

# NEWS BREAK

Volume 23, Number 1

January/February 2008

## FEBRUARY 6, 2008 MEETING – MACWORLD EXPO TOUR WITH TIPS

Join us on Wednesday, February 6 at 7:30 p.m. in **Hodgdon IRC-4** on the SUNY Oneonta campus for MUG ONE's first meeting of 2008. Note the change in lecture halls for the spring semester.

Elsa Travisano will take us on a tour of January's **Macworld Expo** and give us the scoop on the latest product announcements. We'll also be sharing demos of our favorite Mac hardware, software, publications and iPod accessories, to finish the December meeting agenda where we ran out of time. We may even take a look at some favorite websites if time permits.

Afterwards we'll raffle off door prizes (members only). Finally we'll share goodies and enjoy communing with our MUG ONE friends. Soft drinks will be provided.

As always, the meeting will include a question and answer session. Library materials will be available for circulation to current members at the meeting.

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

For directions, see <http://mugone.com/pages/map2007.html>

For more information, email Elsa Travisano at: [mugone@stny.rr.com](mailto:mugone@stny.rr.com). See you there!

## SPRING MEETING ROOM AND DATES

MUG ONE's spring semester meetings will be held in Hodgdon IRC **lecture hall #4** (the bigger room next to last semester's room) on the SUNY Oneonta campus.

Meeting dates and tentative topics:

- February 6 - Macworld Report and Tips
- March 5- Terry Does Taxes
- April 2 - Computer Art Lab with Sven
- May 7 - Apple's Dave Marra!
- June 4 - to be announced

So mark your calendars, and be sure to join us!

## \*NEW APPLE VIDEO & TEXT TUTORIALS

Apple is offering free video and text tutorials in the new "Find Out How" section of the website. The short (1-4 minute) videos can be downloaded to iTunes.

<http://www.apple.com/findouthow/macosex/>

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



Macworld Expo 2008 Keynote – Steve Jobs reports sales of a staggering 4 billion iTunes songs. (photo by Elsa Travisano)

## MACWORLD EXPO 2008 ANNOUNCEMENTS

By now practically everyone seems to have heard of the Macbook Air, introduced three weeks ago by Steve Jobs at Macworld Expo in San Francisco. (As I wrote these words I was listening to a young girl in a doctor's waiting room rave to her grandmother about Apple's new laptop that she saw on TV.)

The Macbook Air was the most glamorous of the bunch, but it was just one of several new or enhanced products and services introduced by Apple at Macworld Expo, held January 14-18 at San Francisco's Moscone Center. Sharing the spotlight at Steve Job's keynote address were a hard drive/Airport base station for wireless backups called Time Capsule, a feature-adding software update and price reduction for AppleTV; extensive software updates for iPhone and iPod touch, and the launch of a movie rental service through the iTunes Music Store. Watch the keynote address at <http://www.apple.com/quicktime/qtt/mwsf08/>

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### MUG ONE OFFICERS FOR 2007-2008

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– *Macworld*, continued from page 1



### Macbook Air

Apple calls it the world's thinnest laptop – at .76 inches thick and three pounds, the Macbook Air fits into an inter-office memo envelope yet sports a 13.3" screen and full-sized keyboard and feels surprisingly sturdy.

The Air is the first laptop to use multi-touch input, first introduced on the iPhone and iPod touch. Two- and three-fingered gestures on the oversized trackpad let you move, rotate, resize and navigate through items on the screen. Go to <http://www.apple.com/macbookair/features.html> for a demonstration of multi-touch and more on the Air.

To keep weight and size to a minimum, the Air lacks an internal optical drive (you can buy a trim external drive) and inputs for Ethernet and Firewire. It comes with 2 GB or RAM, an Intel Core Duo 2 processor, built-in Airport Extreme wi-fi and iSight camera. A 1.6 GHz processor with 80 GB hard drive costs \$1799 and a 1.8 GHz processor with a solid-state 64 GB hard drive costs \$3098.



### Time Capsule

The whimsically named Time Capsule is combines an 802.11n Airport Extreme wireless base station and a wireless hard drive. Designed to work for OS 10.5 Leopard's Time Machine backup software, Time Capsule can wirelessly back up all the Macs on your network that are running 10.5. It also serves as a shared hard drive for both PCs and Macs, and can share a USB printer with the computers on your network. At \$299 for a 500 GB hard drive and \$499 for a terabyte (1000 GB) hard drive, Time Capsule is breakthrough device that stands to revolutionize basic backups. <http://www.apple.com/timecapsule/>

### iPhone, iPod touch enhancements

Free for iPhone users is a software update that lets you customize your home screen, create web clips, view and locate yourself on maps (the locate function doesn't yet work in Oneonta, alas) rent and view movies and send text messages to multiple people. More impressive is the

\$19.95 software update for the iPod touch, which adds email, maps, weather, stocks and notes, all accessible through any wireless network to which you have access. Rented movies can also be viewed on the touch, along with YouTube videos, Safari websites and more. These improvements are huge, and make the touch Apple's cutting edge iPod. <http://www.apple.com/ipodtouch/>



### AppleTV Take 2

The enhanced Apple TV is another little box with big powers. Redesigned software (free to current AppleTV owners) makes it easy to rent, buy and view movies and TV shows directly from your high definition TV. You can also watch free YouTube videos, view photos and home movies and enjoy songs and music videos from your computer's iTunes library. The price of AppleTV has been reduced to \$229 for a 40 GB hard drive and \$329 for a 160 GB hard drive.

<http://www.apple.com/appletv/>

### Movie Rentals from the iTunes Store

Apple has bowed to customer demand and brokered deals with all eleven major Hollywood studios for movie rentals through the iTunes Store. New releases cost \$3.99 and older "library titles" \$2.99. Movies can be viewed on a Mac, on AppleTV, iPhone or video iPod and can be moved from one to the other during the 24 hour rental period. This means that you can start watching a movie on your AppleTV, then transfer it to your iPod touch to finish watching. A movie can be viewed up to 30 days after it is rented, but must be watched within 24 hours once it has been started. To rent a movie, open iTunes and go to the iTunes Store. <http://www.apple.com/itunes/store/movies.html>

### iPhone, iPod updates

In the past few days Apple has added a pink 8 GB iPod nano (\$199) a 16 GB iPhone (\$499) and a 32 GB iPod touch (\$499). Free shipping, gift wrap and engraving are available through the Apple Store online. Just in time for Valentine's Day giving or receiving. Hint, hint...

<http://store.apple.com/>



## THE X LEX

### Monthly Excerpts for MUGs from Take Control: The Mac OS X Lexicon

#### LEOPARD'S LITTLE SPOTS

Not everyone jumps on the new-OS-release bandwagon in the first month or two. And, in fact, such hesitation is wise if you're working on mission-critical projects and can't afford to be slowed down by something that's not working quite right—even if that means it's you who's not working quite right because all of a sudden the Print dialog has changed, or your email downloads aren't landing on the Desktop where they used to.... Sometimes it's the little things that can cripple your workflow.

And sometimes it's the little things that make the OS upgrade a special pleasure. This month's excerpts are about some of the little changes in Leopard.

#### Compress



#### Long Story Short.zip

Leopard's replacement for the Finder's previous File > Create Archive command, an improvement in descriptive terminology since an "archive" is a generic reference to a file you store away, and isn't necessarily compressed in any way. Both commands create a file with a .zip extension; and, while a single zipped file or folder takes the name of the original icon, zipping multiple files or folders in one fell swoop names the file archive.zip, even in Leopard.

#### Deselect All

A new Finder command in Leopard, it deselects everything in a window (Command-Shift-A is its shortcut). If you think this is useless because you can just click on an empty spot in a window to deselect selections, you haven't worked much in List views, where there are no empty spots—only rows—and clicking "somewhere else" selects something else unless you go past the last item at the bottom of the window.

#### Keyboard Viewer

Mac OS X's replacement for the venerable Key Caps program, although it's hardly changed from the 20-year-old original. It comes in two sizes now: uncomfortably small and uncomfortably big (the only effect of the Zoom button), and the font menu moved to the keyboard window from the menu bar. Big deal.

Leopard's change to Keyboard Viewer is a small step backward: no font menu at all. You get a more logical, but much less helpful Font mapping menu that shows a single Standard choice for the language you're working in,

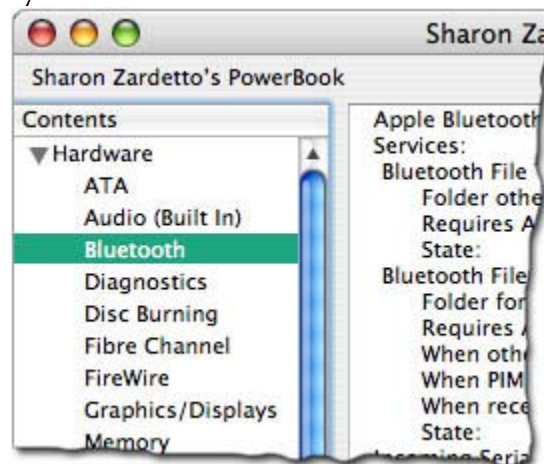
and then an abridged list of PiFonts—no more previewing characters in the font of your choice!

#### Printer Setup Utility



Need to check your old printer's ink levels? Just bought a new printer and need to introduce it to your Mac? Time for a head cleaning? Want to restart a stalled print job? The old dependable Printer Setup Utility handled these and many other printer maintenance chores with aplomb for many years. Starting in Leopard, you'll find these functions covered in the Print & Fax pane of System Preferences.

#### System Profiler



A sometimes overlooked but very handy guide to the hardware and software on your computer: choose Apple > About This Mac, and click the More Info button. The picture here shows only a very small portion of the information available through the Profiler.

In Leopard, hold Option when you open the Apple menu, and the About command changes to System Profiler so you can choose it directly.

— SHARON ZARDETTO AND ANDY BAIRD

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*Take Control: The Mac OS X Lexicon* is an ebook available at <http://www.takecontrolbooks.com/mac-lexicon.html>. User-group member discount, 10% on all Take Control titles: coupon code CPN31208MUG.

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

## ***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.

### **Mireth Technology: 25% Discount**

Mireth Technology produces easy-to-use software for the Mac, including ShredIt - File Shredder, NetShred - Internet Track Eraser, and iVCD - DVD, VCD, SVCD burner. Mireth is well known in the industry for providing robust, well-tested products and outstanding customer support.

Take advantage of this Apple User Group member discount coupon and save 25% off the regular prices for Mireth Software that range from \$15.00 to \$39.95.

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

For details, free trials and purchases visit Mireth.

<http://www.mireth.com>

This offer is valid through March 31, 2008.

### **Roxio Toast 8: 30% Discount**

Toast 8 Titanium complements the Mac OS and iLife applications, and sets the standard for burning CDs, DVDs, and now Blu-ray discs on the Mac. Create superior sounding audio CDs with smooth crossfades and transitions. Enjoy your TV shows anywhere with exclusive TiVoToGo and EyeTV burning. Convert and export video for an iPod, PSP, mobile phone, and more. There is no easier way!

With this special offer, user group members receive \$30 off MSRP \$99.95.

<http://www.roxio.com>

This offer is valid through February 29, 2008 and limited to two per customer.

### **The MUG Store Blowouts**

Most user group members love to shop for great deals on discontinued or older accessories and parts & pieces. The MUG Store gives your members a great place to do exactly that:

<http://www.applemugstore.com/mugstore/blowouts.php>

In addition, all orders placed through the MUG Store receive free shipping -- a great savings for those shopping for the holidays! Remember that everything you buy means points for your group to spend!

User ID: \*\*\*\*\*

password: \*\*\*\*\*

<http://www.applemugstore.com>

This offer is valid through February 29, 2008.

### **eMedia Music: 25% Off Guitar and Piano Methods**

eMedia Music offers a line of award-winning and critically acclaimed software for learning guitar, piano and more. The Guitar Method CD includes 165 step-by-step lessons with over 50 large-format videos featuring songs from Bob Dylan, the Rolling Stones and more. Piano & Keyboard Method includes over 300 lessons from a former Juilliard instructor. Learn to read music and play songs. Better yet, the software provides specific interactive feedback specific to your playing. Over one million have learned to play the eMedia way...it's the easiest way to learn--guaranteed.

This user group special offers Guitar Method or Piano Method for only \$44.96, 25% off the regular price of \$59.95.

Start learning to play today:

Piano: <http://www.emediamusic.com/>

Guitar: <http://www.emediamusic.com/>

This offer is valid through April 30, 2008.

### **RadTech: 20% Off Most Products**

RadTech manufactures and distributes an array of best-in-class accessory solutions for Apple computers, iPhone, iPod and Cinema Displays, all designed to keep you connected and protected in style. Experience the RadTech difference through their unique product line and legendary customer support.

Apple User Group members get 20% off all products, except Special Deals, Westone and Seagate products.

Discount Code: \*\*\*\*\*

<http://www.radtech.us>

This worldwide offer is valid through April 30, 2008.

### **iData 3: 28% Discount**

A memory upgrade for your brain, iData 3 is a flexible database for storing (and easily retrieving) freeform text, field based text, images, links and more. It is highly user-configurable, but has well-chosen default settings, making it easy for anyone to begin using right away. iData 3 imports email, bookmarks and more: it lets you design and print envelopes and labels and even dials the phone.

iData offers members a special user group price of \$49.95, well below the \$69.95 regular price.

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

Purchase iData 3 (or download demo).

<http://www.idata3.com/id3mug.html>

This offer is valid through April 30, 2008.

*continued on page 5*

– Offers, continued from page 4

### YourView TV: 50% Off Special Offer

YourView, an innovative video tagging application, allows users to tag video at the touch of a button to create highlights, filter, watch and share, turning hours of boring video into favorite moments.

YourView exports your clips straight into iMovie '08, allowing you to publish to YouTube and the video-sharing community or share with family and friends via your iPhone, iPod touch or Apple TV.

This user group special offers YourView for \$14.99, half the retail price of \$29.99.

Download and test YourView TV.

<http://www.yourview.tv>

Promotion code: \*\*\*\*\*

Enter offer code here to purchase:

<http://www.yourview.tv/offer>

This offer is valid through April 30, 2008.

### SMART Utility: 25% Discount

SMART Utility is an application that will scan the internal hardware diagnostics system of hard drives. SMART is a system built into hard drives by their manufacturers to report on various measurements of a hard drive's operation such as mechanical or electrical problems, and potential failure. SMART Utility can read and display all of these attributes, allowing plenty of time to backup data and replace the drive.

With this special offer, group members receive 25% off the regular \$20 retail price of the ten-unit license.

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

<http://www.volitans-software.com>

This offer is valid through April 30, 2008.

### LaCie DVD Burner: 24% Discount

Using this versatile drive, Mac OS X users can store and archive as much as four hours of high-quality DVD video, up to 16 hours of VHS video, or up to 8.5GB of data, music or photos on a single double layer DVDR disc.

Members can purchase this LaCie DVD Burner at the user group special price of \$99, a \$30 savings off the regular price.

Promo code: \*\*\*\*\*

Purchase by calling 1.503.844.4500 x2, or go to: <http://www.lacie.com/us/products/product.htm?pid=10113>

This offer is valid through April 30, 2008.

### AUG MARKET REPORT PODCAST

The Apple User Group Market Report podcast features interviews with vendors and members of the user group community.

December's AUG Market Report podcast features the **Hawaii Apple User Group Roundtable** with Rick Ortiz, the Apple User Group Regional Liaison coordinator, and the **Macworld Special Edition** featuring vendors exhibiting at the Apple User Group Wine and Cheese Reception.

The January podcast features special interviews from the **Apple User Group Wine and Cheese Reception**, plus outtakes and highlights from Macworld 2008 and an insightful interview with **Robin Williams**.

The AUG Market Report is a great source for information about Apple user groups, vendor discounts, special events and more:

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

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

### ONE STOP SHOPPING FOR USER GROUP OFFERS

Looking for information on a past user group offer? Tom Piper of the Apple User Group Advisory Board publishes a page with all current offers, expiration dates and codes.

<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>

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

For information about vendor offers, Apple User Group Advisory Board activities (MUG ONE president Elsa Trivisano serves on the UGAB) and more, visit

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



## USER GROUP DISCOUNTS ON THE LATEST LEOPARD TITLES FROM TAKE CONTROL

"Leopard has been out for three months now, giving us time to explore its quirks and figure out where Leopard users need help. Whether you want help with Time Machine, need to put your Mac on a regular maintenance schedule to avoid problems, or could use some high-level details on how to use Leopard's marquee features, we have new ebooks for you. Follow the links below to save 10% automatically, but note that we have some bundles that may be an even better deal.



### Your Guide to Making Worry-Free Backups in Leopard

Apple has touted Time Machine as an amazing new feature in Leopard that will ensure that you never lose a file again. But is it really true? In the 83-page "**Take Control of Easy Backup in Leopard**," backup expert Joe Kissell helps you set up a Leopard backup strategy that likely includes

Time Machine, but also covers situations where Time Machine won't cut the mustard. If you follow the advice in this ebook, your backups will ensure that you can recover from catastrophes like fire, theft, and massive drive failure along with overactive emptying of the Trash. The ebook walks you through the entire process: buying and preparing a backup drive, figuring out which software to use, making the actual backups, and - most importantly - recovering data from a backup. This \$10 ebook is perfect for readers who want a focused, savvy, and highly useful set of steps for making backups work well in Leopard.

<http://www.takecontrolbooks.com/leopard-easy-backup.html>



### Run Your Mac Like a Pro with "Take Control of Maintaining Your Mac"

The best way to avoid problems with your Mac is through regular maintenance, and we're not talking a cursory clearing of your Desktop and a swipe at the dust on your screen. In the latest version of "**Take Control of Maintaining Your Mac**,"

best-selling author Joe Kissell has returned to the topic of how to keep your Mac - whether it's running Tiger or Leopard - running at peak performance. All of his recommendations have now been updated to account for changes in Leopard and for the latest helpful utility software. (The update is free for the thousands of people who benefited from the original version; click the Check for Updates button to download it.) In this 87-page

update, Joe provides daily, weekly, monthly, and yearly schedules for how to best do preventative maintenance under Leopard or Tiger, helping you keep your Mac running smoothly and efficiently. The \$10 ebook also helps you monitor your Mac's health, find and remove unnecessary large files from your disk, keep your software updated, clear your caches, and much more. Be sure to note the discount bundles with related titles available from the ebook's Web page.

<http://www.takecontrolbooks.com/maintaining-mac.html>



### Leopard Compendium Provides Expert Overview and Tips

The "**Macworld Total Leopard Superguide**" is a visually appealing new ebook from our friends at Macworld that provides an overview of a huge collection of new features in Leopard, teaching you how to be more productive and have more fun along the way. You'll find a compen-

dium of savvy information about getting the most out of what's new in Leopard, whether you want to navigate the the Finder faster, search Spotlight more effectively, automate your applications with Automator, share screens with others, or use core applications like Safari, iChat, Mail, and iCal. Contributors to the 92-page ebook include several Take Control authors: Glenn Fleishman, Ted Landau, Joe Kissell, and Kirk McElhearn, along with a who's-who of other well-known writers. It costs \$12.95.

<http://www.takecontrolbooks.com/mw-total-leopard.html>

— ADAM AND TONYA ENGST, TAKE CONTROL EBOOKS

## USER GROUP DISCOUNT CODES FROM OUR FAVORITE BOOKSELLERS

### O'Reilly

O'Reilly offers MUG ONE members a 35% discount off all their titles. Use the code \*\*\*\*\* at checkout to get your discount.

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

### Peachpit

Peachpit Press gives MUG ONE members a 30% discount off the list price of any of their books. At checkout, right before you put your credit card number in, enter the user group coupon code \*\*\*\*\* (case-sensitive). This coupon code is an exclusive offer that may not be used in conjunction with any other coupon codes.

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

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

Editor: Elsa Travisano

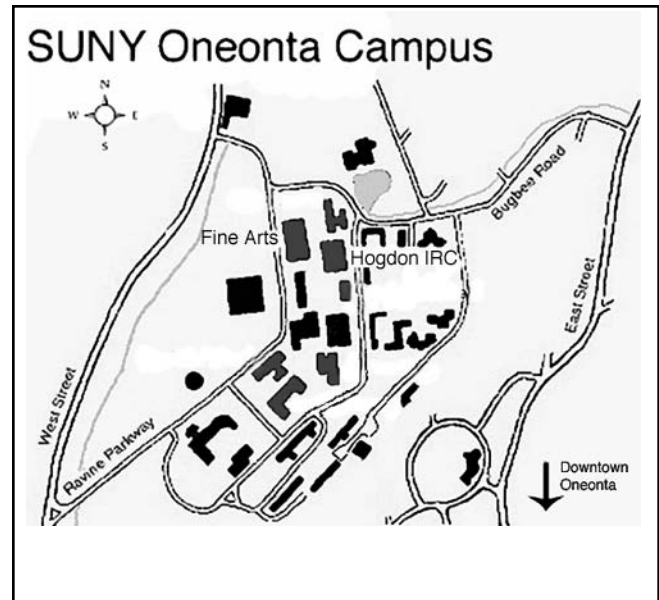
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*Newsbreak* is an independent publication not affiliated with Apple Computer, Inc. *Newsbreak* received an award for excellence at the January 2001 User Group University.



## DECEMBER 5, 2007 MUG ONE MEETING – HOLIDAY MEETING AND PARTY

A hearty cadre of MUG ONE members and friends braved the snow and ice to gather on Wednesday, December 5 for our annual Holiday Meeting and Party.

The holiday meeting traditionally features short presentations on items that would make good gifts, and well as websites or services of particular interest.

Sven Anderson started out the evening with a very useful guide to selecting digital cameras and printers, fielding questions from the audience as he decoded the world of megapixels, digital versus optical zoom, and individual versus combination ink tanks, and described the most important features to look for in cameras and printers.

Terry Helser then showed his digital picture frame and shared a tale of woe which involved rendering the picture frame's internal memory inaccessible during an unsuccessful update of the Windows-based software. We learned that this was a not-uncommon occurrence with the earlier digital picture frames. Several members suggested that he try the flash card slots on the picture frame, which ought to work even if the internal memory doesn't.

Elsa Travisano then shared her favorite Mac magazines – Macworld and Mac|Life – and, for a broader tech perspective, Wired. Mark Dye added MacTech magazine to the list, though he and Elsa agreed that it is aimed at tech professionals. For learning about Mac OS 10.5 Leopard, Elsa recommended several books including Robin William's superb *Mac OS X 10.5 Leopard: Peachpit Learning Series*, Maria Langer's *Mac OS X 10.5 Leopard: Visual QuickStart Guide* and the Take Control books on Leopard including *Take Control of Updating to Leopard*, *Take Control of Cus-*

*tomizing Leopard*, *Take Control of Fonts in Leopard* and *Take Control of Sharing Files in Leopard*. She noted that David Pogue's *Mac OS 10.5 Leopard: The Missing Manual* was expected to be available in January.

We also enjoyed a shortened version of Ed Brodzinsky's demonstrations of LibraryThing and Shelfari, two social network-oriented book cataloging sites on the web. Ed gave a fascinating overview of these sites despite problems with network access (eventually resolved) that prevented him from giving his full presentation.

We ran short on time, so are looking forward to hearing Mark Dye talk about his favorite Nifty Utilities at a future meeting.

The hot tip of the evening came from Judith Sellers, who recommended using bubble wrap to boost up and stabilize a portable projector on less than optimal surfaces.

Afterwards we enjoyed bountiful door prizes and shared holiday cookies and other treats, which included Joanne Johnston's sinfully delicious chocolate and peanut squares.

Many thanks to the presenters, the bakers of holiday treats, and to everyone who makes MUG ONE so special.

– ELSA TRAVISANO

*(substituting for new Secretary Brian Foley, who missed his first MUG ONE meeting in six years due to bronchitis)*

## HOLIDAY RAFFLE PRIZE WINNER

Our holiday raffle for a Canon MP310 multifunction printer/copier/scanner was won by Jack Schlupe. Congratulations, Jack! Best of all, we raised \$85 for the group. Thanks to everyone who participated.