to Thursday night, the 9th, but will be well worth any confusion caused. Keep tuned for details and please publicize this widely, since we need to make a good showing to induce these major companies to support our programs.

Connectix's *Virtual PC* was recommended to solve one member's problems sharing a database in a Mac version 4.0 of *QuickBooks* with her Windows-based accountant. You can solve a lot of "type 2" and other errors when Netscape quits on you by increasing both the minimum and preferred memory allotted to it in the Get Info box (Command-R to get the original program, Command-I to open "Get Info," pull down "Show - General Info" button to open Memory and increase both.). Go to the Iomega Web site to update Zip drivers if you

are having problems. Hold down the "option" key as you launch *Internet Explorer* to compact its ever expanding database that eventually will cause problems and eat up disk space. *Netscape* printer problems can often be solve by unchecking the "fit to page" option in the page setup dialog box.

Presentation: Connectix CopyAgent

Elsa demonstrated *CopyAgent*™ from Connectix, makers of *Virtual PC*, *Virtual Game Station*, *Speed Doubler* and *Ram Doubler*, which most of us used before memory chips became so cheap. As we found out, though, the software does require at least a power Mac with OS 8.5 or higher.

CopyAgent™ is a backup, copy and file synchronization program that can be configured to automatically back up your files according to your specifications. You select what, when, where and how through Copy Scheduling. You can do a normal backup which copies all files from the source to the destination, a SmartReplace that only copies new or altered files, or Synchronize so that both source and destination folders are identical. It can do all this over a network, often faster than the native Mac's OS can. There is also EraserAgent that is a virtual shredder, overwriting the file once or three times when deleting it so sensitive files can't be recovered. *TurboKeys*™ is also included. This allows you to use key strokes to replace the mouse, if you choose to emulate Windows. You can also set up macros which allow you to program a series of keystrokes to occur when a function key or another couple keys are typed. You can automate repetitive tasks this way, such as inserting text like your name and address. Go to www.connectix.com to order the CD or download it for \$39 and qualify for the prize drawing.

MacWorld Highlights

Some highlights from Steve Jobs' keynote were the new hardware like the optical mouse (Elsa got one for attending) for \$59, the keyboard (4 keys don't function on anything but brand new Macs, so wait a bit to order it.), five new colors for iMacs (play the commercials on the Apple Store Web site), the Studio Displays and the G4 Cube (only 19 db when running, with the toaster CD drive) and dual processor G4s. The Cube has a new one cord plug for power, monitor, etc. but the new monitors only work with it or the new G4s. Other vendors had digital cameras everywhere, firewire scanners for \$100, color printers that make archival photos to last 100 years for \$800, HP chimera machines that can scan, print, copy and fax for \$400 and \$150 Palm organizers. Thanks, Elsa, for a program with an overload of drool factor.

Raffle winners took home *CopyAgent*, an O'Reilly T-shirt, Apple mug, and more. We still have *StuffIt Deluxe*, and *Sundial Hawaii* programs, Aladdin and Macromedia product tour CDs, T-shirts, mugs, mouse pads, CD holders, markers and other prizes for future raffles. And all helped consume the Superman and Ginger cookies, Oreos and soda. Good job, guys. More next month.

– TERRY L. HELSER, SECRETARY

FALL READING: QUICKEN, INTERNET EXPLORER 5, MAC OS 9, START WITH A SCAN

MacWorld Mac OS 9 Bible, by Lon Poole and Todd Stauffer. 899 pp. IDG Books, 2000. \$39.99

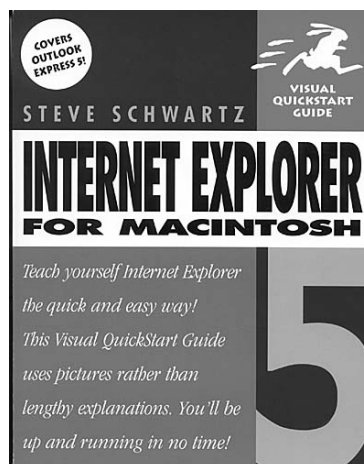
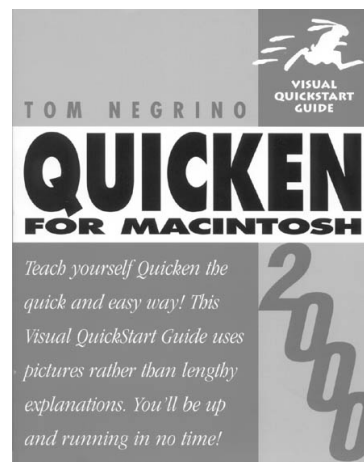
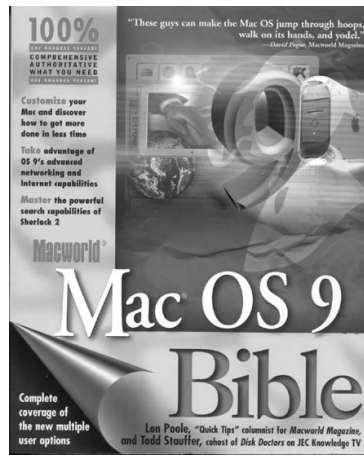
The yellow, red and black cover and thick-as-a-city-phone-book heft identify the *MacWorld Mac OS 9 Bible* as part of IDG Books' very popular and authoritative *MacWorld Bible* series, which is not to be confused with Peachpit Press's *The Macintosh Bible*. Unlike Osborne/McGraw-Hill's *Mac OS 9, the Complete Reference*, which covers everything from digital cameras to games, the *Mac OS 9 Bible* concentrates on the Macintosh operating system.

The authors start by differentiating OS 9 from OS X, the forthcoming operating system which is now in beta testing. They explain the features coming in OS X and why many Mac users will want or need to stick with OS 9. They then highlight new and hot OS 9 features including support for multiple users, Sherlock 2 and QuickTime 4, and draw attention to essential features such as aliases and contextual menus that are not new to OS 9.

Part II digs into the Finder and Desktop, menus and windows and shows ways to organize folders and save documents. Part III details the System Folder —what it contains and how to adjust settings. Part IV deals with memory management, setting up networks, file sharing, AppleScript and speech recognition. Part V covers accessory programs like the Chooser and Disk First Aid, software utilities from DragThing to TypeIt4Me, and how to troubleshoot the OS. Section VI gives complete instructions for installing OS 9, including how to perform a clean install.

Explanations are clear and the text, illustrated with black and white screen shots, is well designed. A thorough glossary explains Mac terms, and the detailed table of contents and index make for easy navigation. As an added bonus, the authors divulge over a hundred OS 9 tips and secrets, ranging from customizing folder icons to disabling virtual memory at startup.

Poole and Stauffer pack in more information on the Mac OS than I've seen anywhere else. The book can either be read chapter by chapter or used as a reference book. If you want to become an OS 9 Master, this is the book to buy.



Quicken for Macintosh 2000: Visual QuickStart Guide, by Tom Negrino. 194 pp. Peachpit: 2000. \$16.99

Intuit's *Quicken* is an amazingly capable program for organizing personal finances and managing investments. But if you're like many *Quicken* owners, all you use it for is to balance your checkbook. *Quicken 2000* is full of shortcuts, added functions and web-based information that people who have upgraded from earlier versions may not be aware of. And many would-be *Quicken* users who got the program bundled with an iMac haven't yet given the program a try. *Quicken 2000 for Macintosh: Visual QuickStart Guide* is a great resource for exploring and mastering *Quicken 2000*'s many features.

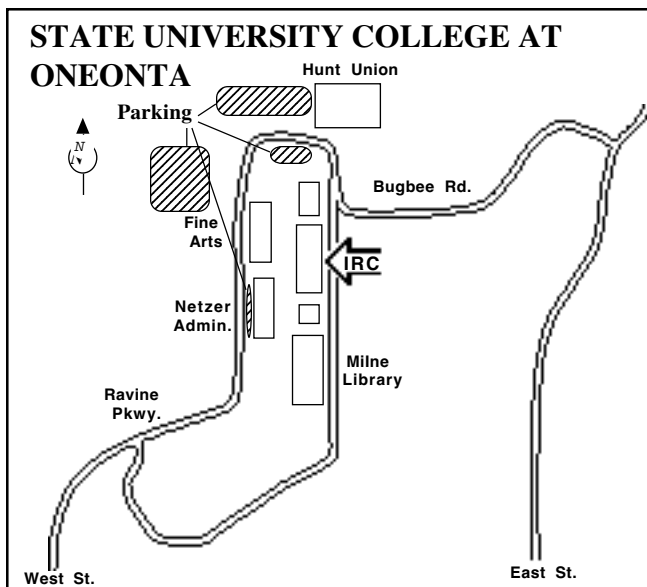
The book follows the familiar Visual QuickStart Guide format, with numbered, step by step instructions for completing specific *Quicken* tasks. Starting with installing the software, the book covers setting up accounts, using categories, registers and QuickFill, check writing, scheduling transactions and balancing your accounts. Later chapters deal with credit cards, online banking, using the powerful reports feature, loans, mortgages, managing investments, planning for the future and taxes. A final chapter touches on some of the features of quicken.com, including "finding low-rate credit cards" and "getting tax information."

Screen illustrations are plentiful but can be small and hard to read. Pages have topic names printed sideways for easy reference, and the index is thorough. This is a great guide for anyone who is new to *Quicken*, or is looking for a boost to their *Quicken* skills.

Internet Explorer 5 for Macintosh: Visual QuickStart Guide, by Steve Schwartz. 311 pp. Peachpit Press, 2000. \$17.99

New software + no manual = time for a Visual QuickStart Guide. *Internet Explorer* and *Outlook Express* are Microsoft's free web browser and email programs, and both have recently undergone major upgrades. *Internet Explorer 5 for Macintosh*:

—continued on page 4



NEWS BREAK

Newsletter of MUG ONE,
 Macintosh Users Group of Oneonta
 Editor: Elsa Travisano, 607/433-2569
 FAX: 607/433-0909
 email: mugone@stny.rr.com

News Break is an independent publication not affiliated or otherwise associated with or sponsored or sanctioned by Apple Computer, Inc. The opinions, statements, positions, and views stated herein are those of the author(s) or publisher and are not intended to be the opinions, statements, positions, or views of Apple Computer, Inc. Apple, Macintosh, Mac, and other Apple trademarks used in this issue belong to Apple Computer, Inc.

– Fall Reading, from page 3

Visual QuickStart Guide covers both *IE 5* and *OE 5* and will take the user from the basics of installing the programs, navigating the web and sending and receiving email to tracking auctions and working with newsgroups. This book belongs on the shelf of practically anyone who uses these two workhorse applications.

Schwartz explains how to configure *Internet Explorer 5* and how to use menu bars and the favorites, scrapbook, pageholder, search and history tabs. He gives an overview of searching the web as well as subscriptions and offline browsing, downloading files, and working with multimedia. In the *Outlook Express* portion of the book Schwartz details using the address book, composing, sending and receiving email, setting mail preferences, reading and posting to newsgroups and working offline. I would have liked to see a more thorough discussion on the subject of email attachments, which could practically take up a book in itself.

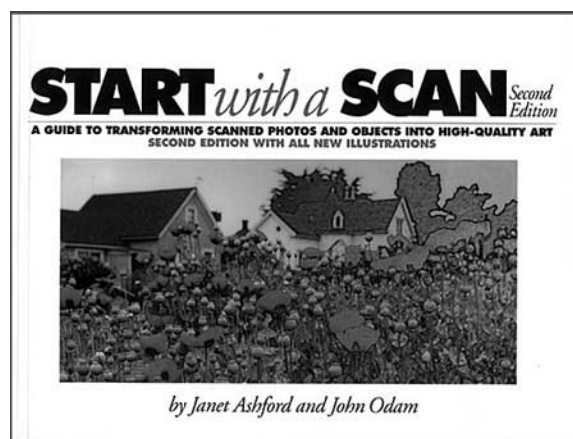
Appendices include a glossary and keyboard shortcut reference charts for *Internet Explorer*, email and news. You'll be amazed at the number of keyboard shortcuts you'll find documented there. Even if shortcuts aren't your thing, this book offers plenty of information to make you more productive with programs that you probably use every day.

Start with a Scan, 2nd edition, by Janet Ashford and John Odam. 138 pp. Peachpit Press, 2000. \$34.99

This gorgeously illustrated wide format volume takes the reader well beyond techniques for using a scanner. Subtitled "A Guide to Transforming Scanned Photos and Objects into

High-quality Art," the book tackles the larger issues of creating art from images, of "turning raw scanned images into good-looking finished illustrations."

For the second edition, (much has changed since the first edition was published in 1996) the book has been completely re-illustrated and two new chapters have been added. Topics covered include working with scanners, editing scanned images, working with printed clip art, applying artists' techniques, creating textures and backgrounds, working scanned photographs, transforming photos into graphics, creating type treatments, and scanning real objects. A new chapter on using scans in arts and crafts shows how to make origami and cut and fold boxes, artist's books, photo displays, stationery and board games like *Nine Men's Morris*. The *Scanning for the Web* chapter offers a good overview of screen versus page considerations, optimizing scanned images for the web, and making web animations with scans.



Wonderful color photographs and illustrations show how applying different colors, textures and filters to scanned images can yield all kinds of different results. For example, the section on scanning cloth shows how to scan textures and designs from your clothes closet and use them to texturize photos and create illustrations. This book is full of inspiration for artists who want to do more with their computers, and for computer users who want to venture into the realm of art.

- ELSA TRAVISANO