

NEWS BREAK

MACINTOSH USERS GROUP, ONEONTA, NEW YORK

Volume 18, Number 1

Web version

January/February 2003

FEBRUARY 4, 2003 MEETING

“One Thing Old, Some Things New”

— Brian Foley, Elsa Travisano and John Maas

Join us on **Tuesday, February 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). Note the change in DAY and ROOM this semester!

Brian Foley will show basic tips in “Beginners Spotlight,” Elsa Travisano will share news from Macworld Expo San Francisco and give a brief look at Apple’s *Keynote* presentation software, and John Maas will preview *Safari*, Apple’s new web browser.

Come try your luck in the raffle, order Peachpit Press books, share refreshments, and ask Terry what this month’s title means. All are welcome—see you there!

APPLE UNVEILS SOFTWARE CORNUCOPIA

Steve Jobs introduced a bounty of new Apple software at his Macworld Expo San Francisco keynote on January 6. *Safari*, a free download, is a speedy, sophisticated web browser featuring built-in Google searches and a pop-up blocker. *Final Cut Express* offers most of *Final Cut Pro*’s powerful video editing capabilities for just \$299. *Keynote* is a \$99 *PowerPoint*-like presentation program with gorgeous graphics and an intuitive interface. And *iLife* combines *iPhoto 2*, *iMovie 3*, *iTunes 3* and *iDVD 3* for \$49; the first three applications will be available for free download. Naturally, all require OS X. For more information, go to <http://www.apple.com> or to the Apple Store.

“BEGINNERS SPOTLIGHT” NEW FOR 2003

OK, we know that, for our less experienced members, MUG ONE presentations can be baffling at times. We want to make sure that you come away from meetings with information you can use—and understand. To that end, we’re pleased to introduce the “Beginners Spotlight.”

“Beginners Spotlight” will be a regular meeting segment featuring basic tips and information. Brian Foley is hosting February’s “Spotlight” session, and he welcomes suggestions for topics. Contact Brian at foleymb@dmcom.net or give him a call at 607/988-7031 to share your ideas for future “Spotlights.”



Tiny and supersized—Apple’s new 12 and 17 inch PowerBooks

12" AND 17" POWERBOOKS ANNOUNCED

On January 6 Apple announced two new PowerBooks that bracket the current 15" PowerBook in size. The diminutive 12" model is exactly the width of the keyboard, weighs less than 4.6 pounds, and starts at \$1799. The 17" model, purportedly the size of a small cafeteria tray, features a back-lit keyboard, Firewire 800, a screen with the viewing area of a 19" monitor, and starts at \$3299. Both are made of aluminum alloy and feature Bluetooth wireless technology and Airport Extreme.

MUG ONE OFFICERS FOR 2002-2003

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Elsa Travisano, President mugone@stny.rr.com | 607/433-2569 |
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DECEMBER 2, 2002 MUG ONE MEETING

As members and guests arrived, signed in and got their raffle ticket for the meeting, they were surprised to receive a very nice holiday gift—a black fabric CD wallet, donated to the group by MacAddict Magazine’s marketing manager Alison McCreery. MacAddict was VERY generous, so look for more wallets as door prizes at future meetings. Just another benefit of being a member of MUG ONE.

President Elsa Travisano began by introducing herself and welcoming members and guests. A few copies of Macworld Magazine’s Mac OS X Buyers Guide are still available for \$7.50 a copy, but several were sold tonight, so act quickly if you want one and the CDs it contains. Joanne Johnston reported that we had \$1453.69 in the bank before tonight’s meeting.

Because of SUNY Oneonta’s class schedule, this spring we will meet on the first Tuesday of the month and will change rooms to lecture hall #4. Thus, our next meeting is February 4. Jo Koenig, librarian, noted several recent Library additions including an updated version of *Disk Warrior* to defragment disks, several books on digital cameras, *The Little iMac Book 3rd edition*, *iPhoto* and *Photoshop Elements* books and *OS X Disaster Relief*. Elsa mentioned the Crossgates Apple Store’s free classes on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays. Brian is scheduling another basic SIG meeting for Monday, Dec. 9 at 6-7 PM.

Questions and Answers

Jo began the Q&A with an *iPhoto* question about unsupported screen resolution. Screen resolution can be changed in the Apple menu-Control Panels-Monitors panel or through the Control Strip in OS 9. In OS X, go to System Preferences-Displays. Jake suggested the easiest way to capture audio is by holding the Mac microphone in front of the source speakers [needs a quiet room! Ed.]. *Adobe Premiere* can also capture audio and change it to iTunes or MP3 files, says Jake.

Program: Hardware and Software Showcase

Elsa started the program with the hardware answer to Sven Anderson’s caution to video editors: “if you think you have a large hard drive, you don’t.” She showed a LaCie 120 GB FireWire drive (\$269, carried at the Apple Store) which features a slim aluminum case that can be vertically, horizontally or rack mounted. The drive, with its cool blue status light, also comes in 60, 80, 200, 250, 400 and 500(!) GB FireWire models, as well as USB 2 and UltraSCSI models. These drives look very slick and are excellent for archiving files (backup, backup...). Elsa then demonstrated the iRock transmitter which plugs in to an iPod or MP3 player and broadcasts the audio to your car or home radio on the 88.1-88.7 FM signal. The mouse-sized unit requires 2 AA batteries and costs \$29.

Elsa demoed the Mac OS X Buyers Guide’s two CDs, which include a matrix of all (as of 2002) 2, 3 and 4 megapixel cameras, a guide to OS X and 250 MB (current as of 9/02) of games,

demos, etc. Perfect if you have a dial-up connection.

John Maas has posted a page with links to products demoed at the meeting, linked through the meeting title on www.mugone.com. Among the shareware and freeware he demonstrated were *PopUp Zapper*, which removes those annoying windows as soon as they appear (\$20 from Batista.org), *PixelNhanche*, which helps change resolution and color balance, and *Curator* which makes thumbnails of all photos in a folder (both freeware). For \$16 you can use *Audio Hijack* to capture audio streams from the Internet and edit them with *iTunes* or *QuickTime*. \$20 gets *CopyPaste* which holds up to 100 file parts instead of one for repetitive tasks.

Jake Richtsmeier showed the Microsoft optical three-button mouse for under \$20. Apparently you can “right click” in OS X, just like on that other platform. Apple has lots of links to games at www.apple.com/games/trailers. *WWII Online* is \$40 online (OS X only), *F1 Championship* (car racing) and kids games are there, too. Pangea Software (www.pangeasoft.net/) has games that came with the iMac or iBook, including *OttoMatic*, *Nanosaur* and *Bugdom*. Download.com has many more game downloads along with user reviews and ratings.

Finally, Brian showed *ClickBook* (\$50), which takes word processing files and shrinks, collates and prints them in a book format, or puts several pages on one. Nifty. He also recommended using ink4art.com for refill inkjet cartridges. Opinions differed on the trade-off between low cost and possible printer damage. Elsa pointed out that the high humidity and temperatures of August (not a problem now when I’m looking at 4 feet of snow out my window!) are very hard on printers. Also HP printers seem less fussy about refills than Epsoms. Good discussion, everyone!

John Maas drew the first winning ticket for the raffle, and your deserving secretary got to take home the *Photo-Objects 50,000* collection of clip art! It MUST be the hat!?! I Love this group! Then every member in attendance got to pick from software, books, T-shirts, key chain lights, pens, luggage tags and other booty. Much more in the new year! The Coke, Sprite, mint chocolate snaps, peanut butter crisscross, iced brownies and sugar cookies disappeared as we all communed for our Holiday Party. An excellent program, party and evening! Thanks to everyone who donated treats and made it memorable.

—TERRY L. HELSER

NEW CINEMA DISPLAYS, G4 DESKTOPS

On January 27 Apple announced a 20” Cinema Display for \$1299, and major price reductions on the 17” and 23” displays, from \$999 to \$699 and \$3499 to \$1999 respectively. Four new G4 desktop models were also announced, starting with a 1GHz model priced at \$1499, and topping out at \$3799 for a dual 1.42 GHz model. All sport Firewire 800 and are Bluetooth ready, except for the dual 1.42 GHz model which comes with Bluetooth installed. For details, go to <http://www.apple.com>.

SOFTWARE REVIEW

*Toon Boom Studio - 2D Animation Software*

Toon Boom Technologies <http://www.toonboom.com>
\$379.95

Ever wanted to bring your artwork to life, but can't find the right software to do the job? If you are looking for an animation program that has the features of Macromedia *Flash*, Adobe *Illustrator* and Corel *Painter*, but has the layout of 3D programs like Alias|Wavefront *Maya*, you should check out *Toon Boom Studio*. The program is well laid out and has many features that extend beyond traditional animation capabilities.

The animator working in *Toon Boom Studio* has the choice of using top, front and side camera views that can give a three dimensional perspective. This gives the user a great deal of control over the environment that would normally be limited to a single view. In addition to all the traditional art tools found in programs like *Painter*, *Toon Boom Studio* has a speech synchronization feature that helps connect sound with animation. This feature is most effective when matching dialog to a particular character. The program also allows the animator to import film and manipulate it. This very powerful feature allows the animator endless possibilities, limited only by your imagination.

Overall, *Toon Boom Studio* can help one create professional looking films that have a production quality feel to them. I found *Toon Boom Studio* easy to work with, and I believe it can even be adapted for use by middle and high school students. *Toon Boom Studio* is an effective tool that can breathe new life into your artwork.

— JAKE RICHTSMEIER

System Requirements:

Power Macintosh G4 (recommended) or G3, Mac OS X, 128 MB of system RAM, 100 MB of available hard drive space, 24-bit color display with at least 8 MB video RAM, capable of 1024x768 resolu-

MUG ONE TREASURER'S REPORT

1/1/02-1/5/03

| | Received | Paid | Total |
|----------------------------|-----------|----------|-------------------|
| Bank Balance 1/1/02 | | | \$1255.69 |
| Income | | | |
| Dues through 12/31/02 | \$1626.00 | | |
| Magazines | 201.50 | | |
| Books (Peachpit) | 436.35 | | |
| Raffle | 125.00 | | |
| Other | 8.00 | | |
| Income | | | \$2396.85 |
| Expenses | | | |
| Printing | | \$289.62 | |
| Postage | | 327.30 | |
| PO Box | | 46.00 | |
| Books | | 475.70 | |
| Hardware | | 206.00 | |
| Software | | 166.04 | |
| Checks | | 19.50 | |
| Exec. meetings | | 131.37 | |
| Macworld | | 332.66 | |
| Magazines | | 194.45 | |
| Flowers | | 90.39 | |
| Picnic | | 60.15 | |
| Misc. | | 182.44 | |
| Expenses | | | -\$2521.62 |
| Bank Balance 1/5/03 | | | \$1130.92 |

— JOANNE JOHNSTON, TREASURER

NEW ADDITIONS TO MUG ONE LIBRARY

The following books were recently added to the MUG ONE library by MUG ONE's librarian Jo Koenig:

The Little iMac Book, 2nd edition, by Robin Williams

InDesign 2, Visual Quickstart Guide, by Sandee Cohen

Mac OS X v. 10.2 Jaguar Killer Tips, by Scott Kelby

The Little Mac OS X Book Jaguar edition, by Robin Williams

Stop by the library at Main Street Print Shop, 353 Main Street, Oneonta to borrow these and other titles. Most library materials circulate for one month. Hardware may be borrowed for one week by calling Barbara Dauria at 607-433-7800.

Be sure to return all materials on time—someone may be waiting. Materials may be borrowed only by MUG ONE members.

RETURNING LIBRARY MATERIALS

Please return all library materials to the LIBRARY, not to the employees of Main Street Print Shop. When you return items, please write the date of return on the circulation page in the looseleaf notebook, then place the item(s) in the basket so that the librarian can put them away in their place. Thanks!

—JO KOENIG

Lending Library - Books

updated 1/28/03

| | | | | |
|----|-----|---|------------------------------|-----------------|
| B | 487 | The Little Mac OS X Book, Jaguar Edition | OS X | Book |
| B | 486 | The Little iMac Book, Second Edition | iMacs | Book |
| B | 485 | Mac OS X Killer Tips | OS X | Book |
| B | 484 | InDesign 2 Visual QuickStart Guide | InDesign 2.0 | Book |
| B | 483 | Mac OS X Disaster Relief | Troubleshooting | Book |
| B | 482 | The Little Digital Camera Book | Digital Cameras | Book |
| B | 481 | The Little iMac Book, Third Edition | iMacs | Book |
| B | 480 | iPhoto for Mac OS X, Visual QuickStart Guide | iPhoto 1.1 | Book |
| B | 479 | iPhoto, The Missing Manual | iPhoto 1.1 | Book |
| BC | 478 | Photoshop 7 Artistry, Mastering the Digital Image | Photoshop 7.0 | Book & CD-ROM |
| BC | 477 | The Macintosh Digital Hub | iTunes, iPhoto, iMovie, iDVE | Book & CD-ROM |
| BC | 476 | Adobe Photoshop Elements 2.0 Idea Kit | Photoshop Elements 2.0 | Book & CD-ROM |
| B | 475 | Photoshop 7 Down & Dirty Tricks | Photoshop 7.0 | Book |
| B | 474 | Mac OS X, The Missing Manual | OS X | Book |
| BC | 473 | Adobe PageMaker 7.0 Classroom in a Book | PageMaker 7.0 | Book & CD-ROM |
| B | 472 | Learning Unix for Mac OS X | OS X | Book |
| B | 471 | The Macintosh Bible, 8th edition | general reference | Book |
| B | 470 | Robin Williams Web Design Workshop | Web design | Book |
| B | 469 | Photoshop 6 Down & Dirty Tricks | Photoshop | Book |
| B | 468 | Mac 911 | troubleshooting | Book |
| B | 467 | The Little Mac OS X Book | OS X | Book |
| B | 466 | Office 2001 for Macintosh: the Missing Manual | Microsoft Office | Book |
| B | 465 | Dreamweaver 3 Visual QuickStart Guide | Web design | Book |
| B | 464 | The Arts and Crafts Computer | Arts and graphics | Book |
| B | 463 | The Little Mac Book, 7th ed. | beginners | Book |
| B | 462 | How to Do Everything with Your Palm Handheld | Palm PDAs | Book |
| B | 461 | Photoshop 6 Effects Magic | Photoshop | Book |
| B | 460 | Microsoft Office for Mac 2001 Visual Quickstart | Microsoft Office | Book |
| B | 459 | Macintosh OS X Visual Quickstart Guide | OS X | Book |
| B | 458 | The Macintosh Bible, 7th ed. | general Mac reference | Book |
| BC | 457 | Inside Adobe Photoshop 6 | photography | Book & CD-ROM |
| BC | 456 | Adobe GoLive 5.0 Classroom in a Book | program instruction | Book & CD-ROM |
| BC | 455 | Adobe Illustrator 9 Classroom in a Book | program instruction | Book & CD-ROM |
| B | 454 | AppleWorks for Macintosh Visual Quickstart | program instruction | Book |
| B | 453 | Quicken 2001 Visual QuickStart Guide | program instruction | Book |
| B | 452 | Adobe Electronic Publishing Guide | electronic publishing | Book |
| B | 451 | iMovie 2, the Missing Manual | making videos | Book |
| B | 450 | iMac Fast & Easy | iMac operation | Book |
| B | 449 | Animation on the Web | Web design | Book |
| B | 448 | Sad Macs, Bombs, and Other Disasters, 4th ed. | software problems | Book |
| B | 448 | Sad Macs, Bombs, and Other Disasters, 3rd ed. | software problems | Book |
| B | 445 | Macintosh System 7 at Your Fingertips | operating system | Book |
| B | 443 | Mac Bible, 6th Edition | General Reference | Book |
| B | 441 | Mac OS 7.6 for Dummies | Macintosh Reference | Book |
| B | 440 | PageMaker 4 Made Easy | desktop publishing | Book |
| B | 439 | The Non-Designer's Web Book, 2nd. ed | Web design | Book |
| B | 438 | The Non-Designer's Web Book | Web design | Book |
| BD | 437 | Desktop Publisher's Survival Kit | Publishing | Book & Diskette |
| B | 436 | Internet Explorer for Macintosh | Internet | Book |
| B | 435 | The Little Audio CD Book | burning music CDs | Book |
| BC | 434 | Internet Starter Kit | Internet | Book & CD-ROM |
| BC | 433 | My iMac | iMacs | Book & CD-ROM |
| B | 432 | OS 9 Quickstart Guide | Operating Systems | Book |
| BC | 431 | Macs for Teachers, 2nd edition | General Reference | Book |
| B | 430 | The Little Mac Book, 6th edition | Hardware | Book |
| B | 429 | Start with a Digital Camera | Digital Cameras | Book |
| B | 426 | Macintosh Bible, 2nd. ed. | Reference ©1989 | Book |
| BD | 416 | The Mac Book of Microsoft Word 5 | Microsoft Word 5 | Book |
| BD | 410 | Icons for the Masses | Icons | Book & Diskette |
| BD | 408 | ResEdit Complete, 2nd. ed. | ResEdit | Book & Diskette |
| BC | 407 | The Little Mac Toolkit | Utilities | Book & CD-ROM |
| B | 403 | The Dead Mac Scrolls | old computers | Book |
| B | 401 | Macintosh Bible 4th Edition | General reference | Book |
| B | 400 | Myst - The Official Strategy Guide | Myst | Book |

Library Materials circulate for one month to current MUG ONE members

Library: Main Street Print Shop 353 Main St., Oneonta, NY 13820 Librarian: Johanna Koenig 607/432-4975

SOFTWARE REVIEW

Adobe InDesign 2.0

Adobe <http://www.adobe.com>

\$699, \$149 upgrade from previous versions of *InDesign*

Licensed *PageMaker* users may upgrade to *InDesign* for \$299

After more than fifteen years of working with *PageMaker*, my once-amicable relationship with the original page layout application was beginning to wear thin. *PageMaker 7.0* was flaky running in Classic under OS X. Multiple insertion points would appear when I worked with text, scrolling around a page would send me flying to the far corners of the pasteboard, and attempting to create a PDF invariably resulted in a freeze and crash. Clearly, the program was not up to speed for the brave new world of fast processors and OS X. It was time to retire the old warhorse and move to its successor.

Enter *InDesign 2.0*, Adobe's flagship page layout software. After experimenting with Adobe's free 30-day try out CD-ROM, with its tutorials and instructional videos (fill out a form at Adobe's web site to request it by mail), I was ready to take the plunge. John Maas kindly gave me a hands-on orientation, just as Harriett Johnson had introduced me to *PageMaker 1.0* many years before. John's orientation served mostly as a morale booster; once I spent a little time with *InDesign 2.0*, I was amazed at how easy it was to make the transition.

Adobe has put a lot of effort into designing a common interface for its applications so that tools, palettes, commands and keyboard shortcuts are the same across programs. If you use other Adobe products such as *Photoshop*, *Illustrator* or *Acrobat*, you'll feel right at home in *InDesign*.

The interface is so sensible and intuitive to use, I sometimes find myself grinning with pleasure. Functions that were buried deep in *PageMaker 7.0*'s menus and sub-menus, such as changing the amount of space that precedes or follows a paragraph, are available at the click of a tab on the palettes that occupy the right edge of the work area. The Toolbox palette that floats on the left side of work area includes the eyedropper, gradient tool and Bezier pen tool along with tools for scaling and transforming objects. Best of all, there are two buttons at the bottom of the Toolbox that toggle between Normal View mode and Preview Mode. This hides guides, rulers and other non-printing items to give a glimpse of the finished page. Wow!

In the process of writing this review, I migrated the production of *Newsbreak* from *PageMaker 7* to *InDesign 2.0*. I was pleasantly surprised to see how well *InDesign 2.0* retained the styles, layout and formatting from my *PageMaker 7.0* template. If you've ever tried to recreate a page layout design in another application, you know what a chore that can be. Aside from hesitating at the ancient SUCO map graphic (which I was able to paste in without trouble), *InDesign 2.0* imported the template and sample newsletter flawlessly. *InDesign 2.0* is also able to open *PageMaker 6.5* and *Quark XPress 3.3-4.1x* documents.



InDesign 2.0 offers a number of enhancements over the previous version of the application. Drop shadows, which used to require a trip to *Photoshop* to create, can now be made with a click in *InDesign*. See this newsletter's book review page for samples of the drop shadow effect. Feathering, which softens the edge of an image and gives it a professional look, can also be applied and edited directly in *InDesign 2.0*. A new printing interface makes it easy to create custom page sizes, print thumbnails and make precise adjustments. And enhanced support for Portable Document (PDF) and web formats helps you to repurpose your work without having to recreate it. PDF creation works like a dream. Hooray!

InDesign 2.0 in a nutshell? I love it, and can't imagine how I've managed without it. A bit of advice: if you're still using *PageMaker* and have a Mac that supports *InDesign 2.0*, take advantage of the upgrade offer and make the switch now.

— ELSA TRAVISANO

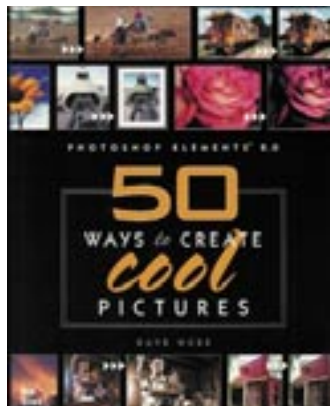
System Requirements: Power PC G3 or G4 processor, Mac OS 9.1, 9.2x, or Mac OS X v.10.1 or higher, 128 MB of RAM with virtual memory on, 220 MB or free hard-disk space, CD-ROM drive, 256 colors at 1,024x768 monitor resolution. For PostScript printers: Adobe PostScript level 2 or Adobe PostScript 3. Internet connection recommended.

BRAND NEW PEACHPIT BOOK ORDER

The December Peachpit Press book order was so popular that we are assembling another order. You remember the drill: all Peachpit books, including those from Adobe Press and Macromedia Press, are an amazing 40% off list price, plus tax and 50¢ per book shipping, once we make the minimum order of 11 books. Go to the Peachpit website at <http://www.peachpit.com> to see all the titles available, or pick up a slightly out-of-date catalog at the MUG ONE library.

Joanne Johnston will take orders at the February meeting and by mail. All orders must be prepaid, with checks made out to MUG ONE. Email Joanne at ejohnston@stny.rr.com to confirm the cost of your order. The group order will go in as soon as we reach a total of 11 books, so if you plan to order, don't delay.

You will be notified by email when your books arrive and can make arrangements to pick up your order from Elsa Travisano.



BOOKS: INDESIGN 2 VQS, 50 WAYS TO CREATE COOL PICTURES, OFFICE X MISSING MANUAL

InDesign 2 for Macintosh and Windows: Visual QuickStart Guide, by Sandee Cohen. 412 pp. Peachpit Press, 2002. \$21.99.

Sandee Cohen's *InDesign 2 Visual QuickStart Guide* is a great place to start if you're new to *InDesign 2.0*. It's also a handy quick reference for more experienced *InDesign* users.

This affordable guide to Adobe's state-of-the-art page design software follows the familiar *Visual QuickStart* format, with succinct step-by-step instructions in the outside column and black and white screen shots, illustrations and text boxes in the inside column of each page.

It's easy to find a topic in the index, table of contents or thumb guides on the edge of each page, then dive in. If you prefer, you can work more methodically through chapters which begin with the basics of document setup and working with text, objects and graphics, then move through color management, output options, exporting and the new enhancements of *InDesign 2.0* including layers, transparency, feathering and drop shadows (used in the illustrations for this page).

It's hard to go wrong with any *VQS* title, but *InDesign 2*'s spot-on technique illustrations and thoughtful text box commentary distinguish it from the crowd. Highly recommended.

Photoshop Elements 2.0: 50 Ways to Create Cool Pictures, by Dave Huss. 314 pp. New Riders, 2003. \$29.99.

In *Photoshop Elements 2.0: 50 Ways to Create Cool Pictures*, author Dave Huss has devised a appealing visual cookbook that shows the steps needed for creating great photographs in Adobe *Photoshop Elements* and for retouching and restoring photos that need help. The book can be used by owners of *Elements 1.0* as well as *Elements 2.0*, as the mechanics of the application have remained fairly constant between the two versions.

Huss, an experienced professional photographer, author and digital photography instructor, begins with a brief tour of *Elements*, including the enhancements found in version 2.0. He describes how to import photos from a digital camera, flatbed or film scanner, how to better manage your photos by naming and categorizing them by folder, and how to visually navigate

your photograph collection using the File Browser.

The book's Fast Track Methods are steps for getting a job done quickly. To prepare a photo for printing, rotate the photo (if necessary), crop (if necessary), apply Quick Fix, then Sharpen. Ready to stretch your wings? Huss demonstrates how to make photos look professional, add arty effects, create panoramas, and clean up less-than-perfect shots. He then gives best methods for printing, creating email-friendly files and publishing on the web. Lavishly illustrated in color, the book is a pleasure to browse. Give this book as a gift, or to keep for yourself.

Office X for Macintosh: The Missing Manual, by Nan Barber, Tonya Engst and David Reynolds. 714 pp. Pogue Press/O'Reilly, 2002. \$29.95.

Now that Apple and Microsoft have extended through April 7 the \$300 discount on Microsoft *Office v. X* when purchased with a Mac, a lot of Mac buyers will be snapping up *Office v. X* at the bargain price of \$199. If you're among them, or if you're already using *Office v. X*, squeeze out another \$29.95 for *Office X for Macintosh: The Missing Manual*. You'll be glad you did.

The Missing Manual series steps in to replace the printed manual that is no longer provided with most software applications, *Office* among them. *Office v. X* actually consists of four applications—*Word*, *Excel*, *PowerPoint* and *Entourage*. To cover the capabilities and complexities of all four programs, a printed companion is all but essential. *Office X for Macintosh: The Missing Manual* ably fills the bill, providing clear instructions for beginners, tips for power users, and approaches to help everyone leverage the powerful synergy among the programs.

A section of the book is devoted to each of the four *Office* applications, and a fifth section, "Office as a Whole," details ways the applications work together. Troubleshooting tips, workarounds for times when *Office* doesn't behave quite the way you want, and ample black and white illustrations and screen shots round out the book. Highly recommended.

— ELSA TRAVISANO

DISCOUNTS FOR MUG ONE MEMBERS

The Apple MUG Store

This month the Apple MUG Store features a great selection of refurbished iMacs, iBooks, and PowerBooks. Check them out, along with all the specials, blowouts and new Apple products at:

<http://www.applemugstore.com>

Password schedule

From 1/1/2003 to 3/31/2003:

You can also order by calling one of the PowerMax consultants at 800-689-8191. Be sure to give the name of your user group when ordering. When you purchase and are a confirmed Apple User Group member, your particular group will receive special awards points which can be redeemed for merchandise and Apple logo materials.

WiebeTech

WiebeTech produces FireWire storage devices which are small, lightweight, transportable and available in bus powered configurations. WiebeTech also produces FireWire DriveDocks, which allow direct attachment from FireWire to hard drives. These products are available for notebook and desktop drives.

WiebeTech is pleased to offer permanent discounts to MUG members. Discounts vary widely by product, but are always better than retail prices.

For example, MicroGB+, FireWire portable storage enclosure, is available for \$84.96 (regularly \$99.95) and FireWire DriveDock with AC adapter, is available for \$117.56 (regularly \$139.95).

To take advantage of these discounts, go to:

This is an ongoing offer with no expiration date.

Streamwaves

Streamwaves offers Mac users an exclusive 15% discount on the world's greatest jukebox.

For about half the price of one CD per month, Streamwaves offers unlimited access to hundreds of thousands of songs including new recordings by Shania Twain, Eminem, Nirvana, Nelly, Santana, Faith Hill, Whitney Houston and Norah Jones. Now Mac users can browse from more than 20 genres and search for their favorite artist, song, or album to create and save their own playlists. Or let Streamwaves recommend music based on what they are listening to. Sign up now for instant access to all the music you want, when you want it.

To take advantage of the exclusive MUG discount of 15% off the regular Streamwaves monthly, quarterly, and annual

subscription plans, go to the Streamwaves website at:

*Offer expires May 30th, 2003. *For MUG Members ONLY **

Macaroni: Automated System Maintenance for OS X

Why should you have to remember to clean up your Mac once a week, or once a month? Shouldn't a computer be able to remember for you?

Macaroni is a tool which handles regular maintenance for Mac OS X, including Unix and Mac OS X maintenance tasks, and offers special scheduling features for Powerbook and iBook users. These tasks normally run on a regular schedule in the middle of the night. However, they don't run if you don't leave your Mac on all night. Your Mac won't wake from sleep to handle this.

Macaroni solves the problem. If a scheduled maintenance task is not run when it's normally scheduled, Macaroni automatically ensures that it's run at the next opportunity, whenever the Mac is on.

The normal price of Macaroni is \$7.99. MUG users can get a 10% discount by entering coupon code "*****" during the checkout process. To order, go to:

<http://www.atomicbird.com/>

*Offer expires April 15, 2003. * For MUG Members ONLY **

ENTOURAGE X AVAILABLE FOR \$99

Previously available only as part of the Microsoft Office v. X suite, *Entourage X* is now available separately for \$99. *Entourage* is the souped-up version of *Outlook Express*, Microsoft's free email application. *Entourage X* offers e-mail, calendar, address book and task management, along with tight integration with the OS X versions of Microsoft *Word*, *Excel* and *PowerPoint*.

For more information, go to <http://www.mactopia.com>

SPELL CATCHER X USER GROUP OFFER

The long-awaited OS X version of *Spell Catcher* has just been released by Casady & Greene, and user group members can purchase or upgrade at special discounted prices.

Spell Catcher X for OS X has been completely rewritten for OS X and works with virtually all OS X applications - it even works with instant messaging! The new version includes many enhancements and supports US, foreign language and specialized dictionaries.

Spell Catcher X for OS X is available to user group members for \$29 when purchased from the Casady & Greene user group website. Upgrades are \$19.

For user group discounts, go to: <http://ug.casadyg.com>

Newsbreak is the monthly newsletter of MUG ONE
– the Macintosh User Group of Oneonta, NY

Editor: Elsa Trivisano

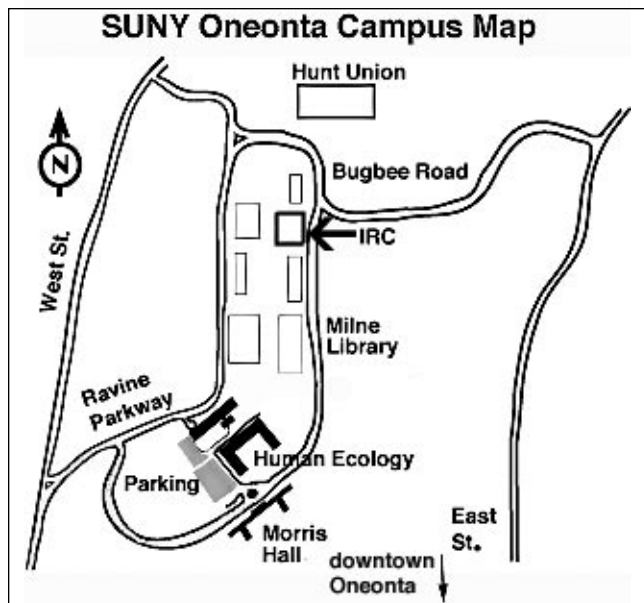
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JANUARY 22, 2003 BOARD MEETING

Secretary Terry Helser, who arrived first, Program Chair John Maas, Treasurer Joanne Johnston, SIG leader Brian Foley, President and Newsbreak editor Elsa Trivisano, and Librarian Johanna Koenig attended the MUG ONE board meeting, held January 22, 2003 at 6:00 p.m. at Ruffino's Pizzeria.

Joanne submitted the annual Treasurer's report, which showed a starting balance of \$1255.69 on 1/1/02, expenses of \$2521.62 and income of \$2396.85 for a current balance of \$1130.92 before paying for the pizza. [See p. 4 for the full report. Ed.]

We agreed that the OS X Buyers Guide magazines should be reduced to \$5 at the February meeting. Any left will be put in the raffle for March.

Due to several requests, Elsa will put out a call for Peachpit Press book orders, which Joanne will handle. The order will be sent as soon as 11 paid orders have been received. John feels that we don't need so many printed catalogues (40 would be enough), and suggests that members check the Peachpit website for new books to order. The CD-RW drive has only circulated a couple of times to date. We could demonstrate its use at a meeting to stimulate interest.

Discussion turned to Macworld Expo and the software introduced. A \$49 bundle called *iLife* includes enhanced versions of *iPhoto*, *iMovie*, *iTunes* and *iDVD*. *Keynote* is a *PowerPoint* rival (\$99 individual, \$79 educational and \$49 institutional prices) and *Safari* is the new Web browser. This brought up the topic of checking out the interface in IRC 4 with Elsa's TiBook and Terry's iBook, which will be used as presentation machines since IRC 4 lacks a Mac. Terry will arrange a technical session with Mark English for Elsa, Brian and me.

Jake Richtsmeier has left for graduate school in Baltimore, so again we are without a VP. We discussed alternatives, including recruiting a "volunteer." John Maas was given the second PO

Box 454 key for safekeeping. Now that the new logo has been selected, John and Brian are to start working on sprucing up the MUG ONE website (on which Elsa has bestowed much time and effort, but limited design flair). Elsa will check on the renewal date for our domain name.

With library space running short, John will see about building additional shelving for the library corner in Main Street Print Shop. As for raffle prizes, we seem to have ample stock for the time being. Terry reports that the Spring Fair will not happen this year. It may reappear next spring, and Terry will be our liaison.

For the Tuesday, February 4 meeting, Brian will start a new feature called "Beginner's Spotlight" to offer basic tips. Elsa will follow with some highlights of Macworld San Francisco (without her customary slide show, since she wasn't able to attend this year), and a teaser demo of *Keynote*. John will come after his class ends at 8 p.m. and demo *Safari*, Apple's new Web browser.

A future program might be a very basic Photoshop demo with "Camera to Web/Camera to Print" for a title. Brian noted the \$59 flat photo camera from Radio Shack as the "total no-brainer" solution. This could be in March, with April as the "Back to Basics" show?

We discussed attending Macworld Expo in NYC July 15-17, and the consensus was not to do the booth, but to spread the word by wearing MUG ONE tee shirts with logos, etc. Brian and others may also volunteer for user group jobs, and he's thinking about a Mac-themed magic show.

The word from Florida is that Christine Manning is doing a little better. Good news, indeed! Since we were full of eggplant and veggie pizza and soda, we adjourned until February 4 at 7:30 pm in IRC-4.

TERRY L. HELSER