

# NEWS BREAK

Volume 18, Number 6

September 2003

## SEPTEMBER, 2003 MEETING

### “Welcome Back!”

Join us on September 2, 2003 at 7:30 PM in Hogdon IRC Classroom 4 on the State University at Oneonta campus for the September meeting of MUG ONE.

John Maas will show us the latest features of Apple’s Safari browser, Brian Foley will talk about transferring cassette tapes to the Mac, and Elsa Travisano will report on highlights of Macworld CreativePro Expo and the User Group Leadership Conference. Of course, we’ll have our usual question and answer session, as well as door prizes and socializing with fellow Mac users after the meeting. See you there!

Note: Sven Anderson’s lab of Power Mac G5s is still being set up, so we’ll defer our tour to a later date.



“The world’s fastest desktop computer” – the Power Mac G5

## ADAM C. ENGST TO SPEAK ON IPHOTO

We are very pleased to announce that renowned author and TidBITS publisher **Adam C. Engst** will be our guest speaker on October 14! Adam will give a live workshop on using *iPhoto 2*, based on his latest Peachpit book, *iPhoto 2: Visual QuickStart Guide*. Don’t miss this very special program, which is scheduled for a week later than our usual meeting date.

## APPLE STORE FOR ED. CUTS PRICES

The Apple Store for Education recently reduced prices of new Macs for individual purchase. The prices are now the same as those for educational institutions—5% to 15% off suggested retail price.

Who is eligible for these prices? Any of the following: higher education students enrolled in a degree program, students accepted by and intending to enroll in a higher education institution, and any higher ed faculty and staff member “who is directly associated with the institution’s academic mission and is not temporary, employed as a contractor, or acting as a consultant on behalf of the institution.”

Full-time employees of a K-12 institution are also eligible, as are preschool employees, qualified home schools and current elected or appointed school board members, PTO or PTA executives or officers. Hmm, maybe it’s time to think about running for office.

Details on the Apple Store for Education are available online at <http://store.apple.com/Catalog/US/Images/routingpage.html>

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

## POWER MAC G5 ANNOUNCED, SHIPPING

Steve Jobs chose the June 23 Worldwide Developers Conference keynote address in San Francisco to announce the the Power Mac G5. the “world’s fastest desktop computer.”

The G5 is a completely new generation of Macintosh. Sporting a anodized aluminum case, the G5 boasts speeds of up to 2 GHz. Most significantly, it is the first desktop computer with a 64-bit processor; current computers are 32-bit. This breakthrough will allow it to use up to 8 Gigabytes of main memory.

The PowerPC G5 processor chip that fuels this powerhouse is being built by IBM in a futuristic plant in East Fishkill, NY. Configurations include a 1.6 GHz model for \$1,999, a 1.8 GHz model for \$2,399, and a dual 2.0 GHz model for \$3,299. The new G5s just started shipping this past week.

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## JUNE 10, 2003 MUG ONE MEETING

President Elsa Travisano began by taste-testing the ginger cookies with the help of Brian Foley and Terry Helser. They passed [excellent baking as always, Terry - ed.] Then she introduced herself and welcomed us, including one new and one renewing member. It was good to see Sally Mullen and Doug Kinney again.

### Announcements

Elsa announced that John Mazarak, currently recovering from knee surgery, contributed pictures of the May meeting for Newsbreak. Thank you, John! Several newupdates are available from Apple, including *iTunes 4.01*, which has disabled music sharing. If you want that function, keep the prior version. If you are unsure about whether to apply a particular software update to your Mac, check the MacFixit website <http://www.macfixit.com> which tracks problems. Generally it is best to wait a week or so before installing an update. That way people like Elsa discover the problems and you don't have to. One update you do want to install is OS X 10.2.6.

While Elsa worked to get OS 9 to communicate with the projector, Brian invited those interested to email him about getting together for a basic Mac session in the Milne Library iMac lab. Librarian Jo Koenig lamented the disappearance of several new library books. This prompted a discussion on security, which is continuing among board members. Elsa reported on attending the 25th Anniversary of the Maryland Apple Corps user group along with about 200 people. Steve Wozniak, founding partner of Apple with Steve Jobs, spoke at the luncheon.

Treasurer Joanne Johnston announced our current balance of \$905.47. The Q&A session covered which OS X manual is best and most complete. The consensus is David Pogue's "OS X, the Missing Manual," published by O'Reilly Press. Note that we still have O'Reilly 20% discount coupons available. Elsa asked that anyone interested in going to the Creative Pro conference in NYC contact her.

### Program: *Reunion 7: Building Your Family Tree with Johanna Koenig*

Librarian Jo Koenig discussed her work on her family's genealogy, which started 25 years ago when she received a book of the Romanian branch of her family. Over 10 years ago she computerized her records with Dave Griswold's help. She then demonstrated how to use *Reunion 7*, Adobe *Photoshop Elements* and a scanner to attach pictures to a file, and how to save the report in a Web format on a CD that anyone with a drive can open and read.

When the snow is too deep for cross-country skiing, Jo opens the report form in *Reunion* and enters genealogical information in the fill-in-the-blank format. Easy. She opened *Photoshop Elements* (version 1.0 works with OS 9; 2.0 works with OS 9 or OS X) and showed how she scans an old photo of an relative. Once the photo was scanned, she cleaned up the image in *Photoshop Elements*, removed damage and blemishes using

the Clone tool, and saved the resulting file as a JPEG at 72 dpi. She then inserted the photo into the record file she was building. Nifty. Photos can be saved along with genealogical information to a CD-ROM in HTML format. Mac and Windows users can access the files using their web browser. The databases can also be posted on the Internet.

*Reunion* users can share their work with *Family Tree Maker* (PC only at this point), and get a CD-ROM of their family tree, if available. Information is only as accurate as those submitting information have been. This brought up the caveat that you need to cite your resources accurately for others that may follow. This is easily done with *Reunion*. Finally, an excellent point to keep in mind in this uncertain time is to password-protect your Web site, and not to include any living members if the information will be generally accessible by the public.

Excellent job, Jo and Dave! Presenting was fun, wasn't it? Anyone else have a program to offer? Among the ideas voiced were an AppleScript program, Virtual PC demonstration, networking and file sharing, and security issues. Let a board member know if you can help with next Fall's meetings. Elsa needs to know how many people are interested in receiving Newsbreak in a PDF form, rather than a mailed paper version. Moving to PDF format would save a major expense for our treasury.

Jo Koenig drew the first raffle ticket from THE Hat. Every member in attendance got to pick from CD wallets donated by MacAddict, books, Apple turtle necks and T-shirts, pens, luggage tags and other booty. The diet Coke, Sprite, ginger cookies and Oreos disappeared as we all communed. Thanks to everyone who made it a memorable program.

—TERRY L. HELSER, SECRETARY

## UGLC AND MACWORLD CREATIVEPRO

July's Macworld Creative Pro Expo and Conference in New York City had thinner crowds and fewer vendors than east coast Macworlds past, but there was plenty to keep show-goers interested and engaged. User group activities were among the highlights of the week.

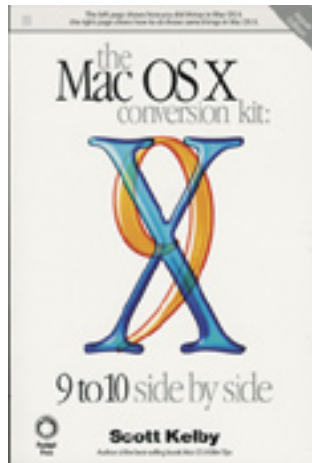
The User Group Lounge just off the Expo floor featured presentations by Mac notables including Adam Engst, David Pogue, Christopher Breen, Andy Ihnatko and the User Group Advisory Board, which includes our own Elsa Travisano.

John Maas and Tom Fitzpatrick represented MUG ONE at the Adobe User Group Breakfast while Elsa served as a volunteer. (Don't ask how early they had to get up to attend!)

The User Group Leadership Conference, planned and presented by the User Group Advisory Board, was held in the New Yorker Hotel the day before the Expo. UGLC was attended by more than eighty user group leaders from around the world.

For information about user group activities, go to:

<http://www.mugcenter.com/macworld/mwnyc2003/index.html>



### BOOKS: THE MAC OS CONVERSION KIT: 9 TO 10 SIDE BY SIDE, IPOD THE MISSING MANUAL

*The Mac OS X Conversion Kit: 9 to 10 Side by Side*, by Scott Kelby. 291 pp. Peachpit Press, 2003. \$29.99.

If you're using OS 9 (or even OS 8) and are making the transition to OS X, forget the phone book-sized tomes. You need to buy Scott Kelby's *The Mac OS X Conversion Kit: 9 to 10 Side by Side*. This book isn't designed for folks who are new to computers, or are new to the Mac. It's also not for people who are eager to delve deeply into the subtleties of OS X. The book is for people who already know how to use OS 9 and want to learn, quickly and simply, how to get things done in OS X.

The concept of the book is brilliantly simple: the left page shows how you did a task in OS 9, and the right page shows how to do the same task in OS X. The bold color screen shots and concise text make it a snap to find just the information you need, whether it's how to select a printer, add fonts, find a file or shut down the computer (yes, that's different too!) Topics are divided into chapters by theme. There are also chapters on installing OS X, things you couldn't do in OS 9, and my favorite, "20 Little Things Apple Changed Just to Mess with Your Head."

Scott Kelby is famous for his excellent "cut to the chase" books on Photoshop and, most recently, for his best-selling *OS X Killer Tips*. *The Mac OS X Conversion Kit* is clear, approachable, visually satisfying and an all-around pleasure to use. Kelby tells us that he wrote this book for his wife. This is the perfect book for my husband—skilled in OS 9 and just now making the move to OS X—and for many, many others like him. Most highly recommended.

— ELSA TRAVISANO

*iPod, the Missing Manual*, by J. D. Biersdorfer. 331 pp. Pogue Press/O'Reilly, 2003. \$24.95.

Apple's iPod is one of the coolest technological devices ever to come down the pike. Barely bigger than a pack of cards, it lets you take up to 30 Gigabytes—that's the equivalent of 7500 songs—of music, audiobooks, and even data with you wherever you go. It's the best selling portable music player in the world,

but playing music is just the beginning of what the iPod can do. *iPod, the Missing Manual* lets readers in on the full range of capabilities and possibilities their iPods have to offer.

The first part of the book covers the hardware basics of charging the iPod, using the controls and accessories, and connecting to a computer. The second part, on software, teaches you how to download and manage your music in iTunes (or MusicMatch, if you're a PC user) and how to buy tunes and albums from the iTunes Music Store. You'll also learn about sources for free and legal music on the web, and about Audible.com, the premier site for audiobooks.

The third part of the book, "Beyond the Music," goes into juicy detail on using your iPod as an address book and calendar, playing games and reading eBooks, using iSync, and using the iPod as a hard drive. You'll even learn the process for making your iPod into a startup disk for OS X, which is not as simple as it sounds.

Part four, "Extreme iPodding," covers more in-depth topics like how to connect the iPod to your home or car stereo, a round-up of web sites on the iPod, shareware and AppleScripts, and all kinds of cool accessories to spend your money on, from cases and speakers to battery boosters. The first-rate chapter on troubleshooting can help you solve a wide range of problems and avoid that call to tech support.

The book is aimed at both Mac and Windows users, and covers all the models available as of August 2003, from the original 5GB iPod to the current 2003 series. (How to tell the difference? Current iPods have the control buttons in a row; the buttons are around the scroll wheel in older models.)

*iPod, the Missing Manual* is a terrific reference and an entertaining read. There's plenty here for every iPod owner, from first-timers just pulling the shrink wrap off the exquisitely designed package to old hands eager to push the envelope. Very highly recommended.

— ELSA TRAVISANO

## SOFTWARE REVIEW

### **WARRIOR KINGS: MIRROR OF THE MEDIEVAL WORLD**



by Emily Travisano

Heroes, villains, battles and castles. Such are the things that come to mind when you hear the name of Feral Interactive's new single- and multi-player real-time strategy game. Yet *Warrior Kings* involves so much more than combat. Com-

plex economics, powerful magic, and an involved story line flesh out this game into a fun, challenging experience.

The main plot is about Young Artos, the son of a local baron, Amalric of Cravant, and his rebellion against the Empire of the One God, and its leader, the corrupt Patriarch, Ichthus Granitas. Many plot points occur along the way, as Artos sees his father killed, flees to the Isle of Angland, returns with a new army, and finally discovers the Patriarch's dark secret.

There are three paths that one can take. Each one leads to a different "Alignment." The Imperial Alignment follows the same faith as the Empire of the One God, and allows such characters as the Bishops, Holy Warriors, Imperial Archers, and the powerful Sword of God. The Pagan Alignment follows the wilder route of nature worship, but has Spider Demons, High Priestesses, Warriories of the Dawn, and Death Wyrms in its arsenal. The final Alignment, Renaissance, is a technological path built around Dragoons, Gunners, and huge siege weapons. The multi-player game adds two additional paths: the Imperial-Renaissance ("Bishops with Gunpowder") and Pagan-Renaissance ("Demons and War Machines.")

*Warrior Kings* mirrors the Middle Ages, adding one factor: What would have happened if the powers people believed in really existed? Thus, Pagans can summon demons, Imperials can use Acts of god, and Renaissance... well... that alignment just uses big guns.

Even the terrain is like Europe, with Angland based on England, the City of the one God in Northern Italy, and Cravant somewhere in Northern France.

The game play is complex and challenging. You have to run around slaying enemies, fulfilling objectives, and protecting your Peasants, who are trying to get the harvest in. You can only have so many units in your population before you reach the limit, and you have to watch your Gold, Materials and Food meters. Gold hires mercenaries, materials build buildings, and food, of course, keeps everyone healthy. If you run out of one, you're in trouble.

Every level of *Warrior Kings* is challenging. Sometimes it takes one ten tries to beat a particular level. Yet, the difficulty



*Warrior Kings*' three dimensional environment lets you immerse yourself in a complex Medieval world.

makes victory all the sweeter, and sharpens your skills for future tasks.

The game's graphics are very realistic. You move through a three dimensional world that becomes more detailed as you get closer. The graphics and terrain affect game play. For example, archers shooting from a hill can decimate a far larger force below them, while trees can be harvested for their wood. You communicate with characters through text. Characters will sometimes reply audibly to your commands with complaints, comments and the occasional lusty war cry. The sound effects help flesh out the world, and also give you signals when there's an important event. For example, you hear trumpet calls when enemies are entering your areas.

For a combat-based game, *Warrior Kings* is most wholesome. Arrows only appear as streaks of white (or orange, if they're flaming arrows). No blood or gore is seen, and dead people just sink into the ground. *Warrior Kings* works well on Macs, especially in OS X. I strongly recommend this game to medieval fantasy and/or strategy gaming fans 11 years old and up.

Enjoy playing *Warrior Kings*, and have the time of your life!

*Author Emily Travisano is thirteen years old, and is a seasoned reviewer of Macintosh software.*

### **Warrior Kings**

Feral Interactive <http://www.feral.co.uk> \$50

System Requirements:

Mac OS 9.1/OS 10.1.3 or higher, PowerPC processor running at 500 MHz, 128 MB RAM (with virtual memory set to at least 256 MB), 3D accelerated graphics card with at least 8 MB VRAM, 750 MB free hard disk space, keyboard and mouse.

## SPECIAL OFFERS - APPLE USER GROUP BULLETIN

These user group discounts are brought to you by the Apple User Group Advisory Board. You must be a current MUG member to qualify for these savings. Not a member? Join a user group today to qualify for these savings.

### O'Reilly Mac OS X Conference - October 27-30

Registration is open for the second annual O'Reilly Mac OS X Conference, to be held October 27-30, 2003 at the Westin Santa Clara, Santa Clara, CA. Early bird registration ends September 12th, 2003.

Do you want to tame Panther quickly, or live Apple's iLife to the fullest? If so, the O'Reilly Mac OS X Conference can take you where you want to go with Apple's newest software and hardware. One day of in-depth tutorials and three days of conference sessions cover topics like Cocoa, Java, Rendezvous, AirPort Extreme, Unix administration, and much more. Presenters will include Adam Engst, Andy Ihnatko, David Pogue and Dan Wood.

Apple User Group members receive 30 percent off conference session and tutorial fees with the special discount code, a savings of up to \$439 (US).

Register before September 12 and receive 30 percent off the already discounted "Early Bird" pricing. After September 12, your 30 percent discount will be applied to standard pricing.

To register, go to

<http://conferences.oreillynet.com/pub/w/25/register.html>

O'Reilly Mac OS X Conference

<http://conferences.oreillynet.com/macosex2003/>

### ZBetterscan

Many people use Adobe Photoshop to retouch their scans so they match their originals. Getting a decent color match can be time consuming and frustrating. Now you can use Photoshop to create a scan with better color matching from the start.

The ZBetterscan Method explains how to calibrate your scanner's interface to make a better scan than the "out-of-the-box color" obtained from commercial scanners. Now you can use Photoshop to create a better scan from the start. Includes a scanning book (PDF) and a custom printed custom color chart.

Regular price \$39.95 (US) plus shipping and handling

User group price \$34.95 (US) plus shipping and handling

To order, go to <http://www.zbetterscan.com> . *Offer expires December 31, 2003.*

### Grip-It Strips

Grip~it Strips are a set of high-tech slip resistant textured strips that attach to the top and bottom of your laptop to provide an incredible better grip.

Insurance studies show 3,800+ laptops a day are damaged from handling accidents, and with increased handling in hot-

spots and airport security there is added risk that your laptop will be dropped. Grip~it Strips provide the BEST protection against dropping the most expensive item you carry around, your laptop.

Exclusive MUG offer: one free pack of Grip~it Strips (a \$6.65 (US) value) with purchase of 3 packs for \$19.95 (US).

To order, go to <http://www.gripitstrips.com> and use Referral code: "\*\*\*\*\*", then specify 4 packages by color and design. *Offer expires December 31, 2003.*

### MacWarehouse: Brian Caputo, Account Rep

MacWarehouse account rep Brian Caputo is pleased to announce a new MUG member discount from MacWarehouse in time for the new G5's. He's offering user group members a 5 percent discount off most Apple products (discounts may be higher on non-Apple products).

If you were thinking of buying the new G5, now is the time. The sooner you reserve your new 64 bit G5, the sooner you will be envy of your group--and you'll have paid a great price, too!

The discount is available exclusively through Brian Caputo at MacWarehouse. To order call 1-800-622-6222 x 1 57408 or email [Brian.Caputo@warehouse.com](mailto:Brian.Caputo@warehouse.com) with your MacWarehouse request. This ongoing offer is available worldwide.

### CodeTek VirtualDesktop

Special 30 percent savings for Mac user group members! CodeTek VirtualDesktop is the number one virtual desktop program available for Mac OS X. If you need better productivity and multitasking functionality on your Mac, you need CodeTek VirtualDesktop. Add up to 100 virtual desktops (each with its own set of windows) on your monitor when you purchase the registration code. CodeTek VirtualDesktop has many special features including HotKeys, Focus-Follows-Mouse, assigning apps to specific desktops, and much more. It's a great value for only \$21. Available for download only.

Check out Codetek VirtualDesktop: <http://www.codetek.com/php/virtual.php>

Purchase and Save 30 percent: [http://www.codetek.com/php/\\*\\*\\*\\*\\*.php](http://www.codetek.com/php/*****.php) *Offer expires December 31, 2003.*

### The MUG Store

From iPods to iBooks, iMacs to the latest Power Mac G5s, the MUG Store has you covered with a great selection of new and refurbished Mac equipment. Right now you can buy an eMac for as little as \$688 (US), then add 256 MB of memory for \$30 (US) with the No Stinkin' Rebate MUG Store RAM offer. Remember that your user group gets one percent back toward anything the MUG Store sells every time a member orders from the MUG Store.

<http://www.applemugstore.com>



## MAC 911 – SWITCH, DON'T FIGHT

By Christopher Breen

Former PC users -- Switchers -- have received so much recent attention that longtime Mac users may feel disregarded: "Hey, I've been using a Mac since 1984! Where's my danged banjo-pickin' commercial?" Chin up. In a way, we're all Switchers -- from Outlook Express to Apple Mail, from QuarkXPress to Adobe InDesign, from the miserable round mouse to a multibutton rodent. With that in mind, this month's Mac 911 examines similar switches -- moving from AOL to a better ISP, leaving Microsoft Office behind, seeking alternatives to iCal, and swapping out a PowerBook's hard drive.

### America Offline

*My mom is on America Online and wants to get off. I've set her up with Microsoft Entourage and a new ISP, but she'd like copies of all her stored e-mail messages and bookmarks before she leaves AOL. Is there a way to retrieve them? -- Steven Goodman, Macworld.com forums*

There is, but AOL doesn't make it easy.

AOL uses proprietary formats for its e-mail, bookmarks (termed Favorite Places), and address book. Regrettably, the exclusive nature of these formats renders the import commands in Entourage and Web browsers impotent. Therefore, it takes a bit of manual labor to move messages and bookmarks out of AOL and into a format compatible with other applications.

AOL's e-mail format is the worst offender.

To shift her e-mail to Entourage, your mother will have to log on to AOL and forward all her saved messages to her new e-mail address. This is a tedious process, but it provides the minor side benefit of reassuring her that leaving AOL was the right thing to do.

To transfer her bookmarks, she must once again fire up AOL, choose Favorite Places from the Favorites folder in AOL's toolbar, select the bookmarks she wants to transfer, and drag them to the desktop, where each bookmark will turn into a separate file.

Then she must go to [www.elephant-place.de/Link Converter](http://www.elephant-place.de/LinkConverter), and download a copy of Michael Keuter's LinkConverter. This free OS 9 utility (which also works well in OS X's Classic environment) will allow her to convert AOL's bookmarks into files compatible with today's Web browsers. To convert the information, she can just drag those AOL bookmarks onto either the Link To MSIE or the Link To NAV icon.

Should your mother care to move her address book, refer her to Apple's Older Software Downloads site ([www.info.apple.com/support/oldersoftwarelist.html](http://www.info.apple.com/support/oldersoftwarelist.html)), where she can get a copy of AOL Address Extractor. This OS 9 utility, originally intended to convert AOL addresses to a Claris Mailer-friendly format, will place the contents of AOL's address book into a text file.

From that text file, your mother can copy and paste her addresses into Entourage's address book.

### Change the Date

*I need a more robust calendar application than iCal, and I'm willing to pay for it. Any suggestions? -- Catherine Drozdowski, Macworld.com forums*

There are three main Macintosh calendar applications. Microsoft Entourage, the e-mail client in the \$499 Microsoft Office v. X suite, includes a comprehensive calendar component ("Mac OS X E-mail Guide," October 2002). Palm offers the free Palm Desktop 4.0 (; July 2002). And Now Software has the \$120 Now Up-to-Date & Contact 4.2.6 (; August 2002). Like iCal, they all include such features as alarms, to-do lists, integration with contacts, and Palm synchronization.

I'd start with Palm Desktop for the simple reason that it's free. In addition to costing nary a nickel, it's nicely laid out and supports the vCard and vCal standards -- thus allowing you to export contact and calendar information easily. Palm Desktop does not, however, allow you to share your calendars or publish them on the Web.

If you own Microsoft Office, you've already got Entourage. The integration of e-mail and contact- and calendar-management within a single application allows you to perform iCal-like operations such as creating a calendar event, inviting a group of people in your Entourage address book to that event, and sending invitations all within a single window. An update slated for this summer will provide greater integration with Microsoft's Outlook Exchange Server -- so you can share calendar information with other Entourage users and those who use Outlook on a Windows PC.

Now Up-to-Date & Contact (NUDC) isn't free, but it does allow you to share calendars across a network, thanks to the bundled Public Event Server. By the time you read this, Now may have released an update to NUDC that provides synchronization between NUDC and Apple's Address Book. An update to follow shortly thereafter may add the ability to subscribe to published iCal calendars. Keep an eye on Now's Web site for details as they become available.

### The Cloning Kind

*I'd like to transfer files from my PowerBook G3's (Pismo) hard drive to a higher-capacity drive. To do this, I bought a 60GB hard drive, along with a FireWire enclosure. I've downloaded Carbon Copy Cloner, and I'm ready to transfer files and make the switch. But I can't find a detailed description of how to do this. -- Jim Furlong, Macworld.com forums*

Install the new hard drive in the enclosure and string a FireWire cable between the enclosure and your PowerBook. Launch Disk Utility (found in the Utilities folder inside the Applications folder), select the Erase or Partition tab (depending on whether you want to format the drive as a single volume or partition it into more than one), and format the drive in Mac

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OS Hierarchical File System Extended (HFS+) format.

Launch Carbon Copy Cloner (free; [www.bombich.com](http://www.bombich.com)). From the Source Disk pop-up menu in the Cloning Console window, choose a volume on your internal drive that contains OS X. From the Target Disk pop-up menu, select the drive in the FireWire enclosure. Click on the Preferences button; in the Target Disk Option portion of the resulting sheet, select the Make Bootable option -- this will allow you to boot from the drive currently inside the enclosure.

Click on Save to dismiss the sheet, and then click on the Lock icon. When asked to do so, enter your administrator's password and click on OK. To copy the files from your internal drive to the new hard drive, click on Clone -- and go have a libation while Carbon Copy Cloner does its job.

Once the cloning process is complete, direct your browser to this article for step-by-step instructions on how to replace your PowerBook's hard drive.

### Staying Awake

*Is there a way to disable the sleep-activation settings temporarily for specific applications? -- From the Macworld.com forums*

You mean, for example, for those times when you'd rather burn a DVD with your Mac than create a coaster? Regrettably, I've yet to find a way to tie Energy Saver activation to individual applications. However, I can offer you a method easier than opening Mac OS X's System Preferences.

That method is Alexey Manannikov's free utility, SleepLess. When you launch SleepLess, it produces a tiny, floating palette with a button that reads Never Sleep. Click on this button, and your Mac will have a case of insomnia until you click on the button -- which now reads Sleep OK -- once again.

### Smacking the Ceiling

*I urged a friend to upgrade the RAM in his iMac by adding a 256MB chip, even though the manual suggests that rev. A and rev. B iMacs hold a maximum of 160MB of RAM. When we rebooted the computer, the amount of RAM had increased, but only by 128MB. Is there a way to use all 256MB on this iMac? -- From the Macworld.com forums*

Quite possibly. The first thing you should do is zip over to the Apple Featured Software site ([www.info.apple.com/support/downloads.html](http://www.info.apple.com/support/downloads.html)) and, in the Search For Downloads field, type the words iMac firmware. Before an iMac can exceed Apple's RAM limits, it may need a firmware upgrade. Download the update appropriate for your iMac model and run it. If your iMac already has the latest firmware installed, the updater will tell you so.

If the firmware update does no good, it's time to contact the vendor that sold you the RAM. Although Apple claims some of its models will hold only so many megabytes of memory, they can actually hold more if given compatible RAM. For example, Apple claims that the original iMac can bear only 160MB of RAM when in reality it can embrace as much as

384MB. (My rev. B iMac ticks along quite nicely with 320MB.) The RAM vendor may claim that it supports only those limits provided by Apple. In such cases, ask to swap the RAM for a new chip. If the company refuses to swap, visit TechWorks (800/688-7466, [www.techworks.com](http://www.techworks.com)).

Why TechWorks? When I intend to exceed Apple's limits, I patronize a dealer that advertises its RAM as able to meet the Mac's real limits. TechWorks does just that. If my Mac doesn't recognize all the megabytes I've installed, I have the option to call TechWorks' tech support, politely clear my throat, and say, "Ya know, it says on your Web site that my iMac will hold 384MB of RAM, and yet. . . ." Under these circumstances (which I've never experienced, by the way), TechWorks should do the right thing.

### Tip of the Month

Thanks to the keypad found on many Macs' keyboards, you may not need to display the on-screen keypad in Apple's Calculator. Here's how to make a calculator that displays only the results field.

In a text editor, open the Calculator preference file -- found in your user folder at Library: Preferences: com.apple.calculator.plist. Change the values under the key NSWindow Frame Calculator to read 555 380 182 75 0 0 1024 746 .

Save the preference file and enjoy your new, compact Calculator. If you want the old Calculator back, simply delete the preference file and all is normal again. -- John Powers, Elyria, Ohio

### UNSOLICITED ADVICE

If, like me, you install every intriguing utility that appears on VersionTracker.com, the Other portion of your System Preference window undoubtedly brims with preference panes for programs you haven't touched in months. Care to clear the clutter? Here's how.

Navigate to the PreferencePanels folder inside the Library folder at the root level of your hard drive (Library: PreferencePanels). Inside this folder you'll see folders bearing the names of some of the preference panes in System Preferences. Drag those panes you no longer need to the Trash.

Wait, you're not done yet. Preference panes can also dwell within your user folder, so go to Library: PreferencePanels and toss any preference panes there that you no longer require.

You really should be done now, but if you insist on viewing every Preference Panes folder on your Mac, you'll find one more at System: Library: PreferencePanels. This folder contains Apple's preference panes -- items you can't trash without changing the permission settings of the folder. Unless you have a very good reason for doing so, you should not trash the items in this folder.

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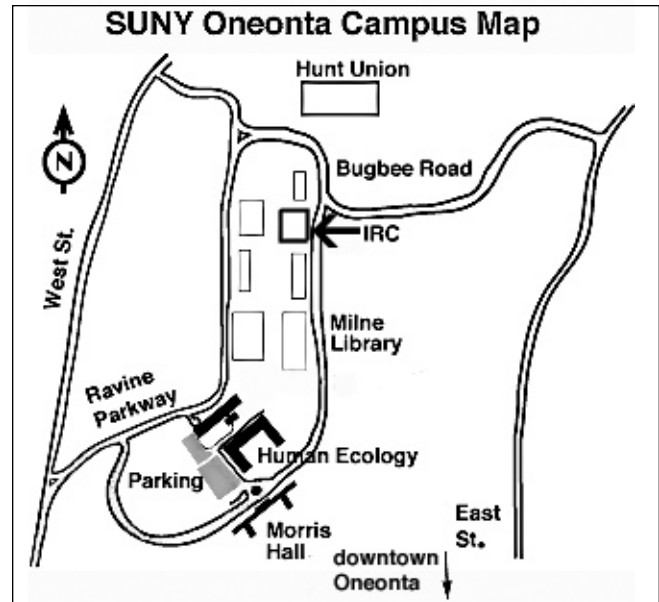
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## JULY 31, 2003 MUG ONE OFFICERS' MEETING

President Elsa Trivisano, Vice-President Tom Fitzpatrick, Secretary Terry Helser, Program Chair John Maas, SIG leader Brian Foley and Librarian Johanna Koenig (with Charlie), attended the meeting at Terry Helser's country home, Hemlock Chalet. The evening began with tours of the house, addition in progress and the pond. Elsa then started the meeting while the munchies were consumed and the meat broiled.

Elsa reported that the NYC Macworld CreativePro conference generated only a handful of new additions to our door prize collection. Concerning future meetings, Dave Marra has offered to repeat his show, so we concurred that "May is Marra Month." At the conference Elsa enticed Ben Waldie to come present a program on AppleScript. Adam Engst, editor of TidBITS <http://www.tidbits.com/> and author of Peachpit Press books on iPhoto and wireless networking, is a possible October 14 presenter. Elsa would like to coordinate with Binghamton and Albany users' groups to publicize these meetings. Johanna and I offered to host one or both speakers, or the club could put them up in a hotel if needed.

Other program ideas included Macaroni, a \$7.99 maintenance program, Disk Doctor from Apple, Disk Warrior, Security software, backing up programs and files, finding files with the "Activity" option on Safari, tab browsing and others. This led to a "Keeping your Mac Healthy" or "Healthy Computing" topic, and the possibility of having one or more programs with several short tips and tricks demonstrations. Perhaps a John's Tips Corner? It would be helpful if presenters would document their sources, or had a list of references.

We decided that we need a timekeeper to give presenters their five minute and two minute warnings. We also need to wrap up the Q&A session at 8 p.m. so presentations can begin promptly. Elsa requested that board members email

their meeting suggestions to the board's email list. Members can send meeting suggestions to the MUG ONE member list or to [mugone@stny.rr.com](mailto:mugone@stny.rr.com). When the mosquitos starting to attack we moved inside, and a couple early departures ended the serious discussions. Before we left Elsa advised us of the custom of saying "rabbit" the first thing on awakening on the first day of each month to bring good fortune. (Thank you, Sally Mullen!) On that note...

Since we were full of chips, veggies, dip, salads, turkey brats, burgers, brownies, tea, lemonade, coffee and soda, we adjourned until September 2 at 7:30 pm in IRC-4 when the new academic year begins.

–TERRY L. HELSER, SECRETARY

## TROUBLESHOOTING ESSENTIALS

Want to save yourself some headaches? Take a minute to pull together the following disks and information and put them in a safe place near your computer. When you have to call tech support or have your computer serviced, you'll have what you need. close at hand.

### Information

- Your Mac's model (ie. slot-loading iMac) and serial number
- Your user name and password (OS X).
- Your internet service provider contact info, and the name and password for each account you use. If you're not sure what your password is (Roadrunner users, take note), look on your installation receipt or contact your ISP.

### Disks

- The Install and Restore disks that shipped with your Mac
- The Hardware Test disk that shipped with newer Macs
- Your AppleCare disk and account number, if you have AppleCare (which I strongly recommend).

– ELSA TRIVISANO