

NEWS BREAK

Volume 25, Number 1

January/February 2010

FEBRUARY 3, 2010 MEETING

TRANSFER LPS AND CASSETTES TO YOUR MAC

– Brian Foley and Tom Slavinsky

A SNEAK PEEK AT THE IPAD

– Sven Anderson

Join us on **Wednesday, February 3** at 7:30 p.m. in 103 Golisano Hall on the Hartwick College campus for MUG ONE's first meeting of 2010.

Brian Foley and **Tom Slavinsky** will show how easy it is to digitize your record or cassette collection, using most any cassette deck or turntable, simple cables and inexpensive (or even free) software.

As an added bonus, **Sven Anderson** will give an introduction to Apple's newly announced [iPad](#) tablet computer.

As always, the meeting will begin with a question and answer session and end with a door prize drawing for current members and refreshments for all. The MUG ONE lending library will be available for members.

Meetings are free of charge and everyone is welcome. For more information, go to <http://www.mugone.com> call Brian Foley at 607-988-7031 or email us at info@mugone.com

SPRING 2010 MEETING SCHEDULE

MUG ONE will once again meet in 103 Golisano Hall on the Hartwick College campus in Oneonta, NY for the Spring 2010 semester. Mark your calendars for:

- February 3
- March 3
- April 7
- May 5
- June 2

INTRODUCING THE NEW, IMPROVED MUG ONE WEBSITE

After months of work behind the scenes, MUG ONE webmaster Elsa Travisano is pleased to unveil the completely redesigned and updated MUG ONE website.

Take a look at <http://www.mugone.com> and let us know what you think.

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



Apple's new iPad, coming in March

THE IPAD – SAY HELLO TO THE FUTURE

On January 27, 2010, Apple's Steve Jobs introduced the [iPad](#), a handheld device which, for many of us, could well be the future of computing.

What is the iPad? Essentially, it's a wireless tablet with a fingerprint-shedding, multi-touch screen that expands on the features of the iPhone and iPod touch in exciting and often amazing ways. The iPad will be available in Wi-Fi and Wi-Fi + 3G versions starting at the end of March.

The iPad is designed to be extremely easy and enjoyable to use. iPad apps will let you surf the web, read e-books and newspapers, listen to music, watch videos, see and share photos using iPhoto-like features, read and write emails, play games, create documents, presentations, spreadsheets

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MUG ONE OFFICERS' MEETING

January 19, 2010

MUG ONE President Elsa Travisano, Vice President and Program Co-Chair Brian Foley, Treasurer Mark Dye, Secretary Terry Helser and Program Co-Chair Sven Anderson met at Ruffino's Pizzeria at 6 p.m. on January 19, 2010. We ordered a pizza and stromboli and got down to business.

The checkbook has a current balance of \$1,378.30 before paying Ruffino's bill.

Spring Programs

We discussed the programs for spring meetings and plan to have a series on digitizing old media and accessing it from the Web. The tentative schedule is:

February: Brian and Tom Slavinsky on digitizing audio – "LP records and cassette tapes on a Mac," – as well as an introduction of technology to be announced at Aple's Jan. 27 press conference [The announcement was the iPad and Sven will do the introduction. - Ed.]. Elsa also might do a short demo on viewing current and older movies and television shows on Hulu (free) and Netflix (subscription).

March: Sven could do a program on digitizing photographic slides, as well as a demonstration of "Farmville," a very popular Facebook game. He also would like to open a tower and show the parts so people feel more comfortable working inside.

April: Reserved for Keith Robisch to show how to digitize videos and burn DVDs. Brian wants to demo Skype again, but needs to check on access from Hartwick's servers.

May is again Marra month, with our annual presentation by Apple Senior Systems Engineer David Marra. And we are in to June.

Officer Responsibilities

Officers were reminded that they need to arrange for someone to take over their responsibilities if they have to miss a meeting. I might be away for April, so I need to ask for someone to take minutes. This also goes for other officers when absent.

Library

There was extensive discussion on maintaining the MUG ONE library with Keith away during the winter months and Mark not available at the beginning of meetings due to his work schedule. For now, Terry will take care of the library at the start of the meeting and will enlist help from other members if needed. Mark and Brian can then tend the library after the meetings and then enter book returns and loans in a database, perhaps via Google Documents.

Elsa will ask if the members want to recycle the old library volumes that no one is interested in taking. Brian wants to make a sign about circulation procedures and we should

reserve a shelf area for returns so that materials can be checked in and correctly reshelfed..

Issues relating to the MUG ONE laptop were then discussed. It was noted that using the laptop at meetings for library circulation was not practical, since the computer was usually in use before and during the meeting. We're exploring other options to see what would work best.

Most didn't think that we need to purchase Adobe Photoshop Elements 8 for the MUG ONE laptop for \$69. Elsa planned to poll the members for their input at the February meeting. We need to add a long Internet cable to the cables and connectors that are carried in the the laptop case.

There was discussion of the security setup for Facebook.

Finally, the June meeting is up for volunteers. I might do a short demo sometime on the AT&T cell phone USB link, if I ever get it and it works. That was about it.

With the pizza demolished and everyone ready for the spring meetings, we adjourned until 7:30 PM on February 3, 2010 at Hartwick College. Thanks, all!

TERRY L. HELSER, SECRETARY.

– *The iPad, continued from page 1*

with special versions of the iWork applications, and use the currently more than 140,000 iPhone and iPod touch applications as well as the made-for-iPad applications that developers are working feverishly to develop even as we speak.

The iPad measures 9.5" by 7.5" by 1/2" thick, has a 9.7" (measured diagonally) LED-backlit glossy widescreen multitouch display. There will be two models – the 1.5 pound Wi-Fi versions which use wireless 802.11n to connect to the internet (like a laptop or an iPod touch), and the Wi-Fi + 3G models which can connect where Wi-Fi is not available. Wi-Fi prices will be \$499 for 16GB, \$599 for 32GB and \$699 for 64GB; adding 3G mobile access will cost \$130 for each AT&T will offer no-contract monthly 3G data plans for \$15 a month for 250MB, \$30 unlimited.

As a taste of things to come, Apple's iBook application (included) makes the iPad a first-class e-book reader. Five major publishers have already agreed to offer e-books through Apple's forthcoming iBookstore and more are rumored to be in negotiations. The iPad promises to be a game-changer for students and schools – imagine students carrying all their textbooks, enhanced with added audio and video, on one small device.

Apple sees the iPad as a new, third kind of device between smart phones and computers; bigger and more capable than a smart phone and smaller and more portable than a laptop. I see it as a promising and powerful paradigm shift.

– ELSA TRAVISANO



MAC 911 – HELP DESK

Solutions to your most vexing Mac problems

By Christopher Breen

This month we have two helpings of Mac 911. Read on...

SPEED-UP IMOVIE CLIPS

Q: Andy Milder (aka Dean Hodes on Showtime's Weeds), sends this question:

While filming Weeds last year, I borrowed a Flip recorder to record my makeup transformation into a Black man (African-American doesn't seem to fit...who knows what I was...). I wanted to edit it and then speed it up, so you could see me go from lily-white to much darker in mere seconds. One problem: I have no idea how to do it. Help?

A: iMovie '09 can do the job. Like so:

Plug your Flip camcorder into your Mac. By default iPhoto will launch and the Flip camcorder will be selected. (The FlipShare software may also launch but choose iPhoto instead.) Select the clip you want to import and click the Import Selected button. The clip will import into iPhoto.

Now launch iMovie '09. In the Event Library area select iPhoto Videos. Your Flip clip should appear in the iPhotos Videos section at the bottom of the window. Select the clip and drag it up into the Project pane.

Double-click the clip in the Project pane and in the Clip tab of the Inspector window that appears, click the Convert Entire Clip button. (You have to do this before you're allowed to adjust the speed of a Flip camcorder's clips.) When iMovie finishes converting your clip the Inspector will show a speed control slider in the Clip tab. You can drag this as high as 800-percent.

However, you can make the clip even faster than that simply by entering a higher value in the Speed field. Optionally, you can tell iMovie how long you'd like the clip to play by entering a value in the Duration field below the Speed field--2:00, for example, if you'd like the clip to last 2 minutes.

Now just export your project using a command in the Share menu and you're good to go.

Loved the drawer bit with Kevin Nealon, btw.

Shifting large media libraries

Reader Remo seeks a way to store media files in a location other than a user's Home folder. He writes:

Q: My brother's family 24-inch iMac has a hard drive of

500GB and it's filling up pretty fast with pictures, movies, music, etc. Usually I would just replace the hard drive in a computer with a larger one, but we would be voiding the warranty on his computer, which isn't something we want to do.

I want to have their home directory or certain folders on their iMac to serve as a representation to where these files are actually being saved to, which is an external hard drive. I have been a long time Mac user, but I don't see an easy way of doing this. Is there a way within MacOS X (10.6) to accomplish this?

A: I see several ways to approach this one.

If all you're after is a larger startup drive for storing files, just use an external hard drive as your boot drive. Find a fast FireWire drive, clone the contents of the internal drive to it using a tool such as Bombich Software's donation-ware Carbon Copy Cloner (making the external drive bootable in the process), and designate that external drive as the startup drive. Done.

Or, if you simply want to store media files on the external drive, this can be easily done as well. For pictures, copy the iPhoto Library file from your brother's Pictures folder (found inside his user folder) to the external hard drive. Hold down the Option key and launch iPhoto. A dialog box will appear that asks "What Photo Library Do You Want iPhoto to Use?" Choose the copy of the iPhoto Library file you just copied and click the Choose button. iPhoto will now read and write to this iPhoto Library rather than the one on the internal drive.

For the music and movies that iTunes uses, dig down into your brother's Music folder (also inside his user folder), open the iTunes folder, and copy the iTunes Music folder to the external drive. Launch iTunes, choose Preferences, click the Advanced tab, and click the Change button in the iTunes Media Folder Location area. Also enable the Copy Files to iTunes Media Folder When Adding to Library option. iTunes will now use this folder as well as add new media to it.

Or, you can place your brother's user folder on the external drive. My colleague, Dan Frakes, explains how to do that in this tip from Mac OS X Hints. (Note that you no longer need to use `-rsrc` to do this.)

"Locking" an external hard drive

Reader Dustin Kuo is interested in locking down an external hard drive. He writes:

Q: Is there a software that can lock the external hard drive so if someone got hold of it, they wouldn't be able to view the data?

I wish that waving a magic wand over your drive and bark-

continued on page 5

– Mac 911, continued from page 4

ing “Lock!” could work this minor miracle but, alas, even with such a wand and Christopher Plummer’s commanding voice you’re not going to realize the results you’re after.

What you need to do is create an encrypted space on all or a portion of that drive and then move the files you want to protect into it. You have a number of ways to do that.

One is built into Mac OS X. Open Disk Utility, choose File -> New -> Blank Disk Image and in the resulting window choose Sparse Disk Image from the Image Format pop-up menu and either 128-bit AES Encryption or 256-bit AES Encryption from the Encryption pop-up menu. Then choose a size from the Size pop-up menu (select Custom and then enter a size if the preconfigured sizes don’t suit you). Name the image, choose to save it on your external drive, and click the Create button. You’ll be prompted for a password. Enter and verify that password and click OK and you have a protected image that can be opened only with your password. Move your files into this image and you’re good to go.

Note that you should choose to not store this password in your keychain if you’re all that concerned about security. Also, this image will take up only as much space as the accumulated content inside it. So, even if you’ve asked for a 5GB image file, if you put 1GB worth of files in it, the image will be only 1GB. You can then add files until you reach that 5GB limit, at which point, the image is full.

Another free option is the open-source TrueCrypt. This is a cross-platform encryption tool that you can use to encrypt folders and volumes. Again, if you intend to encrypt an entire external hard drive you’ll first have to move the files off that drive, format it with TrueCrypt, create an encrypted volume, and then copy your files to that volume. TrueCrypt features more encryption schemes than does Disk Utility.

And then there’s the \$35 Knox, which our resident Gemeister Dan Frakes tells me is the goods. Like Disk Utility, it creates images using either the 128- or 256-bit AES standard. Unlike with Disk Utility or TrueCrypt, you can use Spotlight to search the contents of a Knox image (termed a “vault”). (You can search the image only when it’s open.) And Knox includes a backup feature.

Macworld Senior Editor Christopher Breen is the author of Secrets of the iPod and iTunes (6th edition), and The iPod and iTunes Pocket Guide (4th edition) both from Peachpit Press and Mac OS X 10.5 Leopard Essential Training (video) from lynda.com.

Find Chris’ books and videos at www.amazon.com, www.peachpit.com and lynda.com

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This offer is valid through March 31, 2010.

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Apple User Group Offers Web Page

Looking for information on a past offer? The Apple User Group Advisory Board publishes a single page with all current offers, expiration dates and codes. Watch for intermittent special offers.

Password (until April 15): *****

<http://web.mac.com/ugab/offers/vendorcodes.htm>

Apple User Group Market Report podcast

Be sure to subscribe to the Apple User Group Market Report podcast. The AUG Market Report is a great source of information about Apple user groups, vendor discounts, special events, interesting reviews and more.

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For public information about vendor offers and more visit: <http://homepage.mac.com/ugab/offers.html>

THE X LEX – Monthly Excerpts for MUGs from **Take Control: The Mac OS X Lexicon**

REPEAT AFTER ME

This month's (delayed, with apologies) collection is a handful of terms most likely to be mispronounced.

cache, cache file

'**cash**', not 'catch'. Storage of recently used information for speedy retrieval, on the assumption that if you just did or used something, you're likely to do it or need it again soon. Cache usually refers to something in memory, while a cache file is written to the disk. Having something in a memory cache speeds things up because the information won't have to be retrieved from the disk again, or be recalculated.

Cache is also a hardware term: most CPUs have one or more caches as either part of the CPU itself or on separate chips. This type of cache is extra-fast memory that speeds things up by holding the most recently used items so they don't have to be fetched from the standard, slower main memory.

daemon



'**dee-mahn**', not '**day-mahn**'. In Unix systems, a program that runs in the background (such as a print server) rather than under direct control of a user; the word is an archaic spelling of 'demon'. But note that the word itself is so archaic that its meaning is akin to 'spirit', with no evil connotation.

favicon

'**fayv-ih-con**'. (favorites + icon) The 16x16-pixel icon that usually appears next to a Web page's address in a browser's URL box, and in a bookmark or 'favorites' list. (Sharon much prefers the lesser-used, silly-sounding, alternative name for this: *urlicon*, but only if you pronounce it 'earl-a-con'.)

fn key



'**function key**', not 'f-n'. The extra modifier key on Apple laptops that lets certain other keys perform double duty (unnecessary on a full keyboard where there's room for more keys). So, for instance, the arrow keys act as Home, End, Page Up, and Page Down keys when fn is pressed, and a cluster of keys under the right hand work as a numeric keypad with fn down. Also see forward delete.

GIF (Graphics Interchange Format)

'**jif**', not 'gif'. A type of compressed bitmapped graphic often used in Web pages. GIFs can have a maximum of only 256 colors, so the format is unsuitable for photos, which are better saved as JPEGs. But the GIF format works well with



line drawings, logos, and similar graphics (like this map), and can also be used for simple (generally annoying) animations. Lots of people pronounce GIF with a hard G — probably because it stands for 'graphics' and because

as an English 'word' gif looks as if it should have a hard-G pronunciation. But the inventor, who should know, says it's 'jif'; in fact, he says "Choosy developers choose GIF", a phrase that should stick to the roof of your mouth. (If you have no idea what that comment meant, see <jif.com/home.asp> and note the slogan.)

Linux



'**Lih-nuks**', not 'Ly-nuks'. A popular version of the Unix operating system, Linux was originally developed in the early '90s by Linus (**Lih-nus**) Torvalds while he was a student at the University of Helsinki. Because Linux is open-source software, it has been expanded by programmers worldwide into a powerful and complete operating system. It has even been adopted by some large companies, such as IBM and Sun, who were looking for alternatives to Microsoft Windows; by all accounts (except Microsoft's), Linux is more reliable and less costly. Microsoft's assessment? CEO Steve Ballmer has described it as a 'cancer' and having 'characteristics of communism'. Are we just a teeny bit defensive, Steve?

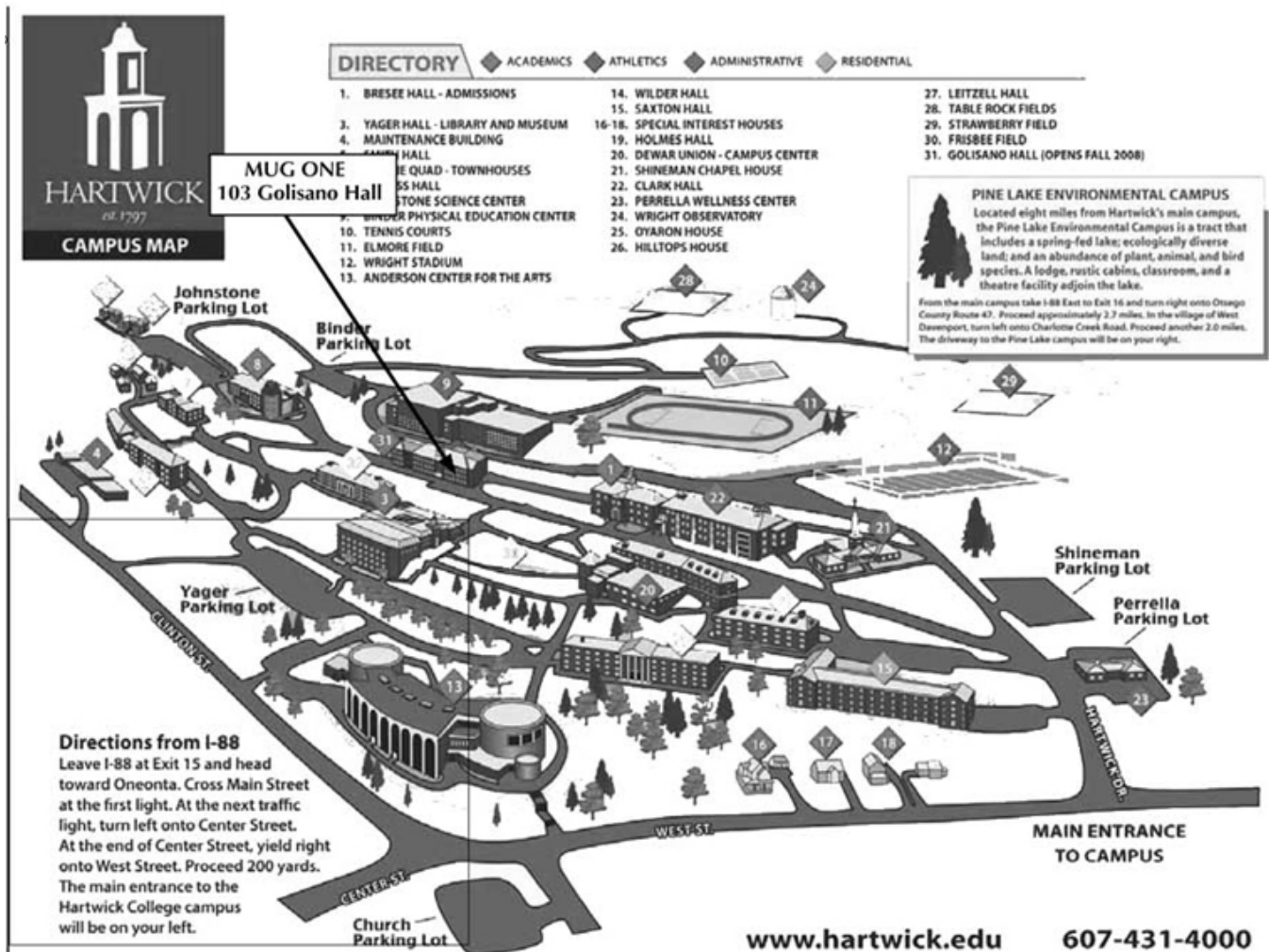
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Excerpt files for user group publications: <http://www.33thingsbooks.com/XLex.html>. Queries: xlex@33thingsbooks.com. Email Sharon (sharonLex@33thingsbooks.com) or Andy (Andy@33thingsbooks.com) about the Lexicon.

The latest edition of *Minifesto: Time Machine* by Sharon Zardetto is available for download on the [33thingsbooks.com](http://www.33thingsbooks.com) site for \$14.95. A 40-page excerpt covering buying and formatting a hard drive for Time Machine is free.

A new book, *33 Things to Customize OS X: Snow Leopard Edition*, is also available for download for \$8.95. A 10% user group discount is available for both titles.



HARTWICK COLLEGE DIRECTIONS

The Hartwick College campus is on West Street in Oneonta, about a quarter mile from the SUNY Oneonta campus.

Enter the campus from the main West Street (upper) entrance and bear left at the fork. Golisano Hall is dead ahead after you have passed, on your right, Clark Hall, Bresee Hall and the empty space formerly occupied by Arnold Hall.

When entering Golisano from the side door, room 103 is on your left on the ground floor. Entering from the front door, room 103 is on your right.

At this hour you may park where you find available space. Unless another event is taking place on campus, you should be able to find parking close to Golisano Hall.

If you find no parking before you reach Golisano Hall, hook around to the right. There should be parking spaces available in the evening behind Bresee Hall and Clark Hall.

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

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Newsbreak is an independent publication not affiliated with Apple, Inc. *Newsbreak* received an award for excellence at the January 2001 User Group University.