

NEWS BREAK

oneonta
new york

Volume 22, Number 6

SEPTEMBER 5, 2007 MEETING

USING THE WEB – Brian Foley & ElsaTravisano

Join us on **Wednesday, September 5** at 7:30 p.m. in Hogdon IRC **Lecture Hall 5** – right next to our spring meeting room – on the SUNY Oneonta campus for the September meeting of MUG ONE.

Program Co-Chair Brian Foley will let us in on the buzz surrounding Web 2.0 in its many variations, and will demonstrate Squidoo, a platform for making super-simple web pages.

Then President Elsa Travisano will give us the scoop on Apple's latest hardware and software releases and show off some of .Mac's latest enhancements. We also plan a survey of attendees, to help us plan program and discussion topics for the coming year.

As always, the meeting will include a question and answer session, door prizes (members only) and delicious refreshments courtesy of our own Terry Helser.

MUG ONE library materials will be available for circulation to members at the meeting. Everyone is welcome. For more information, go to <http://www.mugone.com>, or email Elsa Travisano at: mugone@stny.rr.com.

For directions to our meeting building and room, and for parking information, see <http://mugone.com/pages/map2007.html>

BRIAN FOLEY'S WEB 2.0 FOR NON-GEEKS

To get us up to speed on Web 2.0, Brian Foley has posted a hands-on set of lessons and tutorials about some of the stuff he intends to cover at the upcoming meeting. Check the site out and take a look at some of the video tutorials there. Nice work, Brian!

<http://www.squidoo.com/web20nongeek/>

OCT. 3 – ADAM ENGST ON IPHOTO 08

Favorite presenter Adam Engst will once again headline MUG ONE's fall meeting schedule. On October 3, Adam will take us on an in-depth tour of the just-released iPhoto 08 and share his always-fascinating insights on the Mac world.

We also have meetings scheduled for November 7 and December 5, all in Hogdon IRC lecture hall 5 on the SUNY Oneonta campus. So mark your calendar and be sure to join us!

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



Elegant new iMacs come with 20" and 24" screens

NEW IMACS, ILIFE 08, IWORK 08 AND .MAC RELEASED ON AUGUST 8

Apple livened up the halcyon days of early August by introducing a re-designed iMac line, new versions of iLife and iWork, and an enhanced .Mac subscription service.

The "mid-2007" iMac sports a housing made of aluminum and glass, components that are easier to recycle than the plastics of previous generations. The \$1199 base model features a 20" screen, 2GHz Intel Core 2 Duo processor, 1 GB of RAM, 250 GB hard drive and a SuperDrive that reads and writes both CDs and DVDs. Next steps up are 20" and 24" models with 2.4GHz Intel Core 2 Duo processors and 320 GB hard drives. Custom configurations include up to 4GB RAM, larger hard drives and a 2.8GHz Intel Core 2 Extreme processor. Sweet.

On the software side, iWork 08 debuted with a spreadsheet application, called Numbers, added to Pages (word

continued on page 10

MUG ONE OFFICERS FOR 2006-2007

Elsa Travisano, President mugone@stny.rr.com	607/433-2569
John Maas, Vice President, Program Co-Chair xaxat@stny.rr.com	518/282-4725
Terry Helser, Sec. & OSC Liaison: helsertl@oneonta.edu	607/638-9885
Joanne Johnston, Treasurer ejohnston@stny.rr.com	607/432-6320
Sven Anderson, Program Co-Chair anderss@oneonta.edu	607/436-3174
Brian Foley, SIG Coordinator, Program Co-Chair foleymb@dmcom.net	607/988-7031
Mark Dye & Keith Robisch, Librarians	

JUNE 6, 2007 MEETING

Art Explosion, Berlitz French and the Option Key

– John Maas and Brian Foley

Announcements

President Elsa Travisano started the meeting, an “intimate meeting,” by welcoming members as they trickled in to the last meeting this academic year. Our numbers were diminished by conflicts with many end-of-school events, but for once the weather was not an issue. Elsa announced the next meeting, the first of the fall semester, will be held on Wednesday, September 5, in IRC-5 (note the room change). Meetings will also be held on 10/3, 11/7 and 12/5. The schedule will be announced on the Web (www.mugone.com) and via email.

A discussion ensued about the Web developers’ conference starting Monday, June 11, and the rumors of a beta version of a new OS 10.5. Elsa suggested not to expect new iMacs until October but noted that upgrades on laptops just came out. Maybe Steve Jobs will announce cutting the Mac Mini or a new version of iWorks ’07? Look to CNN or the New York Times on Monday or Tuesday for details. Also, check on the commercials at the bottom of the www.apple.com website. Among other recent Apple announcements, Elsa noted that iTunes is offering better quality songs for \$1.29 in a play anywhere format and YouTube has made a deal with Apple so the Apple TV can play their content.

Elsa then spoke in remembrance of MUG ONE member George Schwinn who died recently. Joanne announced we have \$1,239.61 in the bank.

Questions and Answers

On to Q&A, which started with Gerry Stoner’s question about his Mac’s strange behavior. It sounded like it needed more than a software fix, so the advice was to take it to the Apple Store at Albany-Crossgates for repair. Then members distributed handouts advertising the Cooperstown Book Fair and Brian Foley’s magic show in the Andes Hotel.

Program

John Maas gave his last presentation for us as vice president, since he is moving to Eastern Massachusetts this summer. [Berlitz Learning Systems](http://www.berlitz.com) from Nova Development has several foreign language programs and John demonstrated the French. It comes with software for your Mac or PC, CDs for learning in your car and even lessons for your iPod, all for \$27.95 after a \$10 rebate. If you want to learn or relearn a language, this seems to be the ticket.

John then shifted, literally, to showing what Joanne, and the rest of us, can do with the option key. His tricks included using the option and arrow keys to page down in Safari, use command-shift-a to open the Applications menu, and option-v to type a check mark (√). It works!

John created a list of the option key results as a PDF which can be downloaded at mugone.com/optionkey.pdf.

Gerry suggested that it would also be useful to create a table with the Times alphabet in the left column, and then option-character, shift-option-character, etc. in other columns. One could print this out and easily change font on the option parts to see what other fonts like Symbol produce. Nifty idea if you don’t have PopChar or similar program that makes these visible.

Other useful tricks we learned are that command-shift-n gives a new folder, option-arrow keys can be used to move around among folders on the desktop (for the mouse challenged), and command-option-drag and drop creates an alias, just like command-l. Finally, we discussed the Apple Mighty Mouse, whose scroll button can be configured to scroll sideways and even diagonally. The scrolling pea on the Mighty Mouse can be cleaned by turning the mouse over on a cleaning cloth and rolling it. You won’t need to do that often if you make sure your hands are clean before you use it.

Brian Foley then took over the podium with a quick plug for the Take Control ebook “Take Control of Buying Cheap Airline Tickets” (<http://www.takecontrolbooks.com/catalog.html>). He got an \$88 fare that cost \$224 on Travelocity.com using tips he learned from the ebook. If you buy that or any other Take Control book, remember to use the user group discount code - ***** - for 10% off.

Brian then introduced us to [Art Explosion 750,000](http://www.novadevelopment.com) from Nova Development. For \$199 list, \$100 with the special user group discount flyer Elsa distributed, you get 50 CDs or 5 DVDs with 750,000 tiff or EPS clip art, photos and fonts. You have to install a Portfolio Browser (or catalogue reader) to use it, but thereafter you just drag and drop the illustration you choose into the program of your choice. Consensus was the quality of these was the best yet. Thanks Brian and John for an informational and entertaining program.

After the presentations were over we held door prize drawings for copies of Art Explosion 750,000 and Berlitz French donated by Nova Development as well as other software, shirts and hardware. The Oreos and Wanda’s oat-meal-raisin cookies along with Pepsi and Sprite facilitated post-meeting discussion. Join us on September 5 for more of the fellowship and fun that is MUG ONE!

– TERRY L. HELSER, SECRETARY

DOWNLOAD JOHN MAAS’S OPTION KEY GUIDE SHEET

John Maas’s guide to the many uses of the Option key, as featured in his June MUG ONE presentation, can be downloaded from the MUG ONE website at <http://mugone.com/optionkey.pdf>

Special Offers from the Apple User Group Bulletin

These 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.

FUTURE SONICS: Believe Your Ears at 20% Off

Upgrade your earphones with the new professional Atrio Series – designed for stage, studio, broadcast, multimedia authoring and digital audio. Your products will sound their best with Future Sonics' own miniature dynamic speaker architecture. Enjoy BIGGER SOUND at lower volumes without "extended" or "enhanced" bass tricks.

Regularly priced at \$199.00, pay just \$159.20 for online orders, a 20% discount plus an audio satisfaction guarantee.

Coupon Codes:

- *****
- *****

Get more information or place your order:

<http://www.futuresonics.com/usergroups/>

This offer is valid through September 30, 2007 and limited to five headphones per buyer.

JoeSoft: 25% Discount on All Products

JoeSoft is software for the average Joe. From iTunes and iPod entertainment products to stock trading software, JoeSoft brings great software to the masses at reasonable prices. Free technical support based in California, low-cost software replacement policies, and generous free upgrade periods set JoeSoft apart from others.

Get a 25% discount on all products, including newly-released Klix and Jax. Avoid waiting for the software to be shipped; download it directly from JoeSoft so you can start using it now!

Discount code: *****

Buy great software now.

<http://www.joesoft.com>

This offer is valid through September 30, 2007.

PeaPackDesigns Animal Collection for iPod Nano: 40% Off

PeaPack Designs offers the cutest way to protect your iPod Nano - the PeaPackDesigns.com Animal Collection is available in four different soft and cute animals. The neoprene holder cradles your iPod Nano, the zippered pouch on the back stores your headphones securely and the handy clip lets you attach your PeaPackDesigns animal to your backpack, belt loop or purse!

Regularly priced at \$19.95 each, these are now avail-

able to user group members for \$11.97, which is a 40% discount.

Coupon code: *****

Order your animal now.

<http://www.peapackdesigns.com>

This offer valid until September 30, 2007.

Elgato Turbo.264: Turbocharged exports at 25% Off

Turbo.264 accelerates video exports to iPod, AppleTV and Sony PSP when used with video applications such as EyeTV, iMovie, QuickTime Pro and Final Cut Pro. As a hardware encoder, Turbo264 frees up the processor while encoding video. The application drops the converted H.264 (MP4) file(s) into iTunes, ready to sync with your iPod or Apple TV automatically.

Buy the Turbo.264 and a nifty carrying case for just \$85.00; you save over 25% off the combined retail price of \$114.90.

Speed up your conversions.

<http://www.elgato.com/usergroup.php>

This offer is valid until September 30, 2007.

CC Wear: Custom Dust Covers 25% Off

CC Wear offers high quality, fitted, 100% cotton twill dust covers for all your Apple equipment. While these covers keep your monitor and printer dust free, they also look great and complement any decor. CC Wear stands for quality, environmental solutions, craftsmanship and good taste.

A special user group discount pricing of 25% on all covers, includes products such as the Apple 30" Cinema Display cover, regularly \$39.95, and offered at a user group discount price of \$29.96.

Discount Code: *****

Order by phone: 1-415-664-0164

Order by email: sales@ccwear.com

Cover your essentials.

<http://www.ccwear.com>

This offer is valid through September 30, 2007.

JukeDock: Save \$30

With a nice fusion of nostalgia, modern design and advanced technology JukeDock fills the room with your videos and music on your big screen TV and home stereo. With intelligent ease it uses your home stereo remote to control your iPod, while illuminating your life with its captivating,

continued on page 4

– Offers, continued from page 3

elegant lighting.

Regularly \$79, purchase JukeDock for just \$49 – a 38% savings.

Coupon code: *****

Get this summer special now.

<http://www.pressuredropinc.com>

This offer is valid through October 31, 2007.

DEVONthink Professional Office: 25% Off

In today's world, everything is digital. Enter DEVONthink, the solution to this digital age conundrum. It is your second brain, the one database for all your digital files including PDFs, emails, Word docs or multimedia files. Use it as your document repository, your filing cabinet, your email archive or your project organizer. Boasting artificial intelligence, DEVONthink adapts to your needs, and can digitize your files. You can even copy the content to your iPod. The possibilities are only as limited as your imagination.

The regular price is \$149.95; using the discount code gives user group members 25% off of DEVONthink Pro Office (and all other online shop products).

Coupon code: *****

Purchase this digital age solution.

<http://www.devon-technologies.com/shop/>

This offer is valid through October 31, 2007.

ConceptDraw 7 and Project 3: \$50 Discount

ConceptDraw 7 is a powerful diagramming and drawing tool to effectively visualize and communicate information and processes. ConceptDraw Project 3 is a unique program to plan and keep track of many projects simultaneously. The ConceptDraw Product line is a family of Mac and Windows applications for office, educational and home users.

This special offer provides user group members with a \$50 discount on ConceptDraw 7 (regularly \$299) and ConceptDraw Project 3 (regularly \$199).

Discount code: *****

Learn more.

<http://www.conceptdraw.com>

Order ConceptDraw products.

http://www.conceptdraw.com/products/user_group_buy.php

This offer is valid through October 31, 2007.

app4mac Products: 20% off

app4mac is a market-leading Mac software development team created in 2001 to provide innovative applications

for Mac OS X. Their website allows you to download powerful solutions for project management (xTime Project), resources scheduling (xTime Planning), Internet kiosks (wKiosk Browser) and Internet child safety (CutX Content Filter and KidsBrowser). All products are designed for very easy use with even more amazing Mac OS X applications forthcoming.

User group members get a 20% discount on all online products which retail for \$9 to \$99.

Coupon code: *****

Buy any app4mac products.

<http://www.app4mac.com/>

This offer is valid through October 31, 2007.

iWOW for iTunes: 20% Discount

The iWOW is the ultimate iTunes audio enhancement plug-in for Mac users. You can restore fidelity to all your music files, display a sleek easy-to-use interface design with energized light pulses and ensure an amazing "In Concert" experience using SRS Labs' state-of-the-art audio enhancement technology. Even smaller speakers will produce deep rich bass. Many cool presets are available with custom settings for desktop speakers or headphones.

Regularly \$19.99, iWow is available for only \$15.99 for Apple user group members.

Promo Code:*****

Wow your sound.

<http://www.srslabs.com/iwow>

This offer is valid through October 31, 2007.

Portraits & Prints: Standard Edition Free and 60% Off Pro

With Portraits & Prints you can take any photo and print it any way you want. Select your photos and they are automatically arranged onto templates and displayed on screen in the exact same way that they are printed. You don't waste time or paper.

Portrait and Prints Standard Edition sells for \$30 (US), but is free to user group members via this special limited offer. Portraits and Prints Pro Edition (with an added ability to edit and create templates) sells for \$50 (US), but user group members can upgrade to the Pro version for \$20 (US).

To participate in this user group offer, email ***** with your name and MUG title.

Save time and paper.

<http://www.econtechologies.com>

This offer is valid through October 31, 2007.

continued on page 5

– Offers, continued from page 4

Ultralingua: 20% Discount

Ultralingua is a premier publisher of dictionaries and grammar-checkers designed to enhance your language skills. Ultralingua offers bilingual dictionaries for Spanish, French, German, Italian (and more), an extensive English dictionary of definitions and grammar-checkers for multiple languages. These bilingual dictionaries provide automatic verb conjugators, number converters and grammar resources. Click on words in other applications, and Ultralingua will show you translations or definitions.

Ultralingua offers Apple User Group members a 20% discount. Prices are reduced from \$29.95 to \$23.95.

Shopping Cart Coupon Code: *****

Improve your word use.

<http://www.ultralingua.com>

This offer is valid through November 30, 2007.

LapWorks: 20% Off Laptop Products

LapWorks is a premier leader in ergonomic lap desks, heat-reducing desktop stands and accessories for notebook computers. These laptop desks, among the most popular in America, are proven to make working with your notebook computer in the field and at your desk comfortable and hassle-free.

Order now to receive a user group member 20% discount on all LapWorks products.

Coupon code: *****

Order toll free: 877-527-9675

Order online:

<http://www.laptopdesk.net>

This offer is valid through November 30, 2007.

Listz: 25% Off

Listz is a unique and fun program for creating, storing and exploring all the pieces of information that enrich and plague your life – think of it as an accessory for your brain.

Listz meets your challenge to retain a torrent of information, channel it into something useful and still remember to get bananas and milk on the way home.

This exclusive \$29.95 deal offers user group members 25% off the regular \$39.95 price.

Coupon code: *****

Try Listz for free:

<http://www.robochan.com>

This offer is valid through November 30, 2007.

Wacom Tablets: 20% Savings

Wacom's Pen-enabled technology gives you the natural feel and superior performance of Wacom's patented cordless and battery-free tablet technology. Using a pen, mouse and tablet gives you more control, comfort and productivity.

While supplies last, Wacom makes the following special offer to Apple User Group members on a refurbished Wacom Graphire4 4x5 Blue graphic tablet through Academic Superstore; with an everyday price of \$49.95, user group members can buy a refurbished Wacom Graphire4 for \$39.95 with free shipping. Refurbished Wacom tablets are cleaned, re-packaged and carry a one-year warranty.

Source code: *****

Purchase this great tablet.

<http://www.academicssuperstore.com/market/marketdisp.html?PartNo=789617>

This offer is valid through September 30, 2007 while supplies last.

The MUG Store: Great Prices, Great Incentives

The MUG Store offers tremendous discounts on brand new and pre owned Macs exclusively for your members.

Every purchase made by your members through the MUG Store brings your group a one percent credit toward future purchases. Be sure to mention the MUG Store to your group. It's a place to buy Macs you can call your very own!

User ID: *****

Password: *****

<http://www.applemugstore.com>

This offer is valid through October 31, 2007.

Apple User Group Market & Apple User Group Offers

Looking for information on a past offer? The Apple User Group Advisory Board (UGAB) offers a colorful web page with all current offers, expiration dates and codes.

Continuing offers on publications include:

- Mac|Life magazine charter subscription
- Macworld Magazine special subscription offer
- Take Control ebooks
- Peachpit book club
- O'Reilly Publishing discount offers

Current Offers

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

Password - *****

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



MAC 911 – HELP DESK

Solutions to your most vexing Mac problems

By Christopher Breen

This month we're offering two heaping helpings of Mac 911. Here's the first helping...

TAKING OUT IPHOTO'S TRASH

Recently, I went through more than 2,000 photos in my iPhoto library and deleted the not-so-good ones in order to free up a little space on my hard drive. Alas, when I went to the Trash to empty it, none of the deleted photos were there. It seems that while I deleted them from the library, they are still buried somewhere on the hard drive. Where? – *Gary Patterson*

As you've discovered, your deleted iPhoto images don't appear in the Finder's Trash. Instead, you'll find them in iPhoto's own Trash. To truly remove iPhoto images from your hard drive, select the images that you want to delete from your iPhoto library and press the delete key on your Mac's keyboard. This transfers the pictures to iPhoto's Trash, which you'll find at the bottom of the Source list. To really get rid of the images, control-click on iPhoto's Trash icon and choose Empty Trash (see "Empty iPhoto's Trash"). This gets rid of the images for good.

Notice that I said to select each image in your iPhoto library. If you select an image in an album or a slide show and press delete, you remove the image from the album or slide show but not from your iPhoto library. There's a trick for this as well. Select an image and press 1-option-delete; the image will disappear from all albums and slide shows, as well as from the iPhoto library, and will then appear in iPhoto's Trash. Again, empty this Trash to delete the image from your computer.

Make Word Multilingual

I am living in France, which means that I write in both French and English in Microsoft Word. It's a bit time-consuming to go to the Tools: Language menu and select a different language for a document. Is there any way to develop a shortcut that will let me toggle between the two languages as I go from task to task? – *Nick Brown*

When you switch languages in Microsoft Word, you not only change the symbols that your Mac's keyboard types (as happens when you choose a different language in the International preference pane), but also instruct Word to use a different dictionary and grammar checker. One of the quickest ways to switch languages is with a Word macro

– a single command that executes a series of tasks.

In Word, choose Tools: Macro: Record New Macro, enter a name for your macro – say, French – and click on the Keyboard button. In the Customize Keyboard window that appears, assign a keyboard shortcut for your macro – control-option-F, for instance – and click on Assign. Click on OK to begin recording your macro.

While the macro is recording, choose Tools: Language, select French in the Language window that appears, and click on OK. Stop recording the macro. Now create another macro that switches the language to English. This time, name the macro English, assign it a shortcut such as control-option-E, and choose English in the Language window while recording. Once these macros are in place, just press the corresponding keyboard shortcut to change languages. You can also assign macros to toolbar buttons. To do so, click on the Toolbars button in the Record Macro window.

Another option is to create a style based on French or English. Choose Format: Style. In the Style window that appears, name the style, select Styles In Use from the List pop-up menu, and then select Normal from the Styles list at the top of the window. Click on the New button. Choose Language from the pop-up menu at the bottom of the resulting New Style window. Then choose the language you'd like to use (French or English), and click on OK.

The New Style window will now tell you that you're using a Normal style and which language you chose. Modify the style as you like from there, and click on OK to add the style. When you want to switch languages, just impose the new style.

Switch Off Spotlight

How can I remove Spotlight from my Mac's menu bar? I use Xcode for application development. On my 17-inch screen, I need the space. – *Curt Douglass*

If that little corner of the menu bar occupied by the Spotlight icon is your only concern, you can remove the icon this way:

Navigate to /System/Library/CoreServices and drag the Search.bundle file to your desktop. You don't have the correct permissions to move the file (root owns Search.bundle), so this will make a copy of the file. Put this copy in a safe place in case you want to enable the Spotlight menu item again. Select the original file in the CoreServices folder and press 1-delete to move it to the Trash. You'll have to enter your administrator name and password in order to move it. When you restart your Mac, the Spotlight menu will be gone.

To put things back the way they were, drag the Search.bundle

continued on page 7

– *Mac 911, continued from page 6*

file back into the CoreServices folder. Select it, press 1-I to bring up the Info window, and change its permissions so that Owner is System and Group is Wheel. If you want to get rid of Spotlight more completely, follow the steps just outlined, and then launch Terminal (/Applications/Utilities) and type the following:

```
sudo pico /etc/hostconfig
```

If Terminal terrifies you, try Fixamac Software's \$13 Spotless, a utility that allows you to control Spotlight's behavior. It includes features for disabling content indexing on particular volumes, deleting indexes, and switching Spotlight off altogether.

Change Office's Registration

I just recently noticed that I made a typo when I registered my copy of Microsoft Office 2004. When I select Word: About Word (or the equivalent in any other Office application), my name appears misspelled after "This product is licensed to." Is it possible to fix this? – *Meng Thao*

Launch Office's Remove Office utility (/Applications/Microsoft Office 2004/Additional Tools/Remove Office). In the Welcome To Remove Office window that appears, you'll see a Continue button in the lower right corner. Hold down the option key, and the button name changes to Remove Licensing Information Only. Click on that button to acknowledge that this is what you really want to do, and Remove Office will delete the files containing the registration information. When you next launch an Office application, the Office Setup Assistant will appear and prompt you for your name and product key.

Remove Quotes in Mail

From time to time, I want to excerpt something from an Apple Mail message, but if the message has been circulating for a while, it's cluttered with vertical lines in the left margin (from forwarding it and responding to it). Is there a way to remove them? – *John Christopher*

For people who don't know, those vertical lines represent quote levels in Mail. The more lines you see, the more times an e-mail exchange has included that bit of text. While Mail doesn't offer a command to eliminate them in one fell swoop, you can remove them one level at a time.

Just select the quoted text you've excerpted, hold down 1-option, and press the apostrophe (') key. With each press, one level disappears. (This is also available via a menu command – Format: Quote Level: Decrease – but having to invoke a menu command multiple times is less than convenient.)

Another option is to use Devon Technologies' free Word-

Service 2.6.1. Download this service and drag it to your Services folder (your user folder/Library/Services). If you don't find a Services folder in this location, create one. Log out of your account and log back in again. Now select the quoted text and select Mail: Services: Format: Remove Quotes. To apply even broader formatting changes (for example, to wrap text and remove quotes), select the text and choose Reformat (1-shift-7) from the same submenu.

Finally, if you want to remove the quote levels by hand, select the quoted text, drag it to the desktop to create a text clipping, and drag that clipping into a new e-mail message or text document. This process strips the text of quote-level formatting.

Quickly Switch Audio Input and Output

Do you know of an Automator workflow or an AppleScript that lets you easily switch the input and output of the Mac's sound system? Going to the Sound preference pane while a Skype call is coming in is inconvenient. – *Ralston Barnard*

Such AppleScripts exist, but why bother when Rogue Amoeba gives you SoundSource, a free menu-bar menu that lets you easily change audio inputs and outputs (see "Choose New Audio Settings")? Our Mac Gems meister, Dan Frakes, covered SoundSource in 2004 (). The current version (1.1) is compatible with Intel Macs.

BACK UP ON THE CHEAP

You know you need it. You know you should want it. But the second the phrase "backup strategy" enters the course of general conversation, you experience a strong desire to lie down in a dark room. Don't feel overwhelmed. One of the most common reasons people don't back up is because they don't know where to put their data. Here are two ways to solve that problem without breaking the bank.

1. Use What You Have

Back up data to your internal hard drive, and you'll lose everything if that drive goes kaput. So where to store your backups? External hard drives are fast and convenient, but they can be pricey. Don't let the lack of one stand in your way. Nearly all new Macs ship with a double-layer (DL) SuperDrive, capable of burning as much as 8.5GB of data to DL media. Single-layer DVDs are inexpensive and can hold up to 4.7GB. And even cheap-as-dirt 700MB CD-R discs can store hundreds of small files. For rewritable storage on-the-go, a USB key drive that holds a couple of GB of data is both inexpensive and easy to transport.

2. Put It Online

When you're away from home, even if you have an ex-

continued on page 8

– *Mac 911, continued from page 7*

ternal drive, you may not have access to it. You could use Apple's .Mac service, since it includes a gigabyte of storage and the convenient Backup software, but that costs \$100 a year. Instead, create a free Google Gmail account and use the more than 2.5GB of online e-mail storage you get to back up important files while you're on the road. The free Gspace plug-in for Firefox makes it easy.

Here's the second helping of Mac 911...

OF OVERCHARGING AND IPODS

I recently got a Bose SoundDock and wanted to know whether it was a bad thing to keep the iPod permanently mounted in the dock. The SoundDock continuously charges it. Can that hurt the battery? – *Danny Sat*

In general, you can't overcharge your iPod. It's a savvy little piece of gear that understands when enough is enough, even if it's connected to a power source like the \$299 SoundDock () for days on end. Some folks (but not Apple) suggest that undocking the iPod once a month and letting it run on battery power for a while is a good idea. Allegedly, this will "exercise" the battery and lengthen its life span.

I haven't tested the theory, because, frankly, I don't have the patience to conduct multiple-year battery trials. But given that even the most devoted homebody is likely to leave the house on at least a monthly basis, it certainly wouldn't hurt to take your iPod for a walk every so often.

Another battery question I hear frequently is "So, when should I charge my iPod – should I run it all the way down first? Halfway down?" Invariably, my response is "Don't sweat it." No matter what you do, the battery will eventually die, and you'll either replace it or get a new iPod.

Running an iPod all the way down and letting it sit for a week with no juice is unnecessary – the batteries in iPods don't have a "memory" that you need to reset by running them dry, as did the batteries in some older devices. Nor will the battery become overly stressed if you recharge it at the end of each day, even though you've used only a quarter of its charge.

In short, charge your iPod when it's convenient. If you're going on a transpacific flight, then by all means find a spare power outlet at the airport and top your iPod off. Or if you've listened to it for only a couple of hours and don't feel like taking it out of your backpack, pocket, or purse, then leave it where it is at the end of the day, enjoy its many gifts tomorrow, and charge it the next time you think of it.

Squeaky-clean Systems

I recently found a program called Disk Cleaner (for PCs)

and was wondering if there was something similar for Macs. – *Gordon Werb*

Disk Cleaner is a free, open-source utility that deletes temporary, cache, and cookie files, as well as stray items in the Recycle Bin, from a Windows PC. There are loads of similar utilities for the Mac, but my favorite is Titanium Software's OnyX (; payment requested). It allows you to easily muck with parts of the operating system that are usually accessible only through Terminal. But unlike many tools of this sort, OnyX helps you stay out of trouble while you do so – it clearly explains what its features do and warns of potential problems.

For example, in the Cleaning tab, where it seems that you'll be spending the bulk of your time, you'll discover that you can delete a wide variety of cache files, as well as form values and cookies (see "Empty the Cache"). OnyX warns you that deleting these things may mean that you have to reenter user names and passwords when you revisit favorite sites (this could cause trouble if you've neglected to make a note of any passwords).

The Case of the Missing Contacts

Nearly all my Apple Address Book contacts are gone. Worse yet, all the addresses in Microsoft Entourage's Address Book are gone, too. I'm a .Mac member and use Apple's Backup to back up my hard drive, so I think I can get my contacts back. I just don't know where to look. – *Turner Rouse*

Launch Backup, select your regular backup plan (this plan must include either your Home folder or Personal Data & Settings), and click on the Restore button. In the Restore window that appears, select a date whose backup is likely to hold all your contacts – for example, if you recall seeing all your contacts on the day before yesterday, find the backup that most closely precedes that date in the Previous Backups column.

Click on it and then follow this path: your user folder/Library/Application Support/AddressBook. Find the file named AddressBook.data. Select the Restore To An Alternate Location option. Put a check mark in the box next to the file name to select it, and then click on Restore Selection. Navigate to the place where you'd like to put the file, and click on Choose.

Once the program is finished, open the Restored Files folder it has created and dig down through its folders until you get to the AddressBook.data file. Go back to your user folder/Library/Application Support/AddressBook and replace that folder's AddressBook.data file with the one from the Restored Files folder. Launch Address Book, and it should contain all your contacts.

Now, before you move on to Entourage, do this: In Address

continued on page 9

– Mac 911, continued from page 8

Book, choose File: Back Up Address Book. This will do exactly what it says – back up your contacts on your Mac. I don't know what funkiness caused Address Book to lose your contacts, but if it happens again, you can easily get the contacts back by opening Address Book, choosing File: Revert To Address Book Backup, selecting this backup file, and clicking on Open.

As for Entourage, launch it, open its preferences (Entourage: Preferences), and select Sync Services. You should see that the Synchronize Contacts With Address Book And .Mac option is enabled. Microsoft added the option to synchronize contacts between Apple's Address Book and Entourage 2004's Address Book in a recent update. It's a great feature – unless Apple's Address Book loses its contacts. When that happens, Entourage syncs with the nearly empty list of contacts. Once you restore your contacts to Address Book, Entourage will update its Address Book with those contacts, as long as this option is on.

3 WAYS TO USE HIDDEN PREFERENCES

As much as I rely on add-on tools like the ones covered in Mac Gems to make the most of my Mac, there are times when you can do the most- powerful work with capabilities built into the programs you already own – as long as you know that they're there.

1. Unstick Entourage

Macworld.com forum reader LarryW posted a tip about a hidden Microsoft Entourage command. Specifically, if you find that Entourage hangs or pauses for minutes at a time and your hard drive sounds as though it's been thrown into high gear, try this: Launch Entourage while holding down the option key. Microsoft's Database Manager will launch instead of Entourage. Select the Set Database Preferences option in the Database Utility window, click on Continue, and disable the Perform Database Integrity Check In The Background option. This will cause that seemingly endless background churning to stop.

Note that checking the integrity of your Entourage database from time to time is a good idea – all your messages are contained in that one file. You can do this from within the Database Utility window. And of course, you should have a backup of your Entourage Database file, which you'll find in your user folder/Documents/Microsoft User Data/Office 2004 Identities/Main Identity.

2. Update iPhoto Thumbnails

If your iPhoto thumbnail images don't match the full-size versions anymore, press 1-option while launching iPhoto. In the resulting Rebuilding Photo Library window, you'll find options for rebuilding your photos' small thumbnails, rebuilding all thumbnails, rebuilding the iPhoto Library

database, and recovering orphaned photos in the iPhoto Library folder. In this case, choose the first option – Rebuild The Photos' Small Thumbnails – and your thumbnails will once again accurately depict your images.

3. Create New Libraries

Press option when you launch iPhoto, and it'll give you the choice of creating a new iPhoto library or choosing an existing iPhoto library. That's helpful when you don't have enough storage space to hold a massive iPhoto library in one location. The same key command works for iTunes 7 and its libraries.

Macworld Magazine Senior Editor Christopher Breen is the author of Secrets of the iPod and iTunes, fifth edition, and The iPod and iTunes Pocket Guide (both Peachpit Press, 2005).

Find Chris' books at www.amazon.com and www.peachpit.com.

Get special user group pricing on Macworld Magazine! Subscribe today at <http://www.macworld.com/useroffer>.

THE APPLE USER GROUP MARKET REPORT PODCAST

Be sure to subscribe to the Apple User Group Market Report podcast, brought to you by the User Group Advisory Board and Tom Piper.

This month's edition features the second in a series of Apple User Group Roundtables with Doug Smith, the Regional Liaison for the South Central USA, and five user group leaders from his area; plus Jose Calero of LapWorks, Inc. discussing his discount offer on lap desks and desktop stands for portable computers. The AUG Market Report is a great source for information about Apple user groups, vendor discounts, special events 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>

Problems with your AUG Market Subscription?

Are you having problems with your AUG Market Report subscription? Recent changes in Apple's iLife 08 and .Mac have resulted in error messages for some users.

Re-subscribe today to keep the news and offers flowing.

http://web.mac.com/ugab/Apple_User_Group_Advisory_Board_Site/AUG_Market/AUG_Market.html

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

Editor: Elsa Travisano

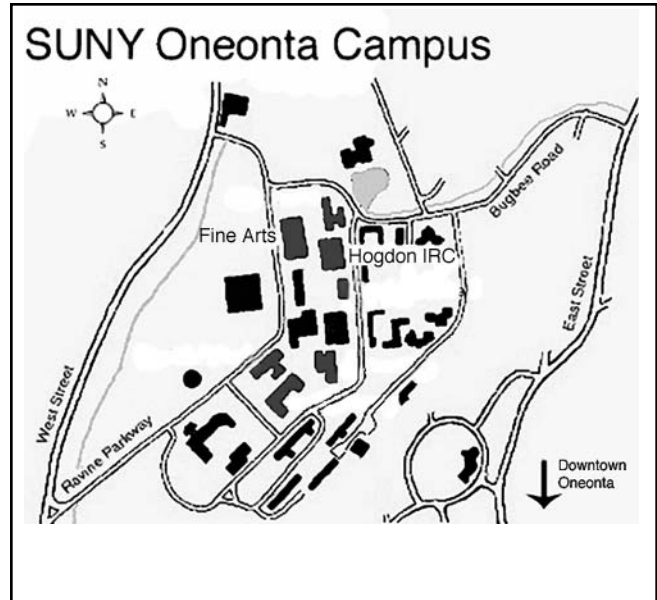
Contact *Newsbreak* at:

mugone@stny.rr.com
<http://www.mugone.com>

28 State Street
Oneonta, NY 13820

607/433-2569
Fax: 607/433-0909

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



AUGUST 23, 2007 OFFICERS' MEETING

President Elsa Travisano, secretary Terry Helser, treasurer Joanne Johnston, program co-chair Brian Foley and co-librarian Mark Dye met at Ruffino's Pizzeria at 6 p.m. on a warm and drizzly August 23. Program co-chair Sven Anderson was away delivering his daughter to school in Albany and co-librarian Keith Robisch was also unable to attend. Vice president John Maas has relocated to Massachusetts so was also understandably absent. We ordered pizza and stromboli and got down to business.

Elsa gave Brian the Peachpit Experience Double Feature program box from Peachpit User Group Partner Program's Jacquie Hill to use for upcoming meetings. The meeting-in-a-box contains video presentations by Mac and Photoshop authors from Macworld Expo 2007 and Photoshop World Las Vegas along with popcorn, M&Ms and door prizes. The books we received from Peachpit will be featured at the meeting, then will be added to the library, and older books will be culled for the raffle. Brian talked about creating podcasts of upcoming meetings for members, and Elsa will try to set up a microphone to record the meetings.

For the September 5th meeting, Brian will demonstrate Web 2.0 and Squidoo.com for us. Elsa plans to give a brief introduction to iWork 08 and iLife 08 application suites and talk about the improvements in the .Mac subscription service. We'd also like to members to volunteer to present a short demo of a cool Web site they like. Brian will hand out cards and give the audience time to give us updated contact information and ask questions and/or tell us what they'd like to see and what they need help with.

October 3rd will see the return of Adam Engst, who will give a demonstration of the newly released iPhoto 08.

November 7th will be determined by the member response,

but could include a demonstration the newest OS X, OS 10.5 Leopard, due out in October, if we can get it in time.

December 5th will be our annual Gift Ideas for the Holidays program and party, at which Mark is willing to demonstrate FreeVerse games or other entertainments. As always, we'll ask the members to contribute ideas and short demos for this program, like Joanne giving tips on quilting and kindergarten sites.

The checkbook has a current balance of \$1,207.61 after paying for the meal. After a brief discussion about presenters bringing their own laptops to do demos since Elsa has maxed out her hard drive, and Brian volunteering to work with Elsa on the MUG ONE website, we concluded the meeting at a surprisingly early 8 p.m.

With the pizza demolished and everyone ready for Fall (right?), we adjourned until 7:30 PM in IRC-5 for the September 5th program. Thanks, all!

– TERRY L. HELSER, SECRETARY

– *New iMacs, continued from page 1*

processor) and Keynote (presentations). iLife 08 includes a greatly enhanced iPhoto and a completely redesigned (and somewhat controversial) iMovie, along with iTunes and new versions of iWeb, iDVD and GarageBand. Note that system requirements have been ratcheted up, especially for iMovie, so check before you buy.

Finally, the .Mac suite of online tools adds Web Gallery for sharing photos and movies, website hosting with your own URL, and a tenfold increase in storage, to 10 GB.

For more information, including great demos and guided tours. go to <http://www.apple.com/>

– ELSA TRAVISANO