

# NEWS BREAK

Volume 24, Number 6

September 2009

## SEPTEMBER 9, 2009 MEETING

### ITUNES, APPLE ANNOUNCEMENTS AND (MAYBE) SNOW LEOPARD

– Keith Robisch and Elsa Travisano

Join us on Wednesday, September 9, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. in Golisano Hall classroom 103 on the Hartwick College campus for our first meeting of the fall semester.

**Keith Robisch** will show how to harness the power of iTunes Playlists and Genius music recommendation feature.

Then **Elsa Travisano** will report on products announced at Apple's September 9 Special Media Event.

**Brian Foley** will lead a brief discussion of program ideas for the coming year.

Finally, if time permits we'll take a first look at the just-released Mac operating system, **OS 10.6 Snow Leopard**.

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, call Brian Foley at 607-988-7031 or email Elsa Travisano at [info@mugone.com](mailto:info@mugone.com)

## MUG ONE LIBRARY – WE'RE GIVING AWAY BOOKS!

We will be giving away some of the older books from the MUG ONE library to make room for new materials.

Books will be available at the September meeting, with members receiving first choice.

This is a great opportunity for those of us who are using older applications or operating systems – and the price is right.

We recommend that you jot down the version numbers of your operating system and the applications you use using (especially Photoshop, iPhoto, etc.) before you come to the meeting, so you can choose titles that will be most helpful to you.

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



*The iPod nano now has a video camera! Plus new shuffles, touches and the extensively revamped iTunes 9.*

## APPLE'S SPECIAL EVENT – NEW IPOD NANO, TOUCH AND SHUFFLE MODELS, ITUNES 9

Apple CEO Steve Jobs was greeted by an exuberant standing ovation at Apple's Special Media Event. Jobs began his first public appearance in almost a year by expressing gratitude for the generosity of the organ donor from whom he received a transplanted liver this spring.

The September 9 press event featured new and updated iPods, price cuts, and a heavily upgraded version of iTunes.

*continued on page 6*

### MUG ONE OFFICERS FOR 2008-2009

Elsa Travisano, President <a href="mailto:mugone@stny.rr.com">mugone@stny.rr.com</a>	607/433-2569
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## ***Special Discount 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.

### **Voila Software: 38% Discount**

Voila is a professional creativity tool for Mac OS X Leopard that lets you capture your screen, annotate, organize and share. Voila lets you capture any shape, multiple regions at the same time, menu, webpage or DOM elements, and even from iSight. Pick and add annotations, add effects and share instantly via Mail, Flickr, FTP or iPhoto.

Regularly priced at \$39.95, Voila is offered to Apple user group members for only \$24.95, which is 38% off! A full-featured trial version can be downloaded for a 30-day evaluation.

Discount coupon: \*\*\*\*\*

<http://www.globaldelight.com/store>

This offer is valid through December 31, 2009.

### **Elgato Products: 40% Off**

Elgato recently announced Video Capture, their new product that lets you transfer video from a VCR, DVR, set-top box, camcorder or any other analog video source to your Mac as an iTunes-ready file. One simple click allows you to sync with an iPod, iPhone and Apple TV, play it in QuickTime, or upload it directly to YouTube.

Elgato is offering very special pricing of \$60 to Apple user group members (the same as Apple resellers), a 40% discount. The products are not-for-resale (NFR) and are marked as such on the product/packaging.

<http://www.elgato.com>

This offer is valid until September 30, 2009.

### **Buy The Missing Sync, Get Fliq for Mac Free**

The Missing Sync for iPhone lets you sync notes, tasks, documents and files between your iPhone and Mac, and archive notes, text messages and call logs to your Mac. Fliq for Mac is a powerful way for Mac users to send and receive photos, contacts, notes, tasks and documents with others over a network, and exchange notes and memos.

Regularly priced at \$59.95, user group members qualify for a reduced price of \$39.95 during this offer.

Use coupon: \*\*\*\*\*

Learn more: <http://www.markspace.com/iphone>

This offer is valid until September 30, 2009.

### **IGG Software Summer Sale: 20% Off**

IGG Software's flagship products are iBank 3, a Mac-only alternative to Quicken that's a great way to track checking and savings accounts, credit cards, investments and loans; and the all-new iBiz 4, a cool tool for freelancers or small firms to manage clients, projects, billable hours and invoicing.

Apple User Group members can take 20% off all purchases including iBank (regularly \$60) and iBiz (regularly \$40), as well as iBiz Professional, iPaste, and upgrades too. All software is downloadable, with free trials and a money-back guarantee.

Discount Coupon: \*\*\*\*\*

<http://www.iggsoftware.com>

This offer is valid through September 30, 2009.

### **Automated Workflows, LLC: 40% Off Automator Actions**

Automated Workflows, LLC's **Ultimate Productivity Automator Action Pack for Mac OS X Leopard** allows users to extend the capabilities of Automator with 170 additional actions for FileMaker Pro, Illustrator, InDesign, iPhoto, Mail, Photoshop, Preview, QuarkXPress, Safari, TextEdit, Twitter and more! Start reducing those time consuming and repetitive tasks in your workflow today!

Regularly priced at \$79.99, user group members qualify for a reduced price of \$47.99, a 40% discount, during this offer.

Coupon Code: \*\*\*\*\* [http://www.automatedworkflows.com/software/automator\\_actions/ultimate.html](http://www.automatedworkflows.com/software/automator_actions/ultimate.html)

This offer is good until September 30, 2009.

### **The Only Industry-standard SEO Software: 53% Off**

SEO PowerSuite includes four forceful SEO tools, making you more productive at each website promotion task: keyword research, building premium high-PR backlinks, content (HTML code) optimization, rank tracking and more. The software also produces flexible reports that let you analyze your SEO strategy and deliver results to partners and clients. SEO PowerSuite includes:

- Rank Tracker
- WebSite Auditor
- SEO SpyGlass
- LinkAssistant

With an original price of \$399, Apple User Group Members qualify for a special price of \$186.75, a discount of 53%!

Order with discount: \*\*\*\*\*

*continued on page 3*

– Offers, continued from page 2

Learn more: <http://www.link-assistant.com>

Download a free version: <http://www.link-assistant.com/download.html>

This offer is valid through October 31, 2009.

### **TheMacU.com: 20% Off All In-depth Mac Video Training Titles**

Tap the full potential of your Mac with video training from The Mac U. In depth training courses are available on a wide variety of topics. Tons of free Mac video tutorials and software demo videos are also available.

Better yet, Apple user group members get 20% off all titles.

Discount Code (enter this code on the Esellerate cart page): \*\*\*\*\*

<http://www.TheMacU.com>

This offer is valid through October 31, 2009.

### **AQUAFADAS Software: 25% off**

With a focus on the Mac platform, Aquafadas was formed to develop and promote high quality software solutions exclusively for the imaging and digital video community.

The Apple User Group community can receive a special discount off the entire software range:

PulpMotion - \$49 reduced to \$36.75  
 PulpMotion Advanced - \$129 reduced to \$96.75  
 BannerZest - \$49 reduced to \$36.75  
 BannerZest Pro - \$129 reduced to \$96.75  
 iDive - \$79 reduced to \$59.25  
 VideoPier - \$49 reduced to \$36.75  
 VideoPier HD - \$79 reduced to \$96.75

Discount code: \*\*\*\*\*

<http://www.aquafadas.com>

This offer is valid through October 31, 2009.

### **MacMemoryStore Apple Memory Upgrades: 15% Off**

Looking for a great place to shop for Mac Memory Upgrades? MacMemoryStore.com specializes in Apple Memory upgrades. The Memory Finder allows you to quickly and easily find guaranteed compatible memory for just about any type of computer system. By selecting your computer manufacturer, family and model, you can be certain the memory you find will work in that system.

An exclusive 15% off their already low prices is offered to Apple User Group members on all memory upgrades.

Coupon code: \*\*\*\*\*

<http://www.MacMemoryStore.com>

This offer is valid through November 30, 2009.

### **PocketMac RingtoneStudio 2: 30% Off**

PocketMac makes a variety of productivity tools for PDA and Mac connectivity, including using your Mac to support your iPhone. With RingtoneStudio2 for iPhone, you can easily create iPhone ringtones. By creating and setting ringtones for each of your friends and family, you can get an early heads-up before you even look to see who's calling.

From the regular \$29.95 price, Apple user group members receive a 30% discount, which reduces your cost to \$20.96. The first 500 ordering will also get their choice of free iPhone case.

Coupon Code: \*\*\*\*\*

<http://www.createiphoneringtones.com>

This offer is valid through November 30, 2009.

### **Mac OS X Snow Leopard books: 35% Off**

O'Reilly and No Starch have three upcoming Mac OS X Snow Leopard books. Titles include *Mac OS X Snow Leopard: The Missing Manual* by David Pogue, *My New Mac, Snow Leopard Edition* by Wallace Wang, and *Mac OS X Snow Leopard Pocket Guide* by Chris Seibold. Get up to speed quickly with this new operating system, and get 35% off with the user group discount code.

Discount code: \*\*\*\*\*

To purchase, call 800-998-9938, or go to:

<http://bit.ly/OReillysnowleopard>

This worldwide offer is valid through November 30, 2009.

### **Apple User Group Market Report and 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. Watch for intermittent special offers.

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>



## 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...*

### DEALING WITH A FULL HARD DRIVE

Reader Matthew Mitchell feels the walls closing in. He writes:

*I have a 17-inch MacBook Pro with a 320GB hard drive. (Formatted it has 297GB, but who's counting?) I'm down to 70GB and I heard that a full hard drive is a slow hard drive. I went looking for files to delete and found a fair few that were either hardly ever used or never used. Are there any secret locations on my hard drive that large and disposable files could be hidden?*

There's lots to talk about here.

Let's start with the capacity of your hard drive. For just about ever, hard drive manufacturers have defined a megabyte as 1,000KB. The Mac OS defines a megabyte as 1,024KB. It's for this reason that a 320GB drive (using the 1,000KB measurement convention) appears to have much less capacity, because it's being measured by the OS using the 1,024KB definition. It's been reported that this behavior will change in Snow Leopard so that OS X 10.6 will show a 320GB hard drive having exactly that capacity.

As for a full hard drive slowing down your Mac, it's true. OS X uses your hard drive to swap files out of RAM and if there's very little room to do that, your Mac needs to work harder at the job and therefore slows down. Note, however, that at 70GB your 320GB isn't there yet. Continue to leave 10 to 15-percent of your hard drive free and you should be in fine shape.

Now, let's turn to lurking files and folders. In this regard it's worth your while to download a copy of The Omni Group's free OmniDiskSweeper. This utility will tell you how much space is consumed by folders and files on your Mac. When you find something you believe you can do without, simply highlight it and click on the Delete button in the bottom-left corner of the window.

Good places to start looking are in the /Library and ~/Library folders. For example, look in the Audio folder within the /Library folder and you'll find an Apple Loops folder that holds GarageBand's audio files, which take up many gigabytes of storage. If you don't use GarageBand, this folder can go. Similarly, iDVD's themes (found in /Library/Application Support/iDVD) take up a couple of gigabytes of storage that you can free up if you never touch iDVD.

Because it doesn't go without saying for everyone, allow me to offer a couple of safety tips. First, don't throw out items in the System folder unless you really, really, really know what you're doing. And, more generally, don't toss out files and folders stored elsewhere on your Mac unless you know the purpose they serve. Doing so could land you knee-deep in the soup.

### Streaming large movies

Reader Michael Quinn has a lot of questions regarding a single movie. He writes:

*I have a 1.75GB MPEG-4 Quicktime Movie file. If I subscribe to MobileMe and upload it using iDisk, will friends and family be able to see it? If so, could they stream it, or would they have to download it? Or, is this file too large for them to access at all? If MobileMe can't do this, is there any other movie/video hosting app that could?*

If you dropped it in you iDisk's Public folder your friends and family would be able to download it but not stream it. But let's back up a second. That's a honkin' big movie and one that, in its current form, I wouldn't advise streaming. First of all, it could take a long time to start streaming to your viewers. And, perhaps more importantly, if a lot of people access the thing, you could easily run over your MobileMe monthly data transfer limit (that limit is 200GB of data transfer for a standard MobileMe account).

If you want to go with MobileMe I'd severely slim down that movie. One good way to do that is to import it into iMovie '09, pull it into a project, and then choose Share -> MobileMe Gallery. In the sheet that appears you can choose a size that will work better for streaming--Tiny (176 x 144), Mobile (480 x 272), Medium (640 x 360), or Large (960 x 540) for a 720p HD movie.

From the sound of your question, you don't yet have a MobileMe account. If the MobileMe Gallery feature is the single thing that's pushing you toward this \$99-per-annum service, perhaps you could save some money by creating a YouTube account and posting your video to that fine free service using the Share -> YouTube command. As with MobileMe Gallery you have options for creating movies of different sizes and you needn't grant the general public access to your movie. Just make it a personal movie and then grant access to your family and friends.

### No, you're not infected

A reader who wishes to remain anonymous is concerned about a very scary looking website. I attempt to calm the waters.

*I used Yahoo to search for something and was sent immediately to the following [redacted] site. I believe my Mac was invaded and don't know what to do!*

First, relax. Your Mac wasn't invaded, infected, compro-

*continued on page 5*

– Mac 911, continued from page 4

mised, co-opted, or conquered. If you'd clicked through a few of those dire pop-up warnings you might have been as amused as I was to see a phony Windows Security Alert appear on a Macintosh. What you've encountered is termed "scareware"--a scam that attempts to frighten those confronted with these pages into downloading a hunk of software that will allegedly deal with the problem.

The chain of events goes like this: A perfectly legitimate URL is hijacked by the scammers and you're redirected to the scareware page. That page is designed in such a way that several dialog boxes pop-up, warning you that your computer is infected. Click Cancel and you'll just get more warnings and an interface that makes it appear like your computer is being scanned. If you fall for the trick and click the buttons necessary to download the offered antivirus software, you'll pay for a product that is likely a hunk of malware (and I hate to think what happens to your credit card information). This malware is bad for Windows PCs but has no effect on Macs.

Regrettably, these pages are sometimes difficult to dismiss because the constant pop-up warnings prevent you from leaving. Clicking OK may get rid of the pop-ups so that you can close the window or tab (and no, doing so won't automatically download the software to your Mac), but I faced a situation with my wife's Mac (who was just concerned as you were) where I had to force-quit Safari to get away from the scareware page.

You can take some comfort in knowing that the search engine folks do their best to weed out this junk and that those who promote it have been-- and will continue to be--prosecuted for engaging in such malicious and scammy activities.

*Here's the second heaping helping of Mac 911 goodness:*

## HIDING THE MENU BAR

Reader Desmond Biss would like an even cleaner Desktop. He writes:

*I use our living room's LCD TV as a monitor for our Mac mini. Within System Preferences one can set the Dock to automatically hide and show. Is there any way to set the menu bar on the Desktop to also automatically hide and show?*

With some help, yes. That help takes the form of Chieh Cheng's free MagicMenu 2, a collection of AppleScripts that work a little plist magic, likely along the lines described by our own Rob Griffiths in early 2007.

Just run the Finder MagicMenu On script, log out of your account, log back in, and the menu bar behaves much like the Dock when you have the Hiding feature turned on. The menu bar is absent until you place your cursor in the area

once occupied by it. At this point it appears.

To undo this, simply run the Finder MagicMenu Off script, log out, log back in, and your menu bar remains omnipresent.

## Put spare hard drives to work

Reader Bill Robertson, like a lot of us, has accumulated quite a collection of hard drives. He writes:

*I have the original Mac Pro that I loaded with four 250GB SATA drives. That 1TB of storage filled up faster than I thought it would and so I replaced some of them with 500GB drives. Things are getting tight again and now that prices have come down, I'm thinking of 1TB drives. The problem is that I have a lot of old SATA drives that are sitting around. What should I do with them?*

As we deal with larger files--pictures, audio, and video--we need places to put them. The CDs and DVDs that once seemed so expansive just don't have the kind of capacity that many of us require. That leaves us with hard drives. And because hard drives fill up, we increasingly find ourselves in situations such as yours--swapping out lower-capacity hard drives for more capacious drives.

It's silly to toss out these perfectly serviceable older drives. So allow me to suggest three ways to put them to use.

*Drobo.*

*Voyager Q or Voyager S2.*

*External enclosures.*

### **Drobo.**

Data Robotics' Drobo is a RAID enclosure that supports up to four SATA drives of any capacity. Going for just over \$350, the Drobo works over a USB 2 or FireWire 800 connection. The thing to note about the Drobo is that it doesn't provide the accumulated capacity of each drive because it's a redundant system--it stores two copies of your data. So, for example, if you were to shove four 1TB drives into it, you'd realize only about 2.7TB of storage. While it's a shame to lose some of that storage, you'll cry far fewer tears when one of those drives goes bad and it doesn't take your data with it.

### **NewerTech's Voyager Q.**

If you don't need that kind of storage and are seeking a way to simply jack in one spare SATA drive or another from time to time, take a look at NewerTech's Voyager Q or Voyager S2. Priced at \$95 and \$50 respectively, these hard drive "enclosures" look and behave like toasters. Just connect it to your Mac (the Q supports FireWire 800/400, USB 2, and eSATA connections while the S supports USB 2 and eSATA), shove a 2.5" or 3.5" SATA drive into the slot, and the drive mounts on your Mac. When you're done with that drive, drag its icon to the Trash, and then push down the Voyager's lever to pop out the drive, just as you'd pop

*continued on page 6*

– Mac 911, continued from page 5

out a slice of toast.

And if you desire a more permanent solution, purchase a drive enclosure from an outfit such as OWC or NewEgg. These come in a variety of flavors-- USB 2, eSATA, FireWire 400, and FireWire 800 (and often a combination of them)-and can be had for as little as \$40.

### iCal and shifting time zones

Reader Eric Brown has unwillingly traveled in time and is displeased. He writes:

*While traveling recently, I stumbled upon an iCal feature that took me by surprise, and not in a good way. Changing the computer's time zone (in the Date & Time system preference) changes the time stamp of every item--past and future--in my iCal calendar. Since I use iCal for my time sheet, it's pretty strange to look back and see that a 10 AM meeting in Vancouver is now logged as a 1 PM meeting, just because I'm now in New York. And when I log my 9 AM New York meeting, it'll show up as a 6 AM meeting when I return home and reset the time zone. Is there a way to set iCal items so that the current time zone setting leaves past events unchanged?*

You're not the first to be perplexed by this issue. Fortunately, Apple's got your back on this one.

Launch iCal, choose Preferences from the iCal menu, click the Advanced tab, and enable the Turn On Time Zone Support option. When you do this, a pop-up menu appears in the iCal window's upper-right corner. This pop-up menu displays the time zone configured within the Date & Time system preference.

### Editing the time zone in an iCal event

When you change time zones within Date & Time, your events will shift, just as you've observed. To shift them to display in a different time zone, simply click on this pop-up menu and choose the time zone you'd like. If an appropriate one doesn't appear, select Other and, in the sheet that appears, choose the time zone you want and click OK.

Ah, but what if you want to display Vancouver events in Vancouver time and New York events in NY time? Easy enough. Select the event, press Command-E to cause the event edit window to appear, and choose the time zone you desire from the Time Zone pop-up menu within the edit window (it appears just above the Repeat entry).

*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](http://www.amazon.com), [www.](http://www.)

[peachpit.com](http://peachpit.com) and [lynda.com](http://lynda.com)

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



– Apple's Special Event, continued from page 1

**iPhone 3.1.** The software update for the iPhone and iPod touch adds a Genius button, offering recommendations of applications you might like based on past purchases. iPhone users can now purchase ringtones from the iTunes store, with over 20,000 available for \$1.29 each.

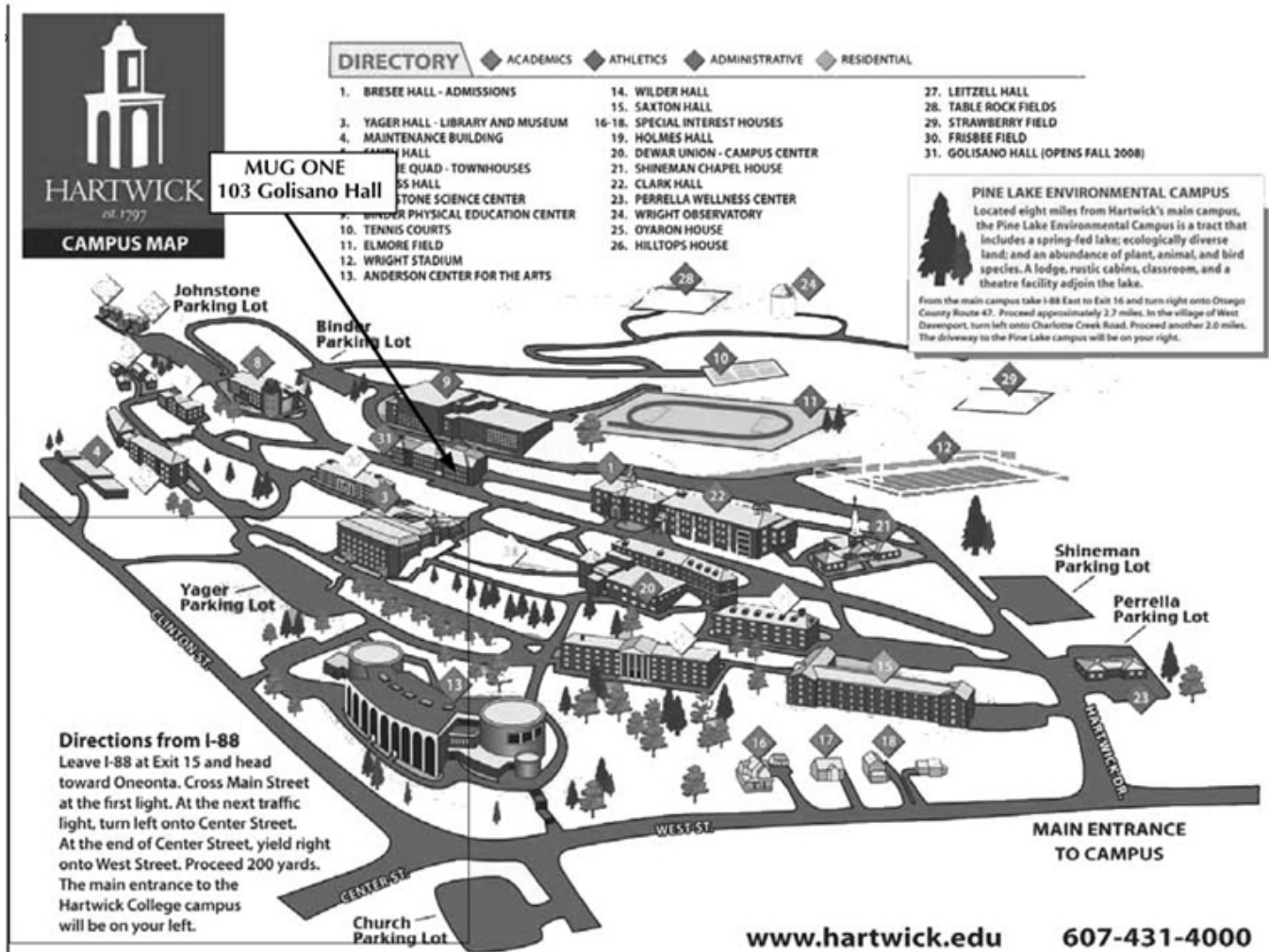
**iTunes 9** The free software download features better syncing, a redesigned store with top navigating tabs for music, movies, TV shows, the App Store, podcasts, audio-books and (hooray!) iTunes U and several new features:

- *iTunes LP* – Selected albums can be purchased from the iTunes Store with extras like cover art, performance videos, lyrics, liner notes, photos and interviews.
- *iTunes Extras* – For selected movies, adds extras like documentaries, deleted scenes, interviews and interactive galleries.
- *Home Sharing* – Lets you view, listen to and transfer movies, music and TV shows among up to five authorized computers on your home network. Great for families.
- *Genius Mixes* – A virtual DJ that creates up to a dozen endless mixes from songs in your iTunes library that go well together.

**iPod nano** The new iPod nano adds a built-in video camera, bigger screen, microphone and speaker, FM tuner and even a pedometer, all for \$149 (8GB: 2,000 songs or 8 hours of video) or \$179 (6GB: 4,000 songs or 16 hours of video) – innovative features at an amazing price. The nano has a polished anodized finish and comes in silver, black, purple, blue, green, orange, yellow, (PRODUCT) RED and pink. **iPods shuffle** The bitsy buttonless iPod shuffle now comes in five colors (silver, black, blue, green and pink) and costs \$59 for a 2GB and \$79 for a 4GB model. A sleek polished stainless steel 4GB model is available online only.

**iPod classic** The venerable classic now has a 160GB hard drive (holding 40,000 songs or 200 hours of video), comes in silver or black and costs \$249.

**iPod touch** The popular iPod touch is now available at \$199 (a price cut of \$120) for the current 8GB model. The new 32GB model (holds 7,000 songs, 40,000 photos or 40 hours of video) and 64GB model (holds up to 14,000 songs, 90,000 photos or 80 hours of video) are priced at \$299 and \$399 respectively. The new models feature better graphics, faster performance and earphones with a remote and microphone built onto the cord.



**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

Editor: Elsa Travisano

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