

# NEWS BREAK

Volume 21, Number 6

September 2006

## SEPTEMBER 6, 2006 MEETING

### \*New Building – Human Ecology Room 132\*

### Macworld Expo 2006 Meeting-in-a-Box – Video Presentations by Favorite Peachpit Author

Join us on Wednesday, September 6 at 7:30 p.m. in the **Human Ecology** building, **Room 132** on the SUNY Oneonta campus for our first fall semester meeting of MUG ONE.

The Human Ecology building (HECO) is on the south side of the campus, across from Hunt Union. Parking is plentiful and the building is handicapped-accessible. For directions, see John Maas's maps at <http://www.mugone.com/pages/map906.html>

On the program is "**Peachpit's Macworld Expo San Francisco 2006**," featuring popcorn, special prizes and videos of Peachpit authors Christopher Breen, Jim Heid, Maria Langer, Jeff Carlson and more.

Then John Maas and Brian Foley will introduce us to the new message board they've created on the MUG ONE website – just for members.

If time permits, Elsa Travisano will give us a brief glimpse features promised for OS 10.5 Leopard, announced at August's Apple Worldwide Developer Conference and due in spring of 2007.

As always, you'll hear the latest news and helpful hints, participate in our drawing for door prizes from vendors (members only), and enjoy refreshments after the meeting courtesy of MUG ONE secretary and baker extraordinaire Terry Helser.

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

## FALL MEETING DATES AND TOPICS

MUG ONE's fall 2006 meeting schedule:

September 6 – **Peachpit Macworld Expo Videos**

October 4 – **Tips and Timely Topics** from the MUG ONE Team

November 1 – **Adam Engst** on **Buying a Mac**

December 6 – **Annual Holiday Meeting and Party**

Meetings will be held in Human Ecology classroom 132 on the SUNY Oneonta campus. If we like our new meeting room, we can request it again for spring term.

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



OS 10.5 Leopard, slated to arrive in spring of 2007, was previewed at Apple's Worldwide Developer Conference. Check it out at <http://www.apple.com/macosx/leopard/>

## APPLE RECALLS LAPTOP BATTERIES

Apple is recalling certain lithium ion laptop batteries sold between October 2003 and August 2006 because of a potential fire hazard. Models affected include the 12-inch iBook G4, 12-inch PowerBook G4 and 15-inch PowerBook G4.

Find out whether your battery is affected by the recall at [https://support.apple.com/ibook\\_powerbook/batteryexchange/](https://support.apple.com/ibook_powerbook/batteryexchange/). Apple is shipping replacement batteries at no charge, and includes a free shipping label for returning the recalled battery in the box with the replacement battery.

### MUG ONE OFFICERS FOR 2005-2006

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## JUNE 7, 2006 MEETING

### Computer Art Lab, 321 Fine Arts, SUNY Oneonta "Computer Art Lab and Final Cut Studio" – Sven Anderson and Michael Wyshoff

In the absence of President Elsa Travisano, who was attending Oneonta High School's awards assembly (congratulations, Emily!), VP Sven Anderson started the meeting by welcoming about twenty members and guests to the computer art studio at Oneonta State College. He introduced Michael Wyshoff, a new computer art faculty member, who would show us Final Cut Pro. Sven put in a plug for Total Training's [Final Cut Pro Training DVD](#), which he said is very good indeed. He had yet to find anything that didn't work as the video said, which is high praise for this guide.

#### Announcements and Q&A

On to Questions and Answers, which started with a question about random crashes. The suggestions were to repair permissions with Apple's Disk Utility, throw out the Preferences file and finally, to reinstall the programs. During a discussion of trashing .plist files, Sven suggested making a "Delete Me" folder on the desktop to keep these files until you are really sure they aren't needed, before actually deleting them. Sound advice.

Brian asked if an iSight camera worked with a G4 computer. Sven offered to let him try with one of his, for a price. (There's always a price with Sven.) The last question was about getting a "mirror agent" message in iDisk that won't let him shut down the computer. No one had a clue except to question whether GWB's NSA was snooping. [See [Apple Technical Article 86749](#). – Ed.]

#### Program

Michael Wyshoff began his demonstration of Apple's Final Cut Studio software suite by explaining that he was going to import QuickTime video and audio files into Final Cut Pro, cut them up, add a filter, crop and more. Then he intended to put the product Final Cut Studio's animation program called Motion and show its features. After various glitches, solved in part by our guests from Vestal, he did use the razor blade tool to cut out a section of the video, put the part left into a different layer and used the brightness/contrast control to sharpen the image. After some further glitches, he put on a particle ray highlight and overlaid a swirl filter to make it rotate as the video played. He showed how to select an output format from all of the possibilities, and finished by dropping in the audio track, rendering and played it for us.

Most of us realized early in the presentation that Final Cut Studio is truly a professional level program with many different options to do anything and everything anyone would hope to do in video. You can use the mouse, keyboard and

shortcuts provided, or define your own. Also apparent was the steep learning curve due to this complexity. This is not your hobbyist's home video starter kit! Apple's iMovie HD (part of the iLife '06 suite) and Final Cut Express HD fill the bill for beginning and intermediate video creators. Thanks, Michael, for taking on Sven's presentation responsibilities at the last minute with no advance preparation.

Sven then showed off two nifty tech toys, a hand-held Epson card reader and 80 GB hard drive with a screen to preview photos. Sven uses it to store all the photos from a full 4 GB compact flash card in his digital camera. It is much easier to lug about than a laptop and, at \$380, much less expensive than buying multiple camera cards. The large screen also allows you to really see if you got the shot or not.

Sven then turned to the software, talking about Apple's Aperture, Adobe's Lightroom beta software and finally iView MediaPro from iView Multimedia. Instead of letting iPhoto store your shots as it wants to in separate folders by date, iView allows you to label photos with keywords. This allows you to retrieve all of the photos with a keyword, and even exclude those with others. It will accept RAW format files and simplifies making a Web site. You can make a slide show and send it to Mac or PC users who can view it and search, too, without having to buy the program. The cost was \$249 or \$170 from the Apple store.

Thanks Sven and Michael for an informational and entertaining program. We then raffled off software, shirts and hardware. Congratulations to Leslie Davidson who won the "Memory Miner" software from GroupSmarts. We look forward to a review in Newsbreak.

The Oreos and good-for-you cookies along with Pepsi and Sprite facilitated discussion during our after-meeting socializing before we adjourned until next meeting on Wednesday, September 6. Join us then for more of the fellowship and fun that is MUG ONE!

– TERRY L. HELSER, SECRETARY

## TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

October 30 marks the beginning of MUG ONE's 2006-7 membership year. The cost to join or renew is \$24 for an individual or family, \$18 for a full time student and, new this year, \$40 for a business with three or more employees.

All levels of membership include one subscription to Newsbreak and one ticket for the monthly door prize drawing. Also new this year, MUG ONE's Message Board will be available to all new and renewing members.

To join or renew, bring a check to the next meeting or download the membership form and mail it with your payment to Joanne Johnston. <http://www.mugone.com/pdfs/MUGONERenewal2006-2007.pdf>

## DISCOUNTS ON TAKE CONTROL EBOOKS

Hot off the presses from Adam and Tonya Engst's Take Control Ebooks are titles on syncing and backing up your Macs, as well as the latest version of Adam's immensely popular iPhoto Visual QuickStart Guide. Their latest title is a real departure (pun intended) - an ebook on finding cheap airline tickets.

All titles are available in PDF format, and many can also be purchased as printed volumes. Take Control titles are 10% off for user group members – use coupon code \*\*\*\*\*

**“iPhoto 6 - Visual QuickStart Guide”** by Adam Engst. 226 pages, \$15; bundled purchase offers available.

**“Take Control of Mac OS X Backups (1.3)”** by Joe Kissel. 142 pages, \$10; comes with Small Dog and BackJack coupons.

**“Take Control of Syncing in Tiger”** by Michael E. Cohen. 135 pages, \$10; comes with a 50% off coupon from PocketMac.

**“Take Control of Booking a Cheap Airline Ticket”** by Sam Sellers. 152 pages, \$10

For the latest information on all Take Control ebooks, go to <http://www.takecontrolbooks.com/>

## JOHN MAAS AND BRIAN FOLEY CREATE A NEW MESSAGE BOARD FOR MUG ONE

Over the summer, Brian and I set up a message board on MUG ONE's web server (graciously hosted by itsamac.com) which enables the group to do what we have been doing with Yahoo Groups, as well as a whole lot more.

All members who renew their membership or join MUG ONE for 2006-2007 will have access to the new message board, which will be a private, password-protected part of MUG ONE's website. The message board allows users to easily create their own user name and login password, control their own preferences, and join or start their own interest/subject matter groups. Once we get the new board well established we will be migrating away from the Yahoo message board. You can configure your settings on the new message board to have the same level of involvement, more, or less – the choice is yours.

Brian and I will be presenting a basic primer in using the new message board at September's meeting. We'll also be answering questions through postings on the board. These message boards store all prior posts in a database which is searchable. What could be cooler than that, other than an apartment on the Grand Canal in Venice?

– JOHN MAAS

## LIBRARY CORNER — JO KOENIG

At the September meeting we'll be clearing our shelves of older MUG ONE CDs – M 106 through M 202 on our library list. Most are OS 9 compatible; some may go back to OS 8.

Teachers, parents and others with older Macs are welcome to take the titles you can use.

- M 202 I Spy
- M 201 Africa Trail
- M 198 Myst III, Exile
- M 197 Kid Pix
- M 195 Thinking Things Collection - 2
- M 183 Kaplan Higher Score Guaranteed SAT&ACT
- M 182 Grammar for the Real World
- M 181 Where in the World is Carmen Sandiego?
- M 180 Reading Galaxy
- M 179 The Amazing Writing Machine
- M 178 Logical Journey of the Zoombinis Deluxe
- M 174 Clue Finders 4th Grade Adventures
- M 173 Clue Finders 3rd Grade Adventures
- M 172 Reader Rabbit's 2nd Grade
- M 171 Reader Rabbit's 1st Grade
- M 169 Reader Rabbit's Personalized Kindergarten
- M 168 Reader Rabbit's Preschool
- M 167 Reader Rabbit's Math Age 6-9
- M 166 Reader Rabbit's Math Age 4-6
- M 164 Reader Rabbit Math Journey Grades 1-3
- M 163 Madeline Thinking Games
- M 162 My First Amazing World Explorer
- M 161 Homicide
- M 158 Oregon Trail III
- M 157 Earthquest
- M 156 Riven
- M 154 Pajama Sam
- M 153 Lost Mind of Dr. Brain
- M 152 You Don't Know Jack v.2
- M 151 You Don't Know Jack v.1
- M 150 Amber Journeys Beyond
- M 146 Ocean Planet
- M 144 Saunders Interactive General Chemistry
- M 141 Figure Painting - Works by Bill Hubschmitt
- M 139 Imagination Express: Ocean
- M 137 Desk Gallery Mega-Bundle
- M 135 Sheila Rae the Brave
- M 134 Little Monster at School
- M 133 Just Grandma and Me
- M 132 Muppet Treasure Island
- M 131 TimeLapse
- M 126 Multimedia Dogs
- M 125 The Total Heart
- M 124 The Way Things Work
- M 123 Ruff's Bone
- M 122 The New Kid on the Block
- M 113 Who Built America?
- M 106 Myst

– JO KOENIG, LIBRARIAN



## SOFTWARE REVIEW

### Macromedia Dreamweaver 8

Adobe Systems

<http://www.adobe.com/products/dreamweaver/>

\$399, upgrade \$199. Academic pricing available.

Macromedia's Dreamweaver has long dominated the world of web design software, handily outselling competing applications like Adobe's GoLive. With Macromedia's acquisition by Adobe Systems at the end of 2005, Dreamweaver and GoLive, found themselves under the same blended corporate family. How would this sibling rivalry shake out?

Countering speculation that the less-popular GoLive might be discontinued or that the two applications would be combined, Adobe stated in June that GoLive will continue to be supported and developed "based on our customers' needs." Dreamweaver, however, will be the focus of "future innovation" and integration into the Creative Suite.

So that's the scoop. Integration with Photoshop and the other Creative Suite applications (Illustrator, InDesign and Acrobat) is at the top of my must-have features list. For this long-time GoLive user, it looks like the time is right to make the switch to Dreamweaver.

Whether you're a switcher like me, a new web designer or a seasoned Dreamweaver user, Dreamweaver 8's roster of new and improved features have plenty to offer.

For beginners, Dreamweaver 8 offers new starter pages – website templates built around themes like restaurant, health and nutrition and lodging. Each template includes a home page, a product page, a text page, a catalog page and a calendar page; enough to get you up and going if you need quick results.

Tabbed documents, new for Mac users, let you keep track of multiple open document windows and move among them by clicking tabs at the top of the workspace. If you

prefer, you can disable this feature. Along with tabs, Dreamweaver 8 lets you choose among four customized workspace layouts – tailored for coders or designers – or create and save your own.

Once you have your workspace set, you can use guides to align page elements precisely, then zoom in or out using the Zoom tool in the status bar at the bottom of the active window. The zoom feature can also be accessed from the menu bar, a pop-up menu in the status bar and with keyboard shortcuts. Both guides and zoom are new in Dreamweaver 8, and both add ease and accuracy to designing chores.

If you bring in text for your web pages from Microsoft Word or Excel or from email, you'll certainly be pleased by the new Paste Special options, which let you choose how much formatting to retain. You can paste text only, text with structure (tables, paragraphs, lists) text with basic formatting, (bold, italics) or text with full formatting (bold, italics and styles). Line breaks can be discarded, a real boon when importing from email. The import can even clean up Word paragraph spacing.

CSS – Cascading Style Sheets – allow the designer to specify how elements like fonts, text size, indentations and paragraph styles appear on the web page. With CSS, all you need to do to change an element across an entire website is make a change to that element's style sheet. Dreamweaver 8 pulls together CSS tools and information in a new unified CSS panel that helps make more sense of this powerful and often complex coding method. Other CSS enhancements in Dreamweaver 8 include rendering improvements, a style rendering toolbar, and borders, colors and tooltips to better visualize CSS layouts.

One of the biggest improvements to Dreamweaver takes place behind the scenes. Dreamweaver 8 now lets you keep working while files are being transferred to the server in the background, a much-appreciated time-saver. It's no longer necessary to wait while the application performs these tasks.

I've emphasized the design-based enhancements of Dreamweaver 8. There are also a slew of improvements aimed at coders, including a coding toolbar, code editing improvements, visual authoring with XML data and improved WebDAV support.

Dreamweaver 8's tutorials, documentation and web support are all first-rate. The instruction has multiple points of entry based on your experience, with sections for web design novices, experienced web designers, experienced hand-coders and web application developers. You can read the printed manual or take advantage of the hyperlinks in the onscreen manual, available under the Help menu, to move easily from topic to topic. The splash screen includes web

*continued on page 5*

– *Dreamweaver 8, continued from page 4*

links to the resource-rich Dreamweaver Developer Center, as well as video tours of Dreamweaver 8's features.

If you haven't yet decided whether to take the plunge, you can download a 30 day trial version of Dreamweaver 8 from Adobe's website, then use the free tutorials and presentations in the web-based Evaluation Guide to learn more about the program and take it through its paces. The Evaluation Guide materials are worthwhile for new users, upgraders and for people switching from other applications.

– ELSA TRAVISANO

### Macromedia Dreamweaver 8

System requirements: 600 MHz PowerPC® G3 and later; Mac OS® X 10.3, 10.4; 256 MB RAM (1 GB recommended to run more than one Studio 8 product simultaneously); 1024 x 768, thousands of colors display (millions of colors recommended) 300 MB available disk space

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## MUG ONE OFFICERS' MEETING AUGUST 29, 2006

President and Newsbreak editor Elsa Travisano, Secretary Terry Helser, Librarian Jo Koenig (looking quite well and chipper) and Program Co-Chairs John Maas and Brian Foley met at Ruffino's Pizzeria at about 6 p.m. Treasurer Joanne Johnston was home tending her sick husband (feel better soon, Ed!) and VP Sven Anderson appeared briefly after the pizza was gone. Agenda items were programs for the fall meetings and the library.

The checkbook has a current balance of about \$1,600. That is enough to consider buying a refurbished laptop to present programs and manage the library, so Elsa and the officers don't have to bring their personal computers to meetings. We agreed this was a good idea. The laptop would need Bluetooth capability to run the bar code scanner for Delicious Library, the library management software that Elsa demonstrated in the spring. Delicious Monster has generously donated a copy of the software to our group. An iSight-equipped laptop could be used for virtual presentations, and for scanning titles for the Delicious Library software if a Bluetooth-equipped laptop is not a possibility.

The September meeting will feature Peachpit's videos of top authors from Macworld Expo San

Francisco 2006, with popcorn, coupons and door prizes provided by Peachpit. We need to check out the electronics for the DVD player and cable inputs in HECO (Human Ecology) room 132, our new meeting room, to ensure we can get it to work. We also need tables for the raffle, refreshments and for a future "freecycle" exchange.

Adam Engst is scheduled on November 1, and we agreed with his suggestion to do a program on "How to Buy a Mac." December 6 could be the long delayed Final Cut Pro follow-up demonstration by Sven, as well as our annual software and hardware gift suggestions program and party. That leaves October 4, at which John offered to demonstrate Skype and other board members volunteered several demo topics. We'll also survey the members for topics at the September meeting.

Brian suggested we demonstrate "YouTube" and podcasting. Other suggestions were to do a favorite Website, like Google Earth, Consumer Reports, Ebay, MySpace, ClassMates.com, Internet Movie Database and others. Elsa will show Tintbooks, Pantone color selection books currently on discount for user group members. John will send us a link to "AppZapper" which renders Web pages in a readable format. Brian mentioned Kickstart and doing a segment on E-commerce. Finally, we are to email Elsa with the answers to: "What ten minute demonstration do you want to do?" and "What ten minute demo do you want to see?"

I reported that we have seven bags of raffle prizes along with 14 CD cases and a dozen Apple keychain lights and folders. We then devolved into a mini Question and Answer session. The suggestion for stopping OS 9 crashes with Microsoft Word was to rebuild the desktop from Classic's Preferences file, Advanced option. Thanks, Elsa.

We adjourned until September 6, 2006 at 7:30 PM in Human Ecology building, room 132.

– TERRY L. HELSER, SECRETARY



## DVD REVIEW

### ***Total Training for Final Cut Pro 5, the Essentials***

11 hours, 48 minutes - 2 DVDs

Total Training [www.totaltraining.com](http://www.totaltraining.com) \$179.99

Learning software can be fun and it can be a chore. It often depends on the circumstances that have brought you to the point of requiring to learn a new application.

I was raised on Adobe Premiere version one and had used it for years. For the last few years I have been telling myself that I really need to move over to Final Cut Pro, primarily since there had not been a new release of Premiere for the Mac in many moons. I kept hearing the stories of how great it was but every time I opened it up to look around, I quickly found myself saying maybe later and would be back in Premiere.

Reading software manuals is strictly for sissies and to be done only under the covers with a book light and the curtains drawn, and then only if you have a shrink wrap machine so you can re-seal the book back in its original untouched condition for the shelf where all software manuals are proudly displayed. Reading tutorials and following along on the computer is a painful task and not the most convenient method of delivery.

In the distant past I tried a Total Training tutorial with a VCR. Juggling a TV remote, VCR remote and a mouse is tricky business. Going forward and backwards trying to see "what did he push?" was very frustrating. I must admit that the tutorial worked. I learned Adobe After Effects pretty easily but wanted to throw away the VCR immediately afterward. I was very pleased to see that the newest versions of Total Training products come on DVD. What an improvement! I no longer had to position a TV/VCR in view of my computer, I didn't have to make room for a book on my computer desk, I could just sit at my computer and learn. Things were looking up.

The approach that the Training uses is excellent. Presenter Brian Maffitt starts off with a touch of humor and then launches right into the basics of the program. He does a very good job of explaining the user interface and how it is laid out, and even throws in some tips on your own organization of the workspace and files.

The instruction tells you how to do something and why. It's often more important to know why you are doing something rather than how to do it. My pet peeve in tutorials is when they give you numeric data to input into a pop up box without telling you why or what you are really doing it for. In the Total Training Final Cut Pro tutorials, they give you numbers to put in but tell you the why and what you are doing. They tell you what you are looking for along with the numbers so you can change them and know what will change when you do. In other words, you actually learn how the tool works rather than just how to input numbers into a box.

What I liked best about this tutorial (other than the fact that it gave me a very strong foundation in Final Cut Pro) is the layout of the tutorial itself. Total Training has learned a lot over the years. The lessons give you an overview and then go deeper in a logical, well planned path through all the elements of the program. All along the way, they point out alternative ways that things can be accomplished and why you might choose one way over the other. They also explain when one portion will be explained in further detail later and where to find it if you want to know now.

It is this flexibility that makes the tutorial (and Final Cut Pro) so strong. In Final Cut Pro, you have many ways to accomplish most any task, so you can pick and choose what works best for you and your style of working. Total Training does the same thing. If you want to sit down in an afternoon and hammer your way through a top notch tutorial and learn Final Cut Pro, you can do it. If on the other hand you want to learn a specific thing, you can go right to it without any problem.

Final Cut Pro was not made for the beginning computer user, and neither was Total Training for Final Cut Pro. It has been very well crafted so a person new to digital video can learn without problems or feeling inadequate while someone migrating from years on Premiere or Avid can learn what they need to be up and running quickly without the embarrassment of having to remove the shrink wrap from the manual.

– SVEN ANDERSON

*Sven Anderson is assistant professor of computer art and print making at State University of New York College at Oneonta. He was honored as an Apple Distinguished Educator in 2000-2002.*

## ***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.

### **Timbuktu Pro: 25 Percent Off**

Netopia's Timbuktu Pro software for both Macintosh and Windows gives users access to remote desktops through any Internet connection, which makes Timbuktu ideal for file sharing and troubleshooting. With Timbuktu's Skype integration, users can also speak in real-time while collaborating with other users on remote desktops.

Retail prices start at \$89.95 for Windows and \$94.95 for Macintosh versions, with information on the different software versions available at the Timbuktu website.

Call Netopia's toll-free support line and use the discount code below to receive the discount.

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

Learn more: <http://www.timbuktupro.com>

Order: 1-866-235-8575

This offer is valid through September 30, 2006.

### **Tekkeon: \$20 Off Black iPod Battery/Portable Dock**

Get more than 9 hours of video playback or up to 42 hours of music playback with myPower iPod, the all-in-one rechargeable battery/portable dock! Now available in iPod black or white, this portable cradle includes USB and FireWire ports for downloading music, and a bonus 5V charging output for other small devices.

Take \$20 off any myPower for iPod, which retails for \$69.95 (Item number MP1140/B - with FireWire power adapter) or \$59.95 (Item number MP1100).

Promotional code: \*\*\*\*\*

<http://www.tekkeon.com>

This offer is valid through September 30, 2006.

### **Launcher by Odology: New Utility at 40% Off**

Launcher by Odology lets you search and launch any app on your Mac as you type. Launcher also lets you switch between apps: just type and go. Its streamlined design and intuitive interface keep things simple - no memorization necessary. By leveraging OS X's built-in indexing engine, Launcher provides great performance while consuming less of your Mac's resources.

Launcher by Odology requires Mac OS X 10.4 (Tiger), with Spotlight enabled (the default setting). With a standard price of \$15, user group members pay \$9, a 40% discount.

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

<http://www.odology.com/launcher/>

This offer is valid through September 30, 2006.

### **Royalty-Free Production Music: 20 Percent Off**

Primary Elements offers legal, royalty-free production music licensing on a wide range of tracks, loops, and CDs for all markets and uses. Primary Elements also offers a host of professional music/audio and related media services.

From iMovie HD to Final Cut Pro and everything in-between, give your next project what it needs!

Regularly \$9, user group members can purchase commercial licenses for \$7.20. Regularly \$29, CDs are available to user group members for \$23.20 and broadcast licenses can be purchased for as little as \$119.20, a discount from the regular \$149 price.

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

<http://www.primaryelements.com>

This offer is valid through September 30, 2006.

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

RadTech is your source for the very best in mobile computing and iPod products and accessories for care, protection and productivity. Choose from a wide selection of Bluetooth accessories, notebook softcases, backpacks and much more.

A full line of award-winning, innovative products made with Optex material are offered: ScreensavRz (the total-care LCD display protector), Sleevz for iPod (play directly through the case) and Sleevz for Notebooks (stylish protection). Use the URL and coupon code below to receive 20% off your next order.

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

Order: <http://www.radtech.com>

This offer is valid until October 31, 2006.

### **Ultimate Productivity Automator Action Pack**

Automated Workflows, LLC is pleased to announce the "Ultimate Productivity Automator Action Pack" which includes all of the currently available Automator Actions for applications including FileMaker Pro, InDesign, iPhoto, Photoshop, Preview, QuarkXPress, TextEdit and more. It allows users to extend the ability of Automator to reduce time-consuming and repetitive tasks in multiple popular applications.

A \$39.99 (US) value, this Action Pack is now available to user group members worldwide for \$25.99 (US), which is 35% off!

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

<http://www.automatedworkflows.com/automator/actions.html>

This offer is valid until October 31, 2006.

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– Vendor Offers, continued from page 7

### **ClickBook: Booklet printing Software at 50% Off**

ClickBook, a powerful yet easy-to-use printing utility, prints customized booklets, planner pages, wallet booklets, brochures, greeting cards, catalogs, microfiche and more from any Mac OS X application. It will print files from any application together or separately, use up to 75% less paper, print 50 plus custom layout styles, rotate, reduce & realign documents automatically, and work with any laser or inkjet printer.

Regularly \$49.95, ClickBook offers Apple User Group members a special price of \$24.98, a 50% discount. Simply click on "Add to Cart" when ordering by web or place your order by phone.

Order by phone: 800-403-0925

This offer is valid until October 31, 2006.

### **Actoris Software at 25% Off**

Xpress Schedule is THE Macintosh tool for preparing employee work schedules. Create better schedules in less time, print schedules and even send them to your staff by email or text message. Food Cost Manager is a complete back office solution for food service businesses. Manage your inventory, calculate recipe and menu costs, and prepare nutritional information for your customers.

Xpress Schedule, regularly \$99, is available for a special Apple User Group price of \$74, and Food Cost Manager, regularly \$249, is available for a user group price of \$185, a 25% discount.

Order form: \*\*\*\*\*

Email your order: sales@actorissoftware.com

This offer is ongoing.

### **20 Percent Off Miglia TV Products**

Miglia Technology offers Apple user group members 20% discounts on its video and audio products. If you are interested in watching, recording, pausing or rewinding live TV on your Mac, then Miglia's TVMicro, TVMini HD and TVMax are for you. If you are more into audio, check out HarmonyAudio and Harmony Express! The discounts below make these products even more appealing.

- TVMicro: regularly \$99, AUG Price \$79
- TVMiniHD: regularly \$249, AUG Price \$199
- TVMax: regularly \$249, AUG Price \$199
- HarmonyAudio: regularly \$199, AUG Price \$159
- HarmonyExpress: regularly \$39, AUG Price \$31

This offer is valid until October 31, 2006.

### **Disclabel from SmileOnMyMac: 25% Off**

Get Disclabel, the award-winning software for designing CDs, jewel boxes and DVD packaging, fully-integrated with iTunes and iPhoto for effortless importing of track

information and images. Printing is foolproof – Disclabel supports all label brands, plus direct-to-CD printers and LightScribe.

Regularly priced at \$29.95, Apple User Group members pay only \$22.46, a 25% discount.

This offer is valid until November 30, 2006.

### **Delicious Library: 25% Off**

Rediscover your home library with Delicious Library. Point any digital video camera (like Apple's iSight) at the barcodes on the backs of your books, movies, music and video games, and Delicious Library does the rest. The barcode is scanned and within seconds the item's cover appears on your digital shelves, filled with the information downloaded from web sources around the world.

Regularly \$40, Delicious Library is now available for \$30 for Apple User Group members.

To purchase, download Delicious Library, install and launch the application. Click on "Buy License" in the Delicious Licensor window, and "Upgrade" in the Step 1 window.

Then, open the "You Currently Own" menu and select "Apple User Groups Special Offer Code." Enter "\*\*\*\*\*" in the "Registration Code" field.

<http://www.delicious-monster.com>

This offer is valid through November 30, 2006.

### **Tintbook: 25% Discount**

Tintbook introduces predictable Color Management for Print Design! Color formulas are already prepared for you. Simply enter the CMYK components into the color palette of any graphic design application, like Illustrator, Photoshop, Quark and others. Over 25,000 printed CMYK combinations are provided in each Tintbook. Save hours of time and make accurate color decisions for printing projects.

Regularly \$80, Apple User Group members pay only \$60 plus shipping, a 25% discount.

Codeword: \*\*\*\*\*

[http://www.tintbooks.com/products\\_mug.asp](http://www.tintbooks.com/products_mug.asp)

This offer is valid through November 30, 2006.

### **FastMac: PowerMac Bluetooth Upgrades**

FastMac offers a 100% plug and play compatible internal Bluetooth upgrade for select PowerMac systems. The upgrade adds Bluetooth wireless connectivity and fits directly into the system's main logic board. No drivers or software are required. Each upgrade comes with a one-year warranty and 30-day money back guarantee.

To learn more and to see if your computer is compatible

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with FastMac's Bluetooth board, visit the FastMac web site at <http://www.fastmac.com>

Normally \$25.95, the Apple User Group special price is \$19.95, a 23 percent discount.

To order by phone, mention the User Group offer to get the discount.

<http://www.fastmac.com>

This offer is valid through November 30, 2006.

### myNotes: 25% Discount

myNotes is a human-friendly, note-taking program to create and organize notes and clippings, and print them utilizing beautiful customizable themes. It is one of the easiest Macintosh note managers while offering an extended set of unique features. With myNotes' Address Book integration, you can look up contacts by first or last name, then send e-mail, start a chat session or access their homepages with just one click!

Regularly \$15.95, Apple User Group members can purchase myNotes for \$11.95 for a limited time.

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

See more. <http://www.mishimo.com/mynotes>

Order. [http://store.kagi.com/?6FBMC\\_LIVE](http://store.kagi.com/?6FBMC_LIVE)

This offer is valid through November 30, 2006.

### The MUG Store: Redesigned

www.apple mugstore.com has been redesigned to offer you even more great deals on new and refurbished Mac equipment. If you haven't looked in a while, check it out. Great prices, lots of special offers and blowouts on Apple product and more!

When you buy from the MUG store, your group can use the points toward the purchase of anything the MUG store sells; with enough points you can even get your order for free!

The passwords to get into this exclusive User Group site are:

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

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

This offer is valid through October 31, 2006.

### Get Apple User Group Market & User Group Offers From One Site

Are you looking for information on a previous user group offer? Tom Piper, Apple User Group Advisory Board vendor coordinator, publishes a single page with all current offers, expiration dates and codes.

Password until November 15: \*\*\*\*\*

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

Be sure to subscribe to Tom Piper's new Apple User Group Market for interviews and the latest news on vendor offers. Visit the link on the Advisory Board's home page.

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



### BOOK REVIEW: UPGRADING TO MAC OS X 10.4 TIGER

*Upgrading to Mac OS X 10.4 Tiger, Visual QuickProject*, by Tom Negrino. 132 pp. Peachpit, 2006. \$12.99. ISBN 0-321-35756-6

Peachpit's Visual QuickProject Guides are low cost, straight-to-the-point books designed to guide you through a particular project without obsessing on the details. Tom Negrino's *Upgrading to Mac OS X 10.4 Tiger*, an exemplary title in this handy series, is just the ticket for helping you make the leap to OS 10.4 Tiger.

The smartly-written text takes you from preparation (checking your system, drivers, utilities and startup items) to performing the upgrade, with an essential pre-upgrade chapter on backing up your data. Negrino recommends SuperDuper, a \$19.95 backup utility that's also a favorite of mine. Once the upgrade is complete you learn how to set up and customize Tiger, find out what has changed, and make the acquaintance of Dashboard, Spotlight and Automator as well as some third-party enhancers. Each chapter ends with Extra Bits, a set of additional tips and tricks.

Affordable certainly doesn't mean visually dull – the full-color book is beautifully designed, with plenty of photos and screenshots. The vivid color text boxes for the chapter-ending Extra Bits sections are especially appealing.

Most highly recommended.

– ELSA TRAVISANO



## MAC 911 – HELP DESK Solutions to your most vexing Mac problems

By Christopher Breen

### PUT TOGETHER YOUR PDF

How do I combine two or more  
PDF files? – *Wally Eater*

You can do this with Adobe Acrobat 7.0 Standard--and spend \$299 for the privilege--but there are less-expensive alternatives. If you're the do-it-yourself type, you can accomplish this with Automator. If you'd prefer a ready-made solution with more options, pick up a copy of Monkeybread Software's free Combine PDFs 2.1. Just launch the utility and plop the PDF files you'd like to combine onto its main window.

You can drag the documents up or down the list to position them in the resulting file. When you're done, click on Merge PDFs. Note that if you mix landscape- and portrait-oriented PDFs, you're asking for trouble--when you print, parts of the PDFs will be cut off. If possible, reformat your files so they all print the same way.

### Dealing with duplicates

How do I find out which iTunes playlists contain a certain song? – *Joe Feil*

In recent versions of Apple's iTunes, control-click on a track and, from the contextual menu that appears, select Show In Playlist. The resulting submenu will list all the playlists that include that track.

You can use a smart playlist to help you locate songs that appear in multiple playlists. For example, create a smart playlist (File: New Smart Playlist), set it to Match All The Following Conditions, and then add these conditions: Playlist Is 90's Music, Playlist Is Not Beatles, Playlist Is 30GB 5G Selection. The resulting playlist would display only tracks found in all three of those playlists (see "Sort Smarter").

If you want to take a sterner approach toward duplicates, choose Edit: Show Duplicate Songs. In the list that appears, you can then weed through the tracks and remove any you deem unnecessary. Note that some aren't really duplicates--one track may be a live recording of a particular tune, while another may be the studio version. Take a gander at the Album column to see if it's actually a different track.

Another option is Doug Adams and Charlie Strauss's Corral iTunes Dupes 1.0 (free). It's able to tell the difference between a studio and a live track, among other things, and tosses duplicates into a Dupes playlist for you to sort through.

### Mac 911's shortest answer ever

I would like to use my older, smaller iMac keyboard with

my new PowerMac because I lack desk space. The problem is that there's no way to open the SuperDrive door because there isn't an Eject key on the iMac numeric keypad. I know I can click on a disc already in the SuperDrive and drag and drop it into the Trash, hold down the mouse button when booting, and so on. But what if there is no disc already present in the drive? Is there a workaround? – *Larry Kidd*

Press and hold the F12 key.

### iPhoto fixation

How can I find and fix or delete corrupt image files in my iPhoto library? – *Rene Linda Lopez*

Let's start by locating your files. By default, iPhoto 6 (part of Apple's iLife '06, \$79) stores your pictures here: your user folder/ Pictures/iPhoto Library/Originals/year/roll number. The year is the year you imported the photos, and the roll number is the number iPhoto assigned to the roll--Roll 143, for example. If you've edited any images, you'll find the edited versions in your user folder/Pictures/iPhoto Library/Modified/year/roll number.

However, with iPhoto 6, pictures need not be stored this way. Go to iPhoto: Preferences and click on Advanced. Here you can choose to disable the Copy Files To iPhoto Library Folder When Adding To Library option. Do so, and your pictures will stay where they are, in the structure you've created.

In previous versions of iPhoto, you'll find your pictures by following this path: your user folder/ Pictures/iPhoto Library/year/month/day, where year/ month/day would be something along the lines of 2006/05/28 (representing pictures created on May 28, 2006), for example. If you've edited any images created that day, you'll find the edited versions in the date folder and the original images in a folder called Originals.

Now that you know where the files are, let's look at those that may be corrupt. If luck is on your side, the corrupt image is one you've edited. In such a case, you can select the corrupt image in iPhoto and choose Photos: Revert To Original. If iPhoto fails, you can try re-importing the original image from the folder that houses it.

But before tossing images that won't behave, I attempt to open them in a different application. For example, some JPEG files I work with refuse to open in Apple's Preview but will open in Adobe Photoshop. If you can successfully open the image in another application, put the Save As command to good use and create a fresh copy.

Even if the image won't open for love or money, you're not completely out of luck. You still have a tiny copy of it--the thumbnail. In iPhoto 6 you can find it here: your user folder/Pictures/iPhoto Library/Data/ year/roll number.

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In earlier versions of iPhoto, thumbnails are in the date folder's Thumbs folder. This picture is small consolation, I know, but in cases where you've lost a shot that you treasure, it may be better than nothing.

Still not satisfied? If you're a pack rat who doesn't take a lot of pictures, check your media cards to see whether you left a copy of the image there. Or if you've got a video iPod, perhaps you've stored a copy on it. Count yourself blessed if you've enabled the Include Full-Resolution Photos option in the Photos portion of the iPod preference pane.

If you have, just rummage around in the iPod's Photos folder to find your image. If you haven't enabled this option, you can use Echo One Software's File Juicer (\$9) to extract lower-resolution images from a color iPod (see "Juicy Photos").

### A more colorful TextEdit

I use Apple's TextEdit to write long blocks of text for e-mail messages and for forum comments. My eyes are getting a bit older, and I find that the bright white background makes them sore. Is there a way to change the background color to something less glaring? – Jack Howard

Choose Format: Fonts: Show Fonts. In the resulting Font palette, click on the fourth icon from the left at the top of the window (the one with the small page icon). This pops up the Colors palette, where you can then choose a new background color (see "A More Colorful Palette").

### Choosing a startup volume

In the February 2006 Mac 911, under Ready for the Worst, you speak of using a FireWire drive to boot a Mac. How do I select that drive if I can't boot the Mac? – Dick Larson

When you start up the Mac, hold down (and keep holding down) the option key. When you do, a mauve Startup Manager screen appears, displaying icons of all the bootable volumes attached to your Mac. Your FireWire drive will be one of them (assuming, of course, that you've installed OS X on that drive).

There can then be a longish delay while the OS scours your Mac for bootable volumes. When your Mac lets you, click on that drive and click on the right-arrow icon; the Mac will boot from the FireWire drive. (This feature was introduced with the iMac [slot loading], iBook, PowerBook [FireWire], Power Mac G4 [AGP graphics], and Power Mac G4 Cube, so this technique works only with these and later Mac models.)

### More on iPhoto libraries

My iPhoto library has become overburdened with 3,000-plus photos from my digital life documentary. What I really want to do is remove groups of photos and put them on

my backup drive or a CD. Can you give me a safe method for doing this? – Via the Internet

The trick to doing this is using a smart album. To begin, find some way to identify the pictures you want to archive and then delete from your library. If you'd like to archive older pictures, this is a cinch. Just select File: New Smart Album, and configure the resulting sheet to read Date Is Before X, where X is the date you've determined as the dividing line between the photos you want to keep on your Mac and the ones you want to archive. iPhoto will create a smart album that contains the photos you'll archive.

If you want to archive photos by content, you'll have to find another way to sort them. One way is to use ratings, and another is to use keywords. To assign ratings to a group of photos, select the photos that will be archived and then control-click and choose the rating you want from the My Rating command in the contextual menu. (This is not a good way to go if you routinely rate your pictures, as some you don't want archived will likely end up in the mix.)

To assign keywords to a batch of photos, select those photos, click on the Keyword icon (the small key icon) at the bottom left of the iPhoto window, and drag the photos to the keyword you wish to assign. If there's no appropriate keyword there, make one of your own by choosing iPhoto: Preferences, clicking on the Keywords tab in the resulting window, clicking on the plus sign (+), and then typing a keyword.

Now create a smart album based on that keyword or rating. With the photos in the smart album, select that album and choose Share: Burn (called Burn Disc in versions of iPhoto prior to version 6). You'll be prompted for a blank disc. Click on Burn when you're ready to go, and iPhoto will burn your photos to the blank disc or discs.

If these photos are precious to you, I'd suggest backing them up more than once--and to media other than CD-R or DVD-R. The Export command in the Share menu allows you to save your files to a hard drive. I don't believe CD-R and DVD-R are the "forever" media some claim.

With your photos safely archived, you can now delete them from your iPhoto library. To do so, select all the photos in your smart folder and choose Photos: Move To Trash. Your photos will be placed in iPhoto's Trash. To delete them from your drive (and you're really, really sure that you've backed them up properly, yes?), control-click on iPhoto's Trash entry in the Source list and choose Empty Trash.

### The desert island question

Those of us known for our devotion to the Mac are often asked the Desert Island question. You know what I mean: "If you were stranded on a desert island with your PowerBook (or, soon, MacBook Pro), which applications would

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you want with you?”

Seems to me that if you were truly marooned, you’d likely use your laptop to bash in the huskier variety of coconut. So I’d like to propose a more realistic scenario: Let’s say you’ve just wiped your PowerBook’s drive because you’re sick and tired of the way applications abruptly quit, your hard drive is stuffed with things you’ve accumulated over the past two years, and everything seems to be moving so sloooooowly. After installing Mac OS, which applications would you install to make your laptop ready for prime time?

I was just in that position. Here are the applications and utilities I installed to return my PowerBook to productivity.

- Apple’s iLife ‘06 (\$79): A Mac isn’t a Mac without a copy of iLife.
- Microsoft Office 2004 (\$399): Office is the standard for offices, and mine is no exception. Word is what my editors demand, and until Apple’s Mail offers a more robust set of rules, I’m sticking with Entourage.
- Apple’s iWork ‘06 (\$79): In nearly every regard, iWork is no match for Microsoft Office. The major exception is Keynote, which makes PowerPoint look utterly primitive.
- Bare Bones Software’s BBEEdit (\$199): Now that I’m doing lots of Web work, BBEEdit is an essential tool for creating and formatting my stuff.
- TLA Systems’ DragThing (\$29): I can’t recall the last time I used Apple’s Dock. There are oodles of great Dock alternatives for the Mac, and this is the one I prefer.
- Ambrosia Software’s SnapzProX (movie edition, \$69; stills-only edition, \$29): There’s no better tool for still and motion screen captures.
- Mozilla’s Firefox (free): Safari is a perfectly fine browser, but I prefer Firefox with a few select extensions from the Mozilla development community site—specifically, Grease-monkey (free; [macworld.com/1126](http://macworld.com/1126)) and Flashblock (free; [macworld.com/1127](http://macworld.com/1127)).
- Panic’s Transmit (\$30): When I need to move files to and from my book publisher’s File Transfer Protocol (FTP) site, I do it with Panic’s Transmit. Only Apple makes a more Mac-like interface.

### Tip of the month

Tricked-out Tracker: When people visit VersionTracker.com or MacUpdate.com in search of software updates, they often wait for the home page to load, type the keyword, wait for the hits page to show, click on the desired hit, and then arrive at the update they want.

A much quicker approach is to do your search in Safari’s Google search field. Just type your keyword plus version-

tracker or macupdate – for example, handbrake version-tracker . When you press return, Google shows you the hits. The first link is usually the one that you’re looking for. Click on it for the update. – *Gabriel Dorado*

If you’d like to narrow your results further, type keyword site: [www.sitename.com](http://www.sitename.com) (replacing keyword with the thing you’re looking for and sitename with the name of the specific site you want to search). With this formula, Google will return results from only that site.–Ed.

### Restoring sidebar entries

I accidentally removed the Computer entry from the Finder sidebar. How can I get it back? – *Nathan Parker*

It’s easy enough to lose things in the sidebar—drag them out, and they disappear in a puff of smoke. Thankfully, they’re easy to replace. Choose Finder: Preferences, click on the Sidebar tab, and enable Computer. Your computer will reappear in the sidebar. Want to add other items to the sidebar? Just select them in the Finder and press Command-T.

### Smarter backup burning

I’ve got a smart folder in the Finder to track files created or modified after a certain date. I would love to be able to burn the contents of this folder to a disc for backup. But it looks as though it contains only aliases. Is there any way to burn the actual files to disc? – *Victor Navone*

You can do it, if you use Automator in league with a burn folder. First, in the Finder create a burn folder (File: New Burn Folder.) Next, grab a copy of Johan Carlsson’s Get Smart Folder Contents Automator action ([macworld.com/1461](http://macworld.com/1461)). Install this action and then create the following workflow:

1. Get Smart Folder Contents. From the pop-up menu, select the smart folder that contains the files you want to back up.
2. Copy Finder Items. Choose the burn folder you just created from this action’s To pop-up menu. Assuming you’ll always be burning the folder’s contents to disc immediately after running this workflow, click on the Options triangle and enable the Replacing Existing Files option. This will ensure that the workflow copies only truly new files to the burn folder. Once you’ve configured the workflow to your satisfaction, choose File: Save As and save the workflow as an application.

When you’re ready to copy the current contents of your smart folder to the burn folder, double-click on the app you’ve created. Insert a blank disc in your burner, and click on the burn folder’s Burn button.

You can accomplish much the same thing less conveniently

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without Automator. Just create a burn folder, open the smart folder containing your recently modified files, and drag its contents to the burn folder. Although the smart folder's contents are aliases, the burn folder will burn the original files to the disc.

### **Tweaking Pages' templates**

Is there any way to change the default paper size and font in Apple's Pages documents? My new documents always open in A4 paper size, and I end up changing them to letter size every time. – *David Albrecht*

My fervent prayer is that a future version of Mac OS will allow you to save individual Page Setup configurations for each application—A4 in Pages, US Legal in Keynote, and so on. Until that happens, you have to hold out hope that the application in question provides a way to modify its templates and save those modifications. Fortunately, Pages does.

For example, if you routinely choose the Business Letter template from Pages' templates sheet, choose it, make the changes you want to its font and Page Setup settings, and choose File: Save As Template. Give it a name you're likely to remember—My Business Letters, for example—and click on Save. The template, complete with your new font and Page Setup settings, will be saved to the My Templates folder and will appear when you click on the My Templates entry in Pages' templates sheet.

### **A roomful of zoom**

Recently, I attended a workshop where the presenter was using Keynote. When he wanted to show something on his screen in detail, he was able to zoom in on the cursor. Do you know how he did this? – *Greg Larson*

My guess is that he used the Universal Access preference pane, like so:

Launch System Preferences and click on the Universal Access preference pane. In the Seeing tab, enable the Zoom option and click on Options. In the sheet that appears, set the Maximum Zoom slider to 2 and leave the Minimum Zoom slider where it is. Enable the Only When The Pointer Reaches An Edge option at the bottom of the sheet and click on Done. Next, in the Keyboard Shortcuts tab of the Keyboard & Mouse pane, make sure you've enabled all the Universal Access shortcuts.

When you're ready to highlight something on screen, press Command-option-equal sign (=). Your Mac will zoom in by a factor of 2x, with the cursor in the middle of the magnified area. To move around, simply drag to an edge; the screen will scroll in that direction (see middle screenshot). To zoom out, press Command-option-minus key (-). To toggle zooming on and off, press Command-op-

tion-8. You can customize all of these keyboard commands in the Keyboard Shortcuts tab of the Keyboard & Mouse preference pane.

### **Slimming Mail's IMAP messages**

Sometimes, when I'm using Mail to check my IMAP e-mail account for one brief text message, I have to wait while a message with a huge file attachment downloads first. Is there any way to look at just the headers before Mail downloads entire messages? – *Tony Sturges*

Mail won't allow you to download just the headers. But it will let you download your messages without their attachments.

To do this, select Preferences: Accounts and select your IMAP account. Click on the Advanced tab. In the Keep Copies Of Messages For Offline Viewing pop-up menu, choose All Messages, But Omit Attachments. From now on, Mail will download just the messages. To retrieve attachments, you will have to click on the Save button in the messages that contain them.

For POP accounts, you can ask Mail to prompt you before downloading messages over a certain size. To do so, select the POP account, choose the Advanced tab, and enter a value in the field that reads Prompt Me To Skip Messages Over X KB. When a message comes in that exceeds the size you've set, Mail will ask you whether you want to skip it.

I do wish Mail was a bit more flexible in this regard. Let's say you've set up a schedule to download your mail every hour and you're not sitting in front of your computer when it starts. If you don't respond to Mail's prompt within 15 seconds, it will go ahead and start downloading messages even if they exceed your size limits. Entourage, on the other hand, allows you to download a portion of any message that exceeds a certain size. This means you can peruse the subjects at your leisure offline and then choose exactly which messages you want to download.

### **Covering your tracks**

I'd like to delete specific, saved Google search entries without having to reset Safari. Is there a way to delete such cached entries individually? – *Via the Internet*

It's possible to cherry-pick the searches you'd like to clear, but frankly, it's a pain in the neck. As Mac 911 forum reader Peter Weber explains it, this is what you have to do: quit Safari, launch the Property List Editor from the Developer Tools (an optional installation found on the Mac OS X Installer disc), open /Library/Preferences/com.apple.Safari.plist, and look for recent searches in the RecentSearchStrings. Once you've found that list, select

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

Editor: Elsa Travisano

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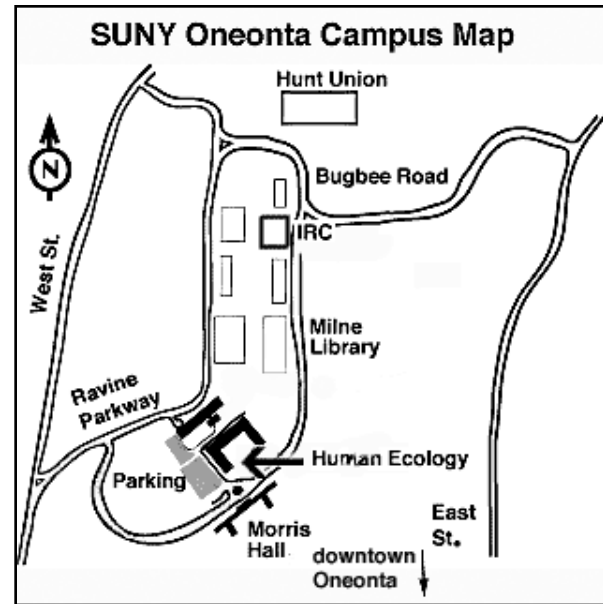
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*Newsbreak* is an independent publication not affiliated with Apple Computer, Inc. *Newsbreak* received an award for excellence at the January 2001 User Group University.



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each entry you'd like to remove and click on the Property List Editor's Delete button. Close the window and click on Save in the sheet that appears, and the entries you deleted will no longer appear in the list of searches.

If you'd rather save your neck, there are a couple of ways to clear out old searches en masse.

The first is to click on the magnifying-glass icon in Safari's Google search field and choose Clear Recent Searches. This prevents prior searches from appearing as autofill entries. Firefox includes a similar feature. Just control-click on the Google search field and choose Clear Search History.

To complete the cleansing, open Safari: Preferences, click on the AutoFill tab, and click on the Edit button next to the Other Forms entry. Choose .google.com from the sheet that appears and click on Remove. This zaps any Google autofills.

If you want to prevent Safari from recording your searches in the future, turn on Private Browsing (found under the Safari menu). With Private Browsing on, Safari won't add Web pages to its history, it will automatically remove items from its Downloads window, it won't create autofill entries, and it won't add searches to the Google search field.

### Sunk by sync

In iPhoto, I can create perfectly synchronized slide shows in which the images and soundtrack match up perfectly. But when I try to export such slide shows to a QuickTime movie, the pictures and sound fall out of sync. What can I do? – Craig Crossman

The solution is to not use iPhoto. Instead, open a new iMovie project, import your pictures as still images (you

can import multiple images by dragging them into the clip bin), adjust their length as necessary (by selecting a photo, clicking on Show Photo Settings, and adjusting the tortoise-hare slider), and add a soundtrack to one of the program's two audio tracks. When everything is to your liking, export the project as a QuickTime movie. Choose File: Export, click on the QuickTime tab, and select an export setting from the Compress Movie For pop-up menu. Or send it to iDVD by choosing Share: iDVD.

If you've already exported your iPhoto slide show as a QuickTime movie and you'd rather not re-create it in another application, drag the movie into a new iMovie project. Place it in the timeline, and choose Advanced: Extract Audio to place the movie's audio into a track of its own. Once you've got the audio separated, you can pull it back into sync (see bottom screenshot). Again, choose File: Export to save the synced-up movie in QuickTime.

You can do something similar with GarageBand 3: launch it, choose New Movie Score from the opening window, name your project, and click on Create. In the resulting project window, drag the movie into the Video track to separate the video and audio (into the Video and Video Sound tracks, respectively). You can now nudge the audio track to get it into sync. Choose Share: Export Movie To Disk when you're done.

*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](http://www.amazon.com) and [www.peachpit.com](http://www.peachpit.com). Get special user group pricing on Macworld Magazine! Subscribe today at <http://www.macworld.com/useroffer>.*