

# NEWS BREAK

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## NOVEMBER 4, 2009 MEETING BRIAN FOLEY – VIDEO WITHOUT TEARS MUG ONE ELECTIONS

Join us on **Wednesday, November** at 7:30 p.m. in 103 Golisano Hall on the Hartwick College campus for the November meeting of MUG ONE.

Brian Foley will show us easy ways to make videos and share them with family and friends, as well as simple ways to publish them on the web with websites like YouTube. He'll take us from camera (a video camera or your Mac's built-in iSight camera) to finished product, using applications you probably already have like [iTunes](#), [iPhoto](#), [iMovie](#) and [GarageBand](#), as well as [Keynote](#) and sound and screen-capture programs.

We'll also hold our annual election of MUG ONE officers.

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.

MUG ONE meetings are free of charge and open to the public. Everyone is welcome.

For more information, go to the MUG ONE website at [www.mugone.com](http://www.mugone.com), call Brian Foley at 607-988-7031 or email Elsa Travisano at [info@mugone.com](mailto:info@mugone.com)

## MUG ONE ELECTIONS

MUG ONE's annual election of officers will take place at our November 4 meeting. If you are interested in running for office or would like to nominate candidates, contact Elsa Travisano at [mugone@mac.com](mailto:mugone@mac.com).

## NEW & UPDATED TAKE CONTROL TITLES

Here are some of the latest titles from Take Control Ebooks. Use these links to take advantage of the 30% discount for MUG ONE members.

[Take Control of Users & Accounts in Snow Leopard](#) by Kirk McElhearn. 102 pp. MUG ONE price \$7.

[Take Control of Sharing Files in Snow Leopard](#) by Glenn Fleishman. 109 pp. MUG ONE price \$7.

[Take Control of Syncing Data in Leopard](#) by Michael Cohen. 167 pp. MUG ONE price \$7.

[Take Control of Mac OS X Backups, 4th edition](#) by Joe Kissell. 196 pp. MUG ONE price \$10.50.

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

## NEW MACS, MAGIC MOUSE INTRODUCED

On October 20 Apple released newly redesigned iMacs, an update to the base model Macbook, speed-bumped Mac minis and an all-new Magic Mouse.



*The wireless, button-less, multi-touch Magic Mouse.*

The new iMacs have seamless aluminum enclosures, edge-to-edge glass displays and amazing 21.5" or 27" widescreen LED backlit displays. The 21.5" models are \$1199 and \$1499; the 27" models are \$1699 with a dual core processor and \$1999 for a mighty quad-core model.

The new \$999 MacBook gains the unibody enclosure, built-in seven hour battery, glass multi-touch trackpad and backlit LED screen of its MacBook Pro cousins, and once again loses its Firewire port.

The Mac mini at \$599 and \$799 have faster processors, twice the memory and larger hard drives than previous models.

Finally, the Magic Mouse is a wireless, button-less Bluetooth mouse that accepts multi-finger gestures like those used on MacBook and MacBook Pro trackpads. The Magic Mouse costs \$69, is included with the new iMacs and can be configured as a one or two button mouse. For more information go to [www.apple.com](http://www.apple.com).

## MUG ONE OFFICERS FOR 2008-2009

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Following are minutes for the September and October MUG ONE meetings.

## OCT. 7, 2009 MUG ONE MEETING MINUTES

### ADAM ENGST: IPHOTO '09 AND SNOW LEOPARD TIPS AND TRICKS



The Macintosh User Group of Oneonta met on Wednesday, October 7 at 7:30 p.m. on the Hartwick College campus, in Golisano hall room 103.

MUG ONE President Elsa Travisano announced that our new e-mail address is [info@mugone.com](mailto:info@mugone.com)

The MUG ONE blog is up at [mugone.com/blog](http://mugone.com/blog)

Snow Leopard is here, you can get it from the Apple site or at a discount at Amazon.com, for @\$25.

Elsa also mentioned that Adam had a lot of material to cover, so she promptly introduced Adam Engst, who has graced our club with exceptional presentations every year for as long as I can remember.

A brief note from Wikipedia:

"Engst is well known for his interest and support of the Macintosh community, repeatedly ranking in the top five in the annual MDJ Power 25 survey of the most influential people in the Macintosh ecosystem."

#### Program

Adam talked about a new off-site backup program called CrashPlan - which is an automatic online backup starting at \$3.50 per month, or you can back up to your own drives or another computer that you keep somewhere other than your home for free.

There is also a backup solution called "Dropbox" (<http://getdropbox.com>), where you can get 2 GB of hard drive space for free.

Did you ever want to send large files to yourself or others, but were afraid that your e-mail program had a size limit? Adam mentioned a good set of solutions to that problem. You can compress files for sending with <http://www.stuffit.com/mac/index.html> then send them with StuffitConnect at <http://www.stuffit.com/connect/>. Stuffit Connect is an easy way to share large files online.

Adam went on to cover e-mailing. He said whenever possible use IMAP instead of POP. He also mentioned that he uses "Mailplane" (<http://mailplaneapp.com>), which is a wrapper for the Gmail interface.

Adam then talked about the new features of iPhoto in iLife '09. He explained the "facial identification and recognition" feature, which lets you identify the face of someone with a name in a few photos, and then iPhoto goes through and identifies all the other photos of that face with that name. This is an amazing technology.

The "Places" feature is a new technology that uses built-in GPS in your camera or iPhone to identify the place on the earth where a photo was taken.

There are also ways in iPhoto to automatically upload to MobileMe or to Flickr.com. You can also tag photos with e-mail addresses to iPhoto.

Adam went on to discuss MobileMe, mentioning that it is really a very good way to present your information (to yourself or to others) but not actually a social networking site with interaction.

Adam had covered a lot of material, so when the moment came to cover the new Macintosh operating system, Snow Leopard (OS X 1.6), time was limited. Thus Adam went into his "Snow Leopard Five-Minute Tips" presentation.

One of the great new features is that finally the date and the time appear in the menu bar.

In the finder preferences you can decide to search just the current folder.

Adam mentioned Snow Leopard's new auto correction (text substitution). At <http://tidbits.com/article/10567> there is an article about it.

There's a new security feature. In System Preferences>Personal>Security>General you can require a password to access your computer after any amount of time you desire.

And here's something we've probably all been waiting for - there is a "remove unlocked items" button for the Trash.

When clicking on a contextual menu you can hold the option key. That will give you more information.

There is also a new inspector in iCal for editing.

There is no way to completely cover all the information that Adam Engst can pack into a "Five-Minute Tips" presentation. But I hope this gives you enough material to keep you busy for a while.

As always, at the end of the presentation there were door prizes. As the grand prize, Adam provided a CD with every single "Take Control" e-book, from tidbits.com.

Terry provided great refreshments for after the meeting. Thanks, Terry!

— BRIAN FOLEY, SECRETARY

## SEPT. 9, 2009 MUG ONE MEETING MINUTES

### APPLE UPDATE, ITUNES LISTS AND BOOK RAFFLE

- Elsa Travisano and Keith Robisch

The Macintosh User Group of Oneonta met on Wednesday, September 9 at 7:30 p.m. on the Hartwick College campus, in Golisano hall room 103 (our new meeting place). We welcomed Chelsea Donovan, new members Robert Ackerson and Robert Rothenberg, and a gathering of stalwart members and their guests to the first meeting of the new academic year.

At 7:35 Elsa introduced herself and asked for officer's reports. Program chair Brian Foley asked our consent to serve as trial audiences for his new magic tricks from time to time. We agreed. He also announced a second raffle, tonight, for extra books culled from our library, but to qualify you have to return the index card he gave us with a suggestion for a future program.

Treasurer Terry Helser announced that after addition of dues and payment of the board's expenses, we have \$985.66 in the bank. Elsa stated that dues are still \$24/family, \$18/student and \$40/business. For that you get numerous discounts from vendors, the *Newsbreak* newsletter in PDF format and access to the raffles and the lending library, among other benefits. No inflation for MUG ONE.

Elsa asked us to look at [www.mugone.com/blog/](http://www.mugone.com/blog/), the updated version of the MUG ONE website that is under development, and make comments about how to improve it. She also noted the addition of an Oneonta area Craigslist at <http://oneonta.craigslist.org/> for peer to peer classified advertisements. If anyone knows how to use this well, please volunteer to give a short demonstration at a future meeting.

She then gave a brief overview of Apple's new OS 10.6, Snow Leopard. Steve Jobs did the product roll-out looking fit after a liver transplant in March. Among the products introduced were [iTunes '09](#), a free download, which includes sharing between computers at home and new album and movie extras. New iPods include the iPod [nano](#) with video for \$149 (8 GB) or \$179 (16 GB), the iPod [shuffle](#) for \$59, the iPod [Classic](#) for \$249 (160 GB) and the iPod [touch](#) for \$199 (8 GB), \$299 (32 GB) or \$399 (64 GB).

### Q&A

The questions and answers session started with Keith Robisch asking if he can update his external drive with Mac OS X 10.6 as well as his computer. Consensus was that this is legal. There is also an Mac OS 10.6 family pack available for purchase that covers up to five computers within your own family.

There was discussion of the free computer recycling offer scheduled for Saturday, September 19th for Otsego County residents and of the Yahoo group Oneonta Freecycle, a list

for giving away and getting stuff to keep useable items out of landfills <http://www.freecycle.org/group/US/New%20York/Oneonta>. I asked if Gmail Video chat was possible with Satellite providers, and the response was it probably wasn't fast enough yet to be enjoyable. Finally, Elsa announced that she has a G5 tower for sale.

### Program

Keith Robisch took the podium to describe and demonstrate iTunes and iPod features. He recommended a couple of books for guidance and showed how to select whole sections of lists with "shift-click" and multiple, single selections with "command-click." He demonstrated how to make and delimit new Smart Playlists. You can select specific artists, date ranges, genre, etc. and exclude non music or any of the above. If you rate your collection, you can also delimit lists by number of stars and how many times you have listened to them. The "Command-I" when a song is selected is useful to edit the information about it.

Keith then showed how to activate the Genius feature, which requires an iTunes account with Apple and an internet connection to use. The Genius feature allows the mothership to scan your iTunes collection and purchases and then suggests things from the iTunes Store that you might want to buy. Thanks, but...

[In the newly released iTunes '09, the Genius feature creates custom Playlists from songs that are already in your iTunes library. iTunes also creates Genius Mixes based on different types of music (classical, New Age, rock, soundtracks, etc.) already in your iTunes library. The listings of suggested purchases from the iTunes Store are now in a Genius Sidebar that that can be closed if you prefer not to have it displayed. - Editor]

A question about combining libraries stumped the panel, so check out iTunes '09 for this. Thanks Keith for the useful and well-presented demo complete with terrific color handouts! You can tell that the teacher never really retires.

### Snow Leopard Teaser

As we started the door prize drawing and give-away of older books from the MUG ONE Library, Elsa gave a brief demo of some of the more interesting features of Mac OS X v.10.6, Snow Leopard. She showed the date and time changes on the menu bar (it now can display the day of the week as well as the date - hooray!); its ability to automatically adjust to time zones if you're traveling with a laptop; and the ability to synchronize your calendars and address books with Yahoo! and Google as well as MobileMe.

As the time vanished, we shared refreshments and conversation. Thanks, Keith and Elsa, for an energetic, informative and entertaining meeting. May your back recover, Elsa, and we will see you all in October.

-TERRY HELSER, TREASURER AND SECRETARY FOR THE DAY

## ***Special Discount Offers from the Apple User Group Bulletin***

Discounts are brought to you by the Apple User Group Advisory Board. You must be a current Apple user group member to qualify for these savings.

### **Customized Polycarbonate MacBook covers: 23% Off**

Macimagecover makes customized polycarbonate MacBook covers that are designed entirely by the customer. The design wizard enables the customer to create a one-of-a-kind cover from four basic templates--a cover that will protect, transform and personalize their MacBook.

Apple User Group members can purchase a cover for \$50, plus shipping and handling; the retail price is \$65 plus shipping and handling.

Coupon Number: \*\*\*\*\*

To order, go to: <http://www.macimagecover.com>

This offer is valid through February 28, 2010.

(Additional discounts are available for orders of ten or more of the same cover; contact [info@macimagecover.com](mailto:info@macimagecover.com))

### **Apple User Group Market Report & Resource Blog**

Looking for information on a past offer? Tom Piper of the Apple User Group Advisory Board publishes a single page with all current offers, expiration dates and codes. Password until November 15, 2009: \*\*\*\*\*

<http://homepage.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 and Resource blog are great sources for information about Apple user groups, vendor discounts, special events, interesting reviews, stimulating training and more.

Apple User Group Market Report podcast:

<http://homepage.mac.com/ugab/resources.html>

For public information about vendor offers and more visit:

<http://homepage.mac.com/ugab/offers.html>

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## **MUG ONE BOARD MEETING, OCT. 28, 2009**

President Elsa Trivisano, Vice President and Co-Librarian Keith Robisch, Treasurer Terry Helser, Secretary and Program Co-Chair Brian Foley, Program Co-Chair Sven Anderson and Co-Librarian Mark Dye met on a drizzly Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. at Ruffino's Pizzeria. We ordered pizza and a stromboli and we got down to business.

Terry reported that the checkbook has a current balance of \$1,138.35 before paying Ruffino's.

We discussed position changes for the officer election next meeting. Terry Helser would like to run for Secretary again, if Mark Dye or another member is willing to run for Treasurer. Brian Foley would like to run for Program Chair, and Sven will be flexible. Keith Robisch told us that he would be wintering someplace warm from January to March but would be back for the April meeting. He is flexible about serving other positions besides Vice President, as the main duty of that post is to preside at meetings where the President is not available. Other nominations will be solicited from members.

Meeting topics and schedules were discussed. A January meeting is unlikely since Hartwick is not in session on the meeting date. Brian would like to do Special Interest Groups/Birds of a feather session(s) then, if others are interested. Brian is ready for his November 4th presentation on making and sending videos.

Program ideas for December, Spring and beyond:

Elsa has a video from Lapworks that came with 2 laptop desks for the raffle. This could be a demo in Dec. Avery sent DesignPro CDs for making "labels, business cards, dividers, T-shirt transfers, greeting cards and more" along with a generous selection of door prizes. Elsa will demo the Avery software in Dec. The Parallels Desktop software needs a presenter who uses both Windows and Mac programs. Brian might do a demo of Voila screen and web capture and image editing software in December. All of these programs came with significant prizes for the door prize drawing. Mark Dye will show Despair.com's "Demotivators" collection as an antidote to the merriment of the holiday season.

The February and/or March meetings might be on digitizing audio tapes and vinyl records, etc. Tom Slavinsky will be asked to show his USB turntable and hardware. Scanning slides and negatives could be demoed by Sven in March. Sven would also like to open a tower and show the parts so people feel more comfortable with their computer's innards. April is reserved for Keith Robisch to show how to digitize videos and burn DVDs. May is again Marra month. Elsa asked for a volunteer to review Apress Books [www.apress.com](http://www.apress.com). Contact Elsa if you're interested.

With the pizza demolished and everyone ready for winter (right?), we adjourned until 7:30 PM on November 4, 2009 at Hartwick College. Thanks, all!

— TERRY L. HELSER, SECRETARY FOR THE MEETING

## SOFTWARE REVIEW: STORYIST



Storyist Software <http://storyist.com>

\$59 download; \$79 download plus boxed edition.

**Storyist** is a specialized story creation tool for writing novels and screenplays. It combines a word processor with tools to track your characters, plot and settings, and manuscript and screenplay templates that format your work for professional submission.

On first launching Storyist, I was prompted to pick a template for my document, either blank, novel, screenplay or “Hero Adventure”, which is based on Joseph Campbell’s “Hero With a Thousand Faces” (used as George Lucas’s basis for the Star Wars Films). Both the screenplay and the novel templates, when opened, provide the writer with a tongue-in-cheek written tutorial (the script version is hosted by the Greek muses of comedy and tragedy) which acts as a guide to getting started in the program.

After I chose my template and opened Storyist proper, the thing I immediately noticed was the little cork-board graphic called the Storyboard at the top of my document.

The Storyboard is a digital bulletin board that functions as a place to stick and organize notes, plot reminders, pictures and character bios. The program expands upon this basic concept by using the little notes as icons to access the program’s more interesting features.

These features (helpfully named Plot, Characters, Settings and Notebook) are basic but powerful organizational tools. Each tells you exactly how to use it when first opened, and each can be accessed either via the toolbar or the more traditional menu on the right. The Storyboard then displays little index cards with plot notes or customizable character portraits and setting pictures. A click on these icons leads to the setting, character or plot point opening up into a more detailed view, where the writer is prompted enter biographical character information, specific character development points, even the sights, sounds and smells of the settings.

Plot point and character development point cards can be organized into sections (or scenes, if you’re writing a script) which also contain chapters. The cards can be used to

quickly move around within parts of the story arc. The plot points, characters, settings and notes can also be organized into groups for faster navigation. The whole thing is nicely organized and well-thought out, though the system might take some getting used to for writers who began in other programs or traditional writing media.

The only real problem I have encountered is a slight lag that sometimes comes up when switching between the manuscript and characters, plot and settings menus, which relates directly to processor speed. The lag is never more than a few seconds, but it can be irritating when trying to quickly reference some detail of the setting or a character’s appearance. Also, as there is just the one window, this lag cannot be avoided by having more than one view open at a time.

All in all, Storyist is quite the helpful program for those who fall within its somewhat narrow focus, namely script and story writers. The system, controls, and formatting are plainly presented every step of the way, and no reading of the manual is necessary to get started on writing immediately. The whole program gives off a cute, quirky feeling. Those features required for writing are here, those not required are excluded – you will find no pie charts or bar graphs in this program. It is tightly and thoughtfully designed.

I would recommend Storyist for professional or hobby writers who want the most specialized and refined of tools for their trade.

—EMILY TRAVISANO

System Requirements: Mac OS X 10.4.11 or later

Features:

*Word Processor*

Full-featured word processor with support for headers, footers, and style sheets.

Page layout view that supports 2-up and mirrored pages.

Automatic manuscript and screenplay formatting with Quick Styles and Smart Text.

Text Inspector for quick editing of formatting, style, and page settings.

Support for comments and bookmarks.

Automator Action-based text plug-ins that extend Storyist’s functionality.

*Story Development Tools*

Corkboard with support for photos and index cards.

Collage view to visualize the relationships between your story elements.

Flexible, color-coding outliner.

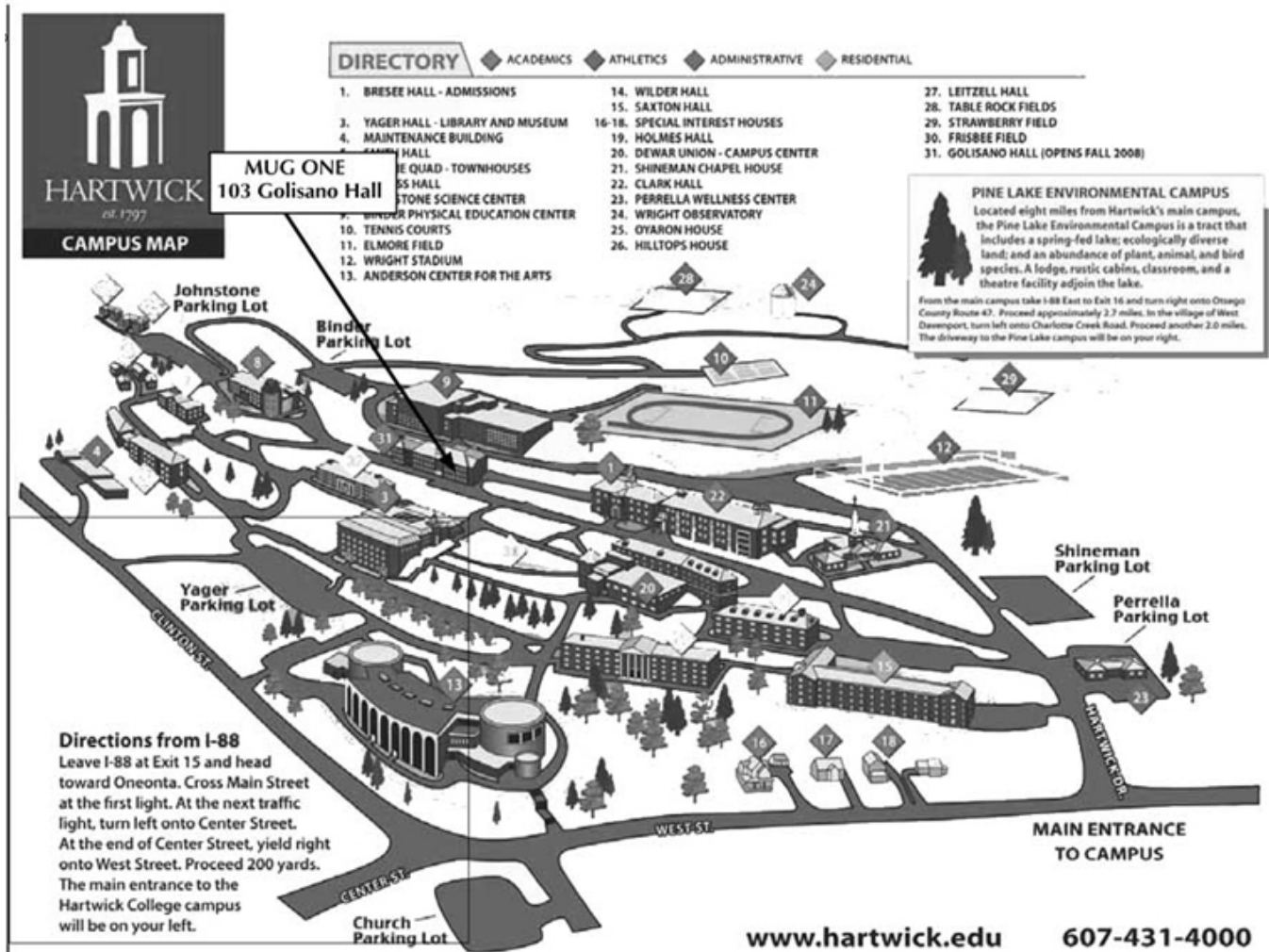
Customizable plot, character, and setting sheets

*Project Manager*

Project view to keep all your writing organized and accessible. Import and export support for popular file formats, including RTF, .doc, .docx, Final Draft, and more.

A project trash lets you keep “discarded” items around until you’re sure you don’t need them any more.

Automator workflow support to handle routine import and export tasks like smart quote conversion and style replacement.



**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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