



GET INFO

October 2003

1

Inside:

iMovie 3 Tips & Gotchas	1
Prez Sez	3
Cheers & Reviews	4
Up To Date	5
September Mtg. Minutes	5
Oct. Meeting Program.	6
Treasurer's Report	6
MacAbby	7
TMUG Members' Tips	7
Membership Form & Map	8

Programs:

This month:

Publish Your Own Website on
TMUG.org
(See p.5-6 for future programs)

TimeTable:

- Deadline for Newsletter Copy/Photos: **10/27/03**
- Officers' Meeting (open to all) 4th Monday of each month, 6:30 pm, Golden Corral on Highway 55
- **Reunion® Genealogy Software SIG:** In the interest of time, the Reunion SIG will meet briefly 30 minutes prior to each monthly TMUG meeting, from 6:00 to 6:30. We'll share problems & look for solutions within the following 30 days (maybe sooner). Our SIG will start meeting in Nov.: come a little early & join us.

Email: editor@tmug.org

Apple, the Apple logo, the MacOS logo and Macintosh are trademarks of Apple Computers, Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries.

iMovie 3 Tips and Gotchas

by Jeff Carlson <jeffc@tidbits.com>

*i*Movie has become something of an odd duck in the Macintosh world. When Apple first introduced iMovie in 1999, the notion of easily editing digital video on a consumer Mac wasn't an easy sell. At the time, we described iMovie as "a consumer version of Apple's Final Cut Pro video editing software, which Apple apparently hopes will reveal a market for consumer video editing it has been trying to find for more than three years." (To our surprise, many readers expressed much interest in video editing then, via both TidBITS Talk and a poll we ran that week.)

<<http://db.tidbits.com/getbits.cgi?tbart=05591>>

<<http://db.tidbits.com/getbits.cgi?tlkthrd=814>>

<<http://db.tidbits.com/getbits.cgi?tbart=05622>>

Since then, iMovie has been a huge success for Apple, cited as much for its ease of use as for its capabilities as a video editor (even four years later, no Windows product has matched iMovie's features and ease of use). Although iMovie never displaced Final Cut Pro or Adobe Premiere in professional circles, it has provided a new outlet for expression to amateur filmmakers, vacationers, hobbyists, and school kids.

iMovie also helped give rise to Apple's digital hub strategy, which was especially evident in the release of iMovie 3 as part of the iLife suite of applications at last year's Macworld Expo in San Francisco (see "Apple Software Spices Up iLife" in TidBITS-662). iMovie 3 imports music from iTunes 4 and images from iPhoto 2 with ease, and offers a direct route for turning movies into DVDs through iDVD 3. <<http://db.tidbits.com/getbits.cgi?tbart=07040>>

So why do I say that iMovie is now an odd duck?

Unlike most Apple software—or, in fact, most software in general—iMovie took a lurch backward in terms of performance with version 3. This quickly became apparent as I began work on my most recent book for Peachpit Press, iMovie 3 for Mac OS X: Visual QuickStart Guide. Although the program introduced a number of welcome new features, performance was sluggish, the program crashed for no reason, and exporting data was problematic (see "iMovie, Take 3" in TidBITS-665). iMovie 3 had become the new Word 6 (for those who remember that giant step backwards).

<<http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/ASIN/0321193970/tidbitselectro00/>>

<<http://db.tidbits.com/getbits.cgi?tbart=07059>>

<<http://db.tidbits.com/getbits.cgi?tbart=01884>>

Then again, it may not be that bad. It must be noted that some people report having no problems with the program at all. I salute those lucky souls, because for me and untold others with whom I've corresponded, iMovie 3 has been unexpectedly troublesome.

How this came about isn't clear, and Apple is characteristically mum on the subject. However, I've read reports that a big factor was an Apple mandate to rewrite iMovie as a Cocoa application, versus existing in Carbon as was the case with iMovie 2 (for that reason, iMovie 3 will run only under Mac OS X, whereas



TMUG OFFICERS

President

Smythe Richbourg (pres@tmug.org)
919-796-6705

Vice President

Chips Chapman (vp1@tmug.org)
336-226-7425

Treasurer

Jeff Cole (treasurer@tmug.org)
919-806-0109

Secretary

Frank Crigler (secretary@tmug.org)
919-530-1697

BBS System Operator

Paul Lemieux (plemieux@tmug.org)
919-460-0736

Vice President of Publicity

Bob Seila (vp2@tmug.org)
919-541-2214

Web Master

Phi Sanders (webmaster@tmug.org)

Newsletter Editors

Melanie Crain 919-489-8525
Kathy Mason 919-250-4170
(editor@tmug.org--goes to both editors)

All members are invited to the following:

Palm Computing Special Interest Group (Triangle Adherents of Palm Information Technology – TAPIT)

Meets on 3rd Mon. at Dakota Grill in Cary
Smythe Richbourg (palmnews@tmug.org)
<http://tapit.interpug.com> (map on page 7)

– and –

Digital Photography Special Interest Group

Meets on 1st Mon. 7 pm at DTS Software,
Raleigh, NC
Duane Reaugh (Duane@DTSsoftware.com)
919 833 8426 x123

TMUG Hotline 919-833-8501

TMUG Website www.tmug.org

iMovie 2 works under both Mac OS 9 and Mac OS X). Another reason could be iMovie 3's greater reliance on QuickTime; as QuickTime improves, so does iMovie, which was evident when iMovie 3.0.3 and QuickTime 6.3 were released together in June with dramatically improved performance.

<<http://db.tidbits.com/getbits.acgi?tbart=07208>>

<<http://www.info.apple.com/kbnum/n120187>>

<<http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/>>

That said, iMovie 3 isn't a lost cause. The latest updates above improve performance and fix many of the program's initial shortcomings. Since we haven't written much about iMovie 3 specifically in TidBITS, I want to cover some tips about a few of the new features and point out some areas where the program still needs work so that those who are using iMovie 3 won't be tripped up. <<http://db.tidbits.com/getbits.acgi?tbart=07208>>

Working with iDVD

As part of the iLife integration, iMovie makes it easy to create an iDVD project of the movie you've built. You can also set up chapter markers in iMovie that the viewers of your DVD can jump to without fast-forwarding through every frame of your movie. The chapter markers are pretty rudimentary: move iMovie's playhead to the location where you want to start a chapter, switch to the DVD pane, and click the Add Chapter button. It would be nice to be able to edit a marker should you decide that the chapter should begin at a different location on the timeline, but instead you must delete the marker and create a new one. Once chapters are set, simply click the Create iDVD Project button, which launches iDVD 3 and assembles the project.

But what if you don't own iDVD 3? Perhaps you chose not to pay for the iLife upgrade (since iDVD 3 was the only iLife application not available as a free download), or perhaps you're using iMovie on a Mac that doesn't include a SuperDrive. In iMovie 2, you could save your movie using a "For iDVD" option in the Export dialog box, but choosing the same option in iMovie 3 results in a polite message that says you need iDVD 3. Fortunately, you can still export your movie in a format that iDVD 2 will read. In the Export dialog box, choose To QuickTime from the Export pop-up menu, and then choose Full Quality DV from the Formats pop-up menu. You can then import that QuickTime movie into iDVD 2, though you lose any chapter markers you may have set up.

Speaking of iDVD 3, remember that you can now run it on machines that don't include a SuperDrive by applying the iDVD 3.0.1 update (see "Using iDVD 3.0.1 on Non-SuperDrive Macs" in TidBITS-690_). When I wrote that short article, I said it wasn't possible to install iDVD 3 from the iLife discs because the installer checks to make sure your Mac has a SuperDrive installed. It turns out that I didn't dig far enough. If you have an iDVD 3 installation disc (which is a DVD, not a CD, so you at least need a media drive that can read a DVD), follow these steps sent to TidBITS Talk and linked below.

<<http://db.tidbits.com/getbits.acgi?tbart=07287>>

<<http://db.tidbits.com/getbits.acgi?tlkmsg=18476>>

QuickTime Reference Movie

Astute video editors may have noticed an extra file in each iMovie project folder. In addition to the project file itself and the Media folder where video and audio clips are stored, iMovie 3 creates a QuickTime reference movie that reflects the state of the timeline at the last saved state. The file itself isn't very large because, like the iMovie project file, it contains only pointers to which sections of the media files are in use, as well as which titles, transitions, and effects have been applied.

The reference file becomes useful when you want to preview your movie outside of iMovie, such as in QuickTime Player or other third party viewers. It's also a quick way of adding a movie to an existing iDVD project. That's because using the Create iDVD Project button in iMovie 3 causes a new iDVD project to be created. If you instead drag this reference movie into iDVD, it creates a new

folder in the project containing the movie and all of its chapter markers. This approach also retains the Play Movie option in iDVD, which can play the movie from start to finish while still retaining the chapters.

Audio Export Gotchas

Unfortunately, the audio quality in exported iMovie movies remains one of the program's most annoying problems. Users report audible pops and sections where audio and video get out of sync.

One suggestion is to make sure your audio source is recorded at 16-bit audio instead of 12-bit. With 12-bit audio capture, the camcorder records audio in two separate stereo channels, which leaves room on the tape to go in and record more audio if necessary. 16-bit capture grabs audio at a higher quality level and leaves no room for more recording. However, since you're editing footage in iMovie instead of on the camera, the only benefit to using 12-bit audio is that it takes up less hard drive space when you import it; also, iMovie doesn't recognize separate audio channels the way other video editing software (such as Final Cut Express) does. If your footage is currently in 12-bit audio, export it from iMovie back to a blank MiniDV tape in your camcorder set to 16-bit audio, then re-import it into iMovie.

<<http://docs.info.apple.com/article.html?artnum=61636>>

Another suggestion sounds a bit more dubious, but seems to work. If, after exporting, audio fades aren't working, or if clips you had marked silent are still audible (which happened to me on one DVD project), the fix seems to be to have one clip selected in the timeline when you export your movie.

For clips whose audio has slipped out of sync, try extracting the video clip's audio to a separate track (select the clip and choose Extract Audio from the Advanced menu). Make sure the audio track is locked to the video track by positioning the playhead within the two clips and choosing Lock Audio Clip at Playhead from the Advanced menu.

Performance Issues

Perhaps the most sporadic issue with iMovie 3 is general performance. Although iMovie 3.0.3 greatly improved performance, I still see stuttering audio and video, and occasional sluggish response when selecting clips or switching between the different effects panes. One general recommendation is to reduce the size of iMovie's window (now that the program doesn't cannibalize the entire screen, as in iMovie 1 and 2). Also, remove any third-party iMovie plug-ins to see if that helps. Since iMovie (and Mac OS X) love to consume memory, quit other running applications, and consider installing more RAM if your budget permits (see [dealram](http://dealram.com/) for current RAM prices). <<http://dealram.com/>>

Sticking with iMovie 2

If the performance of iMovie 3 is unacceptable, and if you upgraded from iMovie 2, you can use it to open projects created in iMovie 3 as long as you don't mind

abandoning iMovie 3's new features. If you haven't yet upgraded to iMovie 3, be sure to make a copy of iMovie 2 to ensure that the version 3 installer doesn't overwrite it. Or, if you have a set of your Mac's Software Restore discs that include iMovie 2, you can use a utility such as Pacifist to extract the iMovie 2-specific installer.

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

No doubt I haven't covered some problems you may be facing with iMovie; Apple's support discussion boards are filled with people reporting unexpected crashes, for example, that appear to be sporadic or difficult to reproduce. Although frustrating, these types of issues can be solved only by Apple's engineers. Given the company's high-profile push for iLife and the digital hub lifestyle, it's hopefully only a matter of time before Apple works out these issues. Nonetheless, I strongly recommend letting Apple know what you're running into by going to the feedback Web page listed below or by choosing Provide iMovie Feedback from the iMovie menu. Apple employees have assured us that these feedback reports are read, and enough of them can encourage an executive to reapportion development budgets to address the reported problems.

<<http://discussions.info.apple.com/webx/iMovie>>

<<http://www.apple.com/feedback/imovie.html>>

Reprinted with permission from TidBITS#697/15-Sep-03. TidBITS has offered more than ten years of thoughtful commentary on Macintosh and Internet topics. For free email subscriptions and access to the entire TidBITS archive, visit www.tidbits.com.

Prez Sez

What a Short Strange Trip it's Been

*Ten years ago I bought you some cuff links,
You bought me some things,
We both know what memories can bring—
They bring diamonds and rust.*

—Joan Baez

"Diamonds and Rust"

When I moved to the Triangle area about ten years ago, I was working as an Apple Education Sales Consultant, which, at the time, was someone that worked with a computer dealer partnering with Apple in the area of K-12 education. I had been working in Western North Carolina, doing similar stuff with a smaller group of K-12 schools, 2 universities, and about a dozen community colleges. With the universities (UNC-Asheville and Western Carolina), I had learned about this crazy patchwork of schools and government agencies called the Internet, and actually had (*gasp*) an Internet account! I could get programs and things through ftp, bring them to my school account's storage area, and download them to my Mac. These school computers had LOTS more shareware, pictures, fonts and application updates than even the forums on AOL had, and transferring from coast to coast was lightning fast!

Arriving in Raleigh, one of my accounts was the state Department of Public Instruction. I got involved with the folks in the technology department there, and one fine day, one of them showed me this program that was pretty much just a big, open window, but when they typed a line of code into it, a page of text and pictures started to appear. It was light blue with black letter, and there were graphics, like the Great Seal of the State of NC, pictures of various government officials and such. Some of the text was underlined and either dark blue or purple, and when they clicked these with the mouse, the page would change. I was transfixed. One of the guys there was building a series of documents for DPI called a “website,” and he showed me the working prototype.

You could tour around the various floors of the DPI building via a map, and when you clicked little blocks on the map, —WHOOSH! —your page changed to that group’s section of the document. WOW! And anyone anywhere will be able to read and print this? What a cool idea!!!!

Of course, now, with a new century under our belt and an entire dot-com boom and bust economic cycle behind us, the time when any one, especially a technology specialist, who had never seen a web site is unthinkable. Having a web space to document family vacations is as easy as uploading your pictures to one of the many online photo developing houses, or a printing service for digital pictures. But do you want to tell people to look at your pictures of your wedding, baby’s first steps, or your vacation to the Vatican on a page advertising tiny mobile cameras that will allow you to “see what goes on at your house while you’re not there?” (Why these ads must always contain pictures of sultry females in various states of undress is beyond me. Is this how burglars dress in today’s world? What happened to the black-clothes-and-mask outfit?)

With the advent of iTools a scant few years ago, easy web pages that mere mortals built on their Macs began to populate that part of the electrosphere known as the World Wide Web. We now expect everyone to have not only a web page, but one with a fancy, personalized URL. Your membership in TMUG gives you just such a space. But what you build on your lot in cyberspace is up to you. There are companies and individuals that will do this for you if you’ll cross their palm with a few coins of the realm. But we’re here in America, by gum, and if there’s anything we want in America, it’s the right to put together and share our ugly designs by ourselves, with help from no one—editor, censor, fashion police, style guide...—no one. We at TMUG are here to give you those skills. Because of our position as a non-profit entity of the state, we’re not allowed to let you use your web space for certain activities, but you can start out here, hone your craft, and then rent space from a “real” hosting company and foist your creations off on an unsuspecting public from that venue. We’ll just provide those first baby steps.

Smythe

Cheers!

Smythe Richbourg, our fearless leader has won a photography contest:

2003 Exterior Photography Shot in the 2003 Shaker Workshops® Photography Competition. The winning photographs will be displayed on the website (URL below) when the catalogs featuring the winners are published (no date given). <http://www.shakerworkshops.com/photog.htm>

Reviews

Blaze 2.0.1 Koingo Software <www.koingosw.com>
 MINIMUM Requirements: Mac OS 8.6, CarbonLib; OS X
 RETAIL Price: \$9.95 US

Have you ever marveled at MS Word or AppleWorks as you’re using them? All those options and bells and whistles. WELL ... what the heck are they for? I know I never use them and I’ll bet most of you never use them. Surely someone makes a program with just the tools that I need. Here it is—Blaze 2.0.1.

Blaze is TextEdit on steroids and cross-bred with bits of textSOAP for a fraction of the cost. It has enough tools and integration with OS X Services to keep most campers happy.

THE GOOD

For starters, at the bottom of your text window, Blaze keeps a real-time running tally of your Word Count, your Line Count, and your Character Count. For students, you’ll know just how far you have to stretch those last few sentences to meet your teacher’s criteria for that paper on ‘The Importance Of Export Revenue On The Economy Of Liechtenstein.’ And if you ... oh, I don’t know ... write software reviews that must be of a specific length, Word Count comes in very handy.

As far as tools, you have date and time stamps, integration with Apple’s Font Utility, alignment, and all the other bells and whistles you would expect from a text editor. But the added bonus is that you can convert the file in any number of ways that include PC-DOS, UNIX, and Mac format.

Blaze includes a Replace All option which allows instant replacing of a certain word in your document. And you can send your document as an email or save it as an HTML file. You can set ten text shortcuts (i.e., Thank you for...,etc.) for saving a lot of repetitive typing

THE BAD

I don’t know that you would call it bad but it doesn’t do .rtf. On the other hand, you can export as Plain Text, Plain HTML and Styled HTML.

THE UGLY

That would be me, your humble reviewer. Otherwise, nothing to report.

NUTSHELL

First—how can you go wrong at this price? You spend more on your family at Burger King on a Saturday at the mall. Second—it's a solid program. Kongo has dispensed with the fluff and has created a text editor that does exactly what you need it to do. Definitely, I suggest you buy this product, if not at the very, very least, test drive it. You'll be glad you did. It's a diamond in the rough.

A review from Frank Petrie <phranky@mamugs.com> Technologies and Products Specialist for User Groups Mid-Atlantic Macintosh User Groups Team (MaMUGs) <<http://www.mamugs.org>>

iChat/AIM messaging: Phranky
Providing camaraderie, cooperative programs, events, training and knowledge sharing for Apple/Macintosh User Groups free of charge.

V.P., Vendor Rep, Webmaster, Cog
SJAUG, South Jersey Apple Users Group
<<http://www.sjaug.org>>

Book Review by Victoria Maciulski

Troubleshooting Mac OS X: The X-Book by Dr. Smoke

Troubleshooting Mac OS X may be the ultimate guide to preventing and resolving common problems with Mac OS X. The author is Gregory Swain (aka Dr. Smoke), the screen name of a helper on the Apple Discussions boards. Over the last year, Dr. Smoke has researched and answered thousands of questions from Mac OS X users worldwide, primarily on the Using Mac OS X Discussion. Go to <http://discussions.info.apple.com/> to see it for yourself.

In *Troubleshooting Mac OS X*, Dr. Smoke shares the results of his personal database containing hundreds of solutions to common Mac OS X problems. These solutions were researched, developed, and written by Dr. Smoke in response to questions submitted to the Discussions. Dr. Smoke's database has been distilled, organized, and enhanced to create the 300 pages of *Troubleshooting Mac OS X*.

Additionally, *Troubleshooting Mac OS X* provides detailed, step-by-step instructions for implementing Dr. Smoke's solutions for preventing problems with Mac OS X, including: installing Mac OS X for maximum stability; implementing a comprehensive backup and recovery solution; maintaining Mac OS X for optimum performance; protecting your Mac from power problems; organizing information about your Mac to ease troubleshooting; planning, researching, purchasing, and installing upgrades to enhance your productivity; and many more topics important to all Mac OS X users.

Escaping from the traditional publishing models of the Gutenberg era, *Troubleshooting Mac OS X* is an e-book, distributed in Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF).

Troubleshooting Mac OS X is priced at US \$15.00 for a Single User License delivered via download at <http://www.thexlab.com/>. Delivery on CD, multi-user licenses, and site licenses are also available.

Printed, with permission, in the Conejo Ventura MUG newsletter, Fat Bits, Vol. XIX, No. 9, September 2003.

UpToDate

At Made4Mac (Apple.com) you can look at and read about:

- Adobe Creative Suite
- Greeting Card Factory
- Adobe Photoshop CS
- Masque Card Games
- FAXstf X Pro—by Smith Micro
- Waves Broadcast and Production Bundle—by WAVES
- Instant PDF 2.2 plug-in—by Enfocis
- WebEx Mac OS X Client—by WebEx

Updates:

- iCal 1.5.1
- iSync 1.2.1
- Mac OS X Server 10.3 “Panther” —will ship Oct 24
- Mac OS X 10.3 “Panther” —available Fri. Oct 24, 8 pm
- iPodRip 2.2
- Free Hot Keys 1.1
- Myth III: The Wolf Age 1.1.1

Returns:

- Napster 2.0, back as a legitimate service

September TMUG Minutes by Cort Boylan <cboylan@hanatime.com>

The September meeting got rolling right at 6:30 at the NC Mutual Life Building. Every month more iBooks and PowerBooks seem to be in wireless use by the audience during the meetings. We're fortunate to have access to such a fine and accessible place.

President Smythe Richbourg opened the meeting and introduced Duane Reaugh who related how he spent his summer vacation: on a MacMania cruise in the Hawaiian Islands on the Norwegian Star. Duane showed a CBS made video clip about the cruise which featured Mac personality and author David Pogue. Duane said that the ship also had a Star Trek group on board which made all of the Mac people look normal. Information on future cruises can be found at

http://www.geekcruises.com/home/mm3_home.html.

Next Phi Sanders gave an update on the TMUG web site. While the listserve is back up, he said he has had numerous headaches, including a hard drive failure and the listserve having been lost after an Apple Security update. A few weeks ago Phi started the mail list over from scratch, went back to Majordomo on an OS9 machine and has the TMUG email finally working again.

Chips Chapman then talked about future programs and meetings. The TMUG officers meet on the 4th Monday or every month at the Golden Corral (RTP Route 55 south of Route 54, all are welcome) where they discuss TMUG business occasionally.

Tentative programs for the upcoming monthly

meetings:

- OCT. Based on input from our members, "How to create your own web site and host it on the TMUG server for free". Volunteer presenters for this topic would be appreciated.
- NOV. Palm devices and Rick Case from "everythingipod.com" to speak on new products for the iPod (cool stuff that can't be divulged in advance).
- DEC. The annual holiday party to feature food, fellowship, door prizes and stocking stuffers. The time, date and location to be decided.

Smythe then asked for the visitors to introduce themselves and three potential new members were identified. He also described a bit about the wireless point in the auditorium named Tsunami.

The Treasurer Jeff Cole announced financial statistics: TMUG has \$ 3,738.60 in the bank, 113 paid members, 7 new members since May, 27 renewed memberships and we pay \$ 75 per month in rent and \$ 85 per month for the production of Get Info. Smythe added that everyone including officers, pays membership dues.

Bob Chandler (MacVantage) asked the Mac consultants in attendance to identify themselves and we heard from Ken Brooks from Chapel Hill, Chips Chapman (The Mind's Eye) based in Burlington, Mark Handler from Durham, Josh Gitlin from RTP and Brian Risk (Geneffects).

Bob's Q&A followed, and as is customary, he asked for easy questions first. A member said that his iBook and iSight camera had been stolen and wondered if there was a service where he could report the loss which might possibly help in recovery. A couple sites were mentioned as "maybes": macfixit.com and powerpage.org. Bob added that portables are easier to steal and a person from TenPlus Systems said that they had been broken into a few months ago. Josh Gitlin said that users might want to encrypt their home directory for security.

Paul Lemieux asked if it was worth replacing the motherboard on a tangerine iBook. The response was to check with macrescue.com or powerbookrescue.com (not mentioned but good is pbparts.com). There was further discussion about the clamshell iBooks, that replacement batteries are difficult to find today if one is having battery problems.

Someone asked about a three year old iMac that won't keep the proper date. Response: change the PRAM battery which is located inside the back door.

Under System 10.2.6, how important is it to repair disk permissions? Answers: it solves problems you don't know you have. To repair the permissions, run Disk Utility from the OSX CD (as the start up disk). Do this after installing system updates. Another opinion was that the Disk Utility should be run from the hard drive instead of from the CD.

A member asked how to fix generic extension icons that run across the bottom of the screen during start up of System 9.1 on a G3 desktop. The answer was to rebuild the desktop, though some extensions don't have pretty icons anyway.

How does one sign up for the TMUG listserv? For the time being go to the old web site at <http://sine.tmug.org/index.html> and click on "Join the TMUG Mailing Lists".

Does iSight retain video? It is not meant to capture video, just display it during iChat. However it can be recorded to iMovie by using QuickTime Broadcaster from the Apple site for free. Save the video as a movie file and import it into iMovie.

After the 15 minute break there were announcements. Melanie Crain announced that the Reunion SIG will have its first meeting on 9/17. Email her (HCRAIN@nc.rr.com) for a map to the meeting. She can order the Reunion application at a \$ 20.00 discount off retail if she gets five people to order, so far she has three.

The TMUG Door Prize was a surge suppressor this month.

Just before the program started, there was discussion about wireless access and how one can find hot spots. Recommended sites: wifispot.com, wifinder.com and a Yahoo group, rduwireless.

We had 60+ attendees at the September meeting.

October Program: Publish Your Own Website on TMUG.org

One of the TMUG membership benefits is being able to have your own website hosted on the TMUG server. We will show you how to get started with the creation of a simple website, and how to upload & publish it to TMUG.org. Here's how we'll do it:

1. There are two URLs:
 - "webdisk" —to upload, edit, or delete files
 - "members" —the URL others use to see the web page
2. To connect to web disk:
 - http://webdisk.tmug.org/insert_username

Using WebDisk:

1. Under Finder, select "connect to server" (Command-K)
2. After dialog about security, click "continue"
3. Enter your username and password
4. Your folder "webDisk" should mount like .Mac iDisk, with your username
5. Drag and drop to your folder on your Mac
6. Disconnect when finished
7. To view your web pages, go to:
 - http://members.tmug.org/insert_username/

Oct. TMUG Treasurer's Report

Current balance in account: \$3,641.20

Current number of paid members: 114

Totals since 5/1/03:

New members: 10, which at \$35 each equaled \$350

Renewals: 37, which at \$35 each equaled \$1295

MacAbby provided by Frank Crigler (and, of course, adapted for Macs)

DEAR TECH SUPPORT:

Last year I upgraded from Boyfriend 5.0 to Husband 1.0 and noticed a slowdown in the performance of the flower and jewellery applications that had operated flawlessly under the Boyfriend 5.0 system. In addition, Husband 1.0 un-installed many other valuable programs, such as Romance 9.9, but installed undesirable programs such as NFL 7.4, NBA 3.2 and NHL 4.1. (And we can't forget the MOST important one of all—Nascar 6.8) Conversation 8.0 also no longer runs and Housecleaning 2.6 simply crashes the system. I've tried running Nagging 5.3 to fix these problems, but to no avail. What can I do?

Signed,
Desperate

Dear Desperate,

First, keep in mind that Boyfriend 5.0 was an entertainment package, while Husband 1.0 is an operating system. Log out and create a new User with the password: ITHOUGHTYOULOVEDME and then log back in and install Tears 6.2. Husband 1.0 should then automatically run the applications Guilt 3.3 and Flowers 7.5.

But remember, overuse can cause Husband 1.0 to default to such background applications as Grumpy Silence 2.5, Happy Hour 7.0, or Beer 6.1. Please remember that Beer 6.1 is a very bad program that will create SnoringLoudly iTunes files. DO NOT install Mother-In-Law 1.0 or reinstall another Boyfriend program. These are not supported applications and will crash Husband 1.0. They could also potentially cause Husband 1.0 to default to the program: Girlfriend 9.2, which runs in the background and has been known to introduce potentially serious viruses into the Operating System.

In summary, Husband 1.0 is a great program, but it does have a limited memory and can't learn new applications quickly. You might consider buying additional software to enhance his system performance. I personally recommend Hot Food 3.0 and Single Malt Scotch 4.5.

Good Luck,
Tech Support

TMUG Tips

Share your successes; report your fixes: this is your place to add to the joy of Mac ownership. As a new column, TMUG Tips is your column. Send in your favorite tip or a newly-discovered tip to editor@tmug.org. We'll shine a light on your contribution and on you.

Josh Gitlin's Tip: Multiple Addressess in Mail

For multiple mailing account addresses in Mail (OS 10.2 Jaguar), open Preferences under Mail in the menu. Select the Accounts icon if necessary. Click on the "Edit" button. In the window that appears, add other email addresses you use in the Email Address line by putting a

comma-space to separate each:

Example: JoeSmith@aol.com, josephs@earthlink.com, macjoey@tmug.org

Now when writing an email, there will be a pull-down menu named "Account" beneath the email Subject line. Pull the menu down and select the email address you wish to use.

Melanie Crain's Tip: Slide Show in Preview, OS X

While most of this information is buried within the Help menu of Preview, I'll make it a little easier by offering the following steps. When you open a folder full of pictures on your harddrive, you can look at the photos one by one or as a slide show in Preview. (Note: Preview's Help menu does not call it a "slide show.") Do the following: 1) select the pictures, all or several, that you want to look at on your monitor/screen. 2) Double click on the group or under your File menu, select "Open."

When Preview opens, the tool bar at the top will present a Back-Forth arrow option as well as an active Thumbnail icon. The icon will be on the far left side of the tool bar. Click on the icon, and a drawer will slide out from behind the Preview window. You will see thumbnail prints of all the photos you selected. Click Back and Forth through the photos and enjoy.

Kathy Mason's Tip: Converting Mp3 Sounds to Wav Files (or, "How I Impressed My Boss" or "Yes, You *Can* Do That on a Mac")

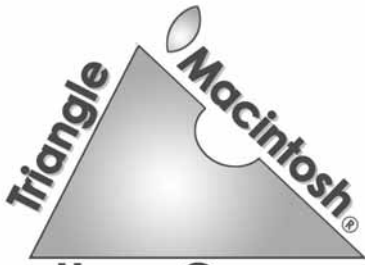
A few weeks ago, I was asked to produce a Powerpoint presentation on a Windows computer at work. I found some great sound files on the internet, but they were in mp3 format, and would not play in the presentation in Windows. My boss, having a degree in Computer Science, searched his hard drive for software that would convert the files to wavs. He didn't find anything. I just happened to have my new 12" Powerbook with me, along with a Compact Flash drive and CF card (our IT dept. won't allow me to connect my Mac to the network).

I could tell my boss was skeptical, so I plugged the CF drive into his Compaq's USB port (no driver needed), popped in the card, copied the mp3 files, and pasted them onto the card (those steps would've been much easier on my Mac ;-). Then I ejected the card, unplugged the drive, plugged it into the Powerbook, and inserted the card.

When I double-clicked the sound files, they opened immediately in iTunes. Then I simply selected Advanced >Convert Selection to WAV. (The second file in iTunes was the wav file—the first one was the original mp3 file.) Then I just selected the wav files in iTunes, dragged them directly to the CF card icon on the desktop, transferred them to the Windows computer, etc. Voila! One impressed boss, one impressive (so I'm told:-) presentation.

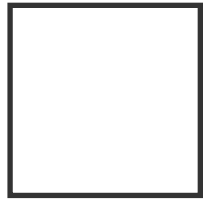
So Much Mac News, So Little Space!

Notice something missing this month? We actually had about twice this much content, so we had to eliminate some of it, as well as the pretty graphics—Sorry! :-(



Users Group

P.O. Box 14724
Durham, NC 27709-4724

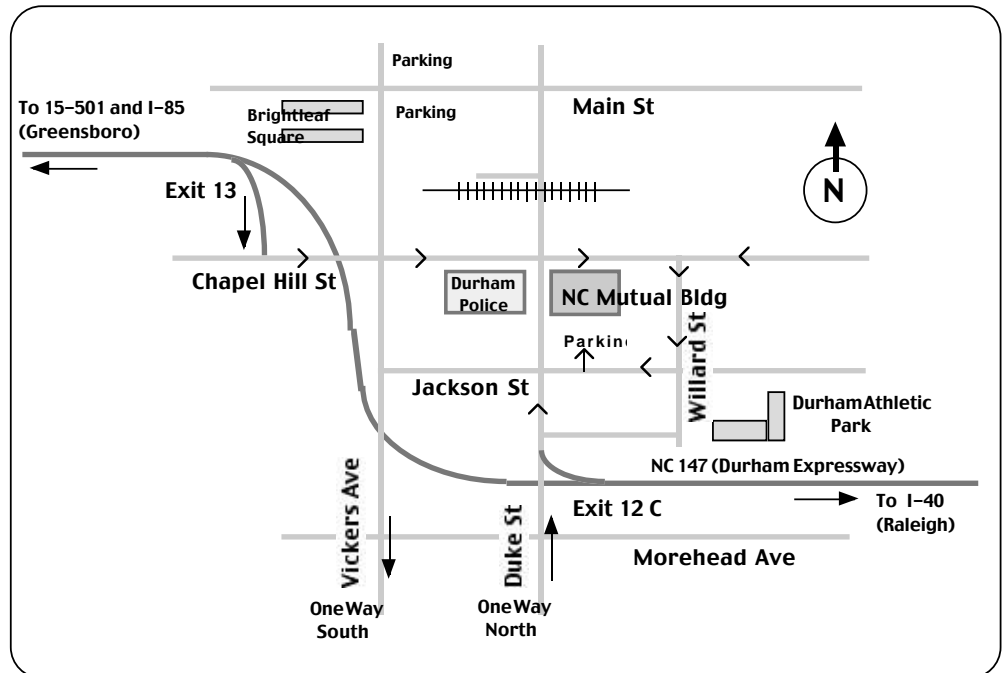


first class
mail

Meeting Location:

We meet the second Monday of each month at 6:30 pm in the Auditorium of the NC Mutual Life building in Durham, NC.

From I-40—Raleigh/RTP area: Take 147 (Durham Freeway) to Duke Street. Turn right onto Duke St., go to the first light, Jackson Street. The building is on the right across the street. Turn right onto Jackson, then immediately turn left into the lot and park.
When you get there: Go down the stairs to the right, not up the stairs. There is a guard at the entrance. Auditorium is on the right just off the lobby.



TRIANGLE MACINTOSH USERS GROUP

Membership Application

Membership

Renewal

Name: _____
Street: _____
Phone: _____
Business (if applicable): _____
City/State/ZIP: _____
Email: _____

Membership dues are \$35/year.

Make check payable to TMUG and send to:

TMUG • P.O. Box 14724 • Durham, NC 27709-4724