



Rmug News

January 2007

This Month

RMUG Meeting, Saturday morning
January 20, 2007 9-11:30 a.m.

All Mac users, new & old are invited
to attend the next RMUG general meeting
at:
The Home of Jim and Donna
Pace

Coffee and various eats are available
during our "Get Acquainted" time, 9am to
10am. There are classes for "Beginners"
and "Intermediate" from 9:15 to 10:00 am.

Discussion of the latest and greatest
from MacWorld, another Akvis plug in
demo, personal creativity comments,
wisdom and issues as well as the usual
Q&A. Be sure and bring those questions..

Contents

| | |
|---------------------------|----|
| President's Letter | 1 |
| RMUG Information | 2 |
| Secretary's Notes | 3 |
| CrossOver Mac | 5 |
| I Want My iTV | 6 |
| Online Etiquette | 6 |
| Editorial | 9 |
| Jett's Mac Class Schedule | 10 |

Rmug Officers

Dale Josephson - President
Jim Pace - Vice President
Charlotte Ruskowitz - Treasurer
Jacque Martin - Secretary
Pat Henderson - Librarian
Ken Lorenz - Editor
Barbara Benefield,
Louise Zegers,
- Hospitality

President's Letter

Over the past couple of months I have been researching new e-commerce options for my company as well as for those companies I host. I have one criteria set in stone and that is I want to use the Macintosh platform. I found one e-commerce program I wanted to evaluate, but it required an upgraded Apache, as well as PHP and MySQL. I hired an outside UNIX geek (Gari) and we took an Intel Mac mini with 2GB RAM and a fresh install of OS-X and the optional x-code tools on the install DVD. Since this project is about building a server, and all servers need backup, I added SuperDuper (shareware) and for editing text files I added TextWrangler (freeware). I used SuperDuper to make a backup copy of the mini's HD after the OS and tools were loaded but before we upgraded Apache and installed PHP and MySQL.

After working for approximately 12 hours we had OS-X ready, Apache upgraded, and MySQL & PHP installed, patched and ready to go. But something was nagging me as Gari and I had made at least twenty-five programming changes and tweaks to get everything to work. We had very carefully followed all available instructions, but many of the Apache instructions are understandably vague as they are generic UNIX instructions and not specifically written for Mac OS-X.

Prior to installing all of the upgrades, Gari & I had researched the Apache upgrade, and MySQL & PHP alternatives for several days. We knew there were at least two other ways to peel the onion, so I made the decision to backup our hard work to a second backup drive and restore the first backup to be our primary drive.

We then downloaded MAMP, which stands for: Macintosh, Apache, MySQL, and PHP. With just a few mouse-clicks, we installed Apache Version: 2.0.55, MySQL Version: 5.0.19, PHP Version: 4.4.2 & 5.1.4, Zend Optimizer: 2.6.0, phpMyAdmin 2.7.0-pl2 plus lots of other stuff. We had totally upgraded our test server beyond even what OS-X Server will get you. It took us about two hours and Gari made 3 minor tweaks in the Apache configuration files. It took us about two more hours and we had the biggest portion of osCommerce installed and

continued on page 3

RMUG Information

Why RMUG? The Redding Macintosh Users' Group was formed to help members and new users obtain maximum enjoyment and performance from their computers. This is accomplished through group activities and our direct affiliation with Apple™.

Resources: RMUG resources include monthly mailings from Apple™ and numerous outside vendors. We have a library of public domain programs, games and shareware software. We have videos and other computer-related guidebooks and information.

Meetings: RMUG meetings are held on the second Saturday of each month from 9:00 to 11:30 am – contact any club officer for meeting location. The meetings give members and visitors an opportunity to share information, opinions, personal experiences and techniques regarding Macintosh computer systems—hardware & software.

Membership Information: We invite you, as a guest, to attend our next monthly meeting. If you decide to join RMUG, your membership fee includes your whole family. We need your help as much as you need ours! Please participate!

Welcome To Our Meetings: Call the President, Dale Josephson at 242-1800 or contact other RMUG officers for help. Go to <http://rmug.org/membership.html> for numbers.

Membership Dues: \$24 / year. Includes newsletters, access to shareware, monthly workshops, troubleshooting help. Payment of dues can be made at the monthly meetings or send them to: *Charlotte Ruskowitz, 6538 Mossom Ln., Anderson CA 96007* . Please make check payable to: Redding Macintosh Users' Group.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER CONTINUED:

running. It took me longer to duplex print the manuals than it did to actually do the install. Now don't you just love it when a plan comes together? I particularly like the fact we made just 3 minor configuration changes and set up a couple of users and we were operational.

Here is a quote from Apple about MAMP "What's more, if MAMP is no longer needed, it is sufficient to delete the MAMP folder and everything returns to its original status (i.e. MAMP does not modify any of the "normal" OS X)."

The Apple instructions page make it seem like you don't have to do any other programming, but if you don't you will have users with too many permissions. If you set up passwords the outside world would be able to see your password files and storage locations, so I will say there is VERY LITTLE programming needed "not none" as the Apple website says.

Here is Apple's download page for MAMP 1.4.1:
http://www.apple.com/downloads/macosx/unix_open_source/mamp.html

When you visit the above link and then click on "Download" it takes you to a non-Apple website where there are 3 options for downloading: Universal Binary file type, PPC file type or Intel file type. I used the Intel for my testing.

All of the software programs I am using in this project are NOT Apple products, they in fact come from the Open Source Community of programmers and geeks at large. Thank you Apple for using UNIX as the basis of OS-X as it sure does open up a lot of other avenues for software acquisition. And yes, Virginia Santa Clause does in fact have everything in my article for Intel as well as PPC.

dalej

Secretary's Notes:

The December meeting was held at YAKS Koffee Shop. Thirty-nine members and guests attended.

Five new members joined the club: Diana Draper, Carolyn Duncan, Michael Imel, Barbara Phillips and Donald Moelk. Guests were Richard Johnson, a Mac consultant from Red Bluff, and Delores. Welcome everyone!

Jim Pace led the beginner's class, and Dale and Michael fielded questions from the intermediate group.

The question came up again about whether you should leave your computer on all night. Dale sees no reason to put your computer to sleep ever, unless there is a storm threatening. Lightning and computers do not mix. Set your System Preferences, Energy Saver to put to sleep Never. Michael shuts his computer down daily. So, take your pick.

Question regarding how to set up a video projector. Set to the least common denominator to show easily; i.e. 800 x 600 or 1024 x 768.

Question regarding installing tools on your computer. It is best to work from the CD. Disk Warrior (Alsoft.com) is the best. Disk Warrior 3.0.3 is compatible with Mac OS X versions 10.2.1 through 10.4. Intel Macs require Disk Warrior 4. Drive Genius is second best.

Question regarding shopping. Michael goes to DealMac.com to search for new listings. If you are buying software that runs on both PC and Mac, register that you are using a Mac so you don't get PC software.

A member with an iMac was having trouble burning photos to a CD. He would burn a disk and verify it. When he put it in his computer to open, the computer would kick the disk out. The disk would show on other computers. Answer: Something is wrong with the media part of drive.

continued on page 4

SECRETARY'S NOTES CONTINUED:

When reinstalling, do Archive and Install (HD – Option – Archive and Install) (This is to keep from losing files.) When done, throw away “Previous System”. Michael feels that TDK and Ritek are the best CD disks. For movies, Taiyoyuden.

Apple's new Aperture \$399 got rave notices from Ron Brink and Kate at Dale's office. Requires Mac OS X Tiger, version 10.4.6.

Caution from Dale, that if you buy a new MacPro, have the Airport Card installed when new.

Dale has extra tickets to MacWorld. See him.

Formatting a Thumb Drive. If you are just moving data from OS 9 to OS 10 on a Mac, you can format your drive to Mac. Otherwise, leave it alone and you can use it on both PC and Mac.

Program: Officers for 2007: The membership voted on the slate of officers that was nominated last month. The slate of officers passed, so the 2006 officers will continue on for 2007. Reminder: Dale is now WebMaster, an appointed officer. Reach him at WebMaster@RMUG.org.

Michael demoed another Akvis Photoshop plug-in, Sketch. This tool applies drawing effects to your photo which has been previously cropped in Photoshop. Michael showed us how the plug-in works plus two selections he had made and printed at home on his 4800 Epson from one of his flower pictures, first a drawing and second a watercolor. The selection tool can be used on a piece of the photo or the entire photo. Michael feels this is a very good plug-in! It will be raffled in January. Thank you, Michael.

Also, Photoshop Elements 4 for Mac is out. Buy.com had a coupon for it. Ron Brink suggests you download the newest manual from the website if you are going to print the manual out because it has the bugs out.

Dale demoed Pages from the iWork '06 Suite. Dale prepared a 2-page handout on how to use Pages which I hope everyone picked up. I was so busy watching him, I didn't get much written down. Dale showed us how to use the View menu in the header to make columns, lists, and how to add a new page to our document, and how to use the footer. He says the spell check works great. He also showed us how to import pictures and work with them. Files can be exported as .pdf, .doc, as a web page, saved as templates, etc. Dale likes Pages. He feels it is a very easy to use word processing program. A copy of iWork '06, which includes Pages, will be raffled in February. Thank you, Dale.

The Anderson classes will be in session Mondays starting January 8, '07 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

JANUARY MEETING: The January meeting has been moved to the third Saturday, January 20, 2007, and will be held at Jim Pace's home. If you need directions, call Jim. This change is because the Apple Convention in San Francisco is on the second weekend. Thank you, Jim, for volunteering your home. We will be back at Yaks in February on the second Saturday. The Board Meeting will immediately follow the general meeting. All are welcome to attend.

Jacquie Martin,
Secretary

CrossOver Mac:

CodeWeavers has announced plans to release CrossOver Mac The \$60 software will allow Intel Mac users to run Windows applications — including some games — without having to buy or install Windows itself.

Boot Camp and Parallels Desktop both provide this capability for Intel Mac owners already — Boot Camp, software from Apple currently available in beta form, makes users reboot their Macs and run Windows. Parallels Desktop is a “virtualization” utility that enables the Windows operating system and Windows applications to run in Mac OS X, within another window (or, alternately, in full screen mode).

CrossOver Mac will take this one step further — it eschews what CodeWeavers Chief Operating Officer Jon Parshall calls the “box within a box approach.”

“What you see running is an application sitting in your Dock or your Applications folder,” Parshall told Macworld.

Both Boot Camp and Parallels Desktop work because the new Macs utilize the same microprocessor that’s found in Windows-compatible computer, and CrossOver Mac employs the same basic principle. This wasn’t possible before January, when Macs depended solely on PowerPC-based microprocessors made by IBM and Freescale. The presence of an Intel processor inside the Mac forges a close enough resemblance to get Windows and Windows applications to work.

Although Boot Camp is free and Parallels Desktop is reasonably priced, both software applications require an expensive copy of Windows in order to work — and that’s the biggest benefit for CrossOver Mac. It works without having Windows installed all together, thanks to the underlying code that powers the software.

WINE-powered

CrossOver Mac is based on the same core technology that powers CodeWeavers’ Linux-based offering — an open-source project called WINE. WINE — a self-referencing acronym that stands for “WINE Is Not An Emulator” — is a compatibility layer that provides alternate implementations of the code referenced by Windows applications in order to work. CodeWeavers uses publicly available versions of WINE in order to develop the CrossOver product, and contributes its code changes back to the WINE project, according to Parshall.

Applications running on CrossOver Mac will offer performance comparable to apps running natively on Windows, according to Parshall, with all the same capabilities and functionality as they would if you were running Windows.

CodeWeavers’ specific focus is getting CrossOver to run commonly used business applications, he said. Right now the company’s Linux product runs Microsoft Office applications, Access, Project, Vision, Lotus Notes, Quicken, FrameMaker and other products.

Gaming possibilities

Gamers have a strong interest in Boot Camp, as it allows them to play games that won’t run natively on Mac OS X — Parallels Desktop has disappointed gamers because it doesn’t include native graphics driver support so it isn’t suitable for running 3D games. CrossOver Mac won’t suffer that problem, though Parshall cautions that CodeWeavers’ specific area of focus isn’t on games.

The company said it hopes “to offer support for a limited number of games,” but hasn’t yet determined the final mix of supported applications. Parshall told Macworld that the popular shooter Half-Life 2 is on the list, and while he said that it isn’t technically on the supported list of application, the new 2K Games-published FPS Prey also works well.

continued on page 6

CROSSOVER MAC CONTINUED:

Viruses, malware not as much of an issue.

Another benefit of CrossOver Mac's approach to running Windows software is that it's much less susceptible to infection by Windows-based viruses or malware than a true Windows-based solution, according to Parshall.

"A virus needs to affect the guts of Windows," he explained. "Theoretically, if you were really, really good you might be able to get your virus to run under WINE, but we've yet to hear about anyone who has, even in the laboratory."

Parshall said he expects that this protection will extend to CrossOver Mac as well.

CodeWeavers plans to release CrossOver Mac in July or August, 2006. It will cost \$59.95 for a single-user license. The company said it has a backlog of beta testers, but advises users who are interested to e-mail them anyway.

Peter Cohen - MacCentral

I Want My iTV!:

What is the real name of iTV video? What is iTV video? Where can I get my iTV video box? What does an iTV video box cost?

Well for starters no one in the know is saying what name iTV video will be marketed with. Now what iTV video does is allow you to connect BIG screen TVs to your computer and wirelessly stream your movies, music, Pod Casts and pictures from your computer to your entertainment center. The where can I get my iTV video box is easy since they will be available at all Apple retailers during the first quarter of 2007. Now you say what does an iTV video box cost comparatively? It is projected to retail for \$299.



The ports from left to right are:

1. Power
2. USB 2.0
3. Ethernet (I am guessing on this port)
4. HDMI video
5. the next 3 RCA ports are Component Video
6. Last two RCA ports are Audio ports
7. Optical Audio

Is it real or is it Vapor Ware? Only time will tell.

dalej

Online Etiquette:

Whatever Happened to Online Etiquette?

"Dear David, first off i would like to tell you that you are full of **** and did not research the zune enough to know your facts.

"The following are incorrect, and not limited to: podcasts, giftcards, looks(which is an oppinion), controls, and content. Also i would like to inform you that on the day of the launch(nov 14) there is a sceduled firmware upgrade which will most likely disband the 3 by 3 rule [which limits songs beamed between Zunes to three playbacks within three days], and the zune marketplace is also to offer video content about one month after launch. In my oppinion you should be fired for wrighting such a biast article in a (somewhat)professional newspaper. Oh and in case you think i work for microsoft or have bad grammar, or something, you should know that im 15!"

continued on page 7

ETIQUETTE CONTINUED:

The deeper we sail into the new online world of communications, the sadder I get about its future.

I'm OK with criticism, I'm fine with disagreement, I'm perfectly capable of handling angry mail. That's not the issue here (although my teenage correspondent above was, in fact, wrong about every single one of his points).

I've even accepted personal attacks as part of the job. I'm a columnist; the heat comes with the kitchen.

But what's really stunning is how hostile *ordinary* people are to each other online these days.

Slashdot and Digg.com are extremely popular sites for tech fans. Each discussion begins with the presentation of an article or Web page--and then opens up the floor for discussion.

Lately, an increasing number of the discussions devolve into name-calling and bickering. Someone might submit, say, this item to Digg:

685 diggs. "AWESOME astronomy poem." (posted by MetsFan 3 days ago)

Twinkle, twinkle, little star, how I wonder what you are.

Up above the world so high, like a diamond in the sky,

Twinkle, twinkle, little star, how I wonder what you are.

Before long, the people's feedback begins, like this:

by baddude on 12/11/06

What's yr problem, moron. You already said it's a star, why would you then wonder what it is. Get a clue, or a life.

by neverland2 on 12/11/06

Dugg down as inaccurate. Stars do not twinkle. It's the shifting atmosphere that causes an apparent twinkle. Or were you stoned all through science class?

by mrobe on 12/11/06

yo neverland2--It's a poem, idiot. Nobody's claiming that stars twinkle. Ever heard of poetic license?

Honestly, the intellectual level of you people is right up there with a gnat's.

...and so on.

What's worse is that the concentration of the nasty people increases as the civil ones get fed up and leave.

What's going on here?

My current theories:

* On the Internet, you're anonymous. Since you don't have to face the person you're dumping on, you don't see any reason to display courtesy.



- Your FAST choice for Internet access in the North State
- Macintosh Service and Repair
- Classes on your site or ours
- RAM upgrades always in stock
- CD Authoring
- Wide range of SCSI cables
- Macintosh batteries
- Trained technicians

School POOs gladly accepted
(530) 242-1800
<http://jett.net>

continued on page 8

ETIQUETTE CONTINUED:

* On the Internet, you're anonymous. You worry that your comments might get lost in the shuffle, so you lay it on thick to enhance your noticeability.

* The open toxicity is all part of the political climate. We've learned from the Red state-Blue state talking heads that open hostility can pass for meaningful conversation.

* Young people who spend lots of time online are, in essence, replacing in-person social interactions with these online exchanges. With so much less experience conversing in the real world, they haven't picked up on the value of treating people civilly. That is, they haven't yet hit the stage of life when getting things like friends, a spouse and a job depend on what kind of person you are.

* Many parents haven't been teaching social skills (or haven't been around to teach them) for years, but Web 2.0 is suddenly making it apparent for the first time. ("Web 2.0" describes sites like Digg and Slashdot, where the audience itself provides material for the Web site.)

I'd give just about anything to hear what 15-year-old Josh's parents would say if they knew how little respect he holds for adults (let alone the English language). Then again, maybe they wouldn't be surprised a bit.

The real shame, though, is that the kneejerk "everyone else is an idiot" tenor is poisoning the potential the Internet once had. People used to dream of a global village, where maybe we can work out our differences, where direct communication might make us realize that we have a lot in common after all, no matter where we live or what our beliefs.

But instead of finding common ground, we're finding new ways to spit on the other guy, to push them away. The Internet is making it easier to attack, not to embrace.

Maybe as the Internet becomes as predominant as air, somebody will realize that online behavior isn't just an afterthought. Maybe, along with HTML and how to gauge a Web site's credibility, schools and colleges will one day realize that there's something else to teach about the Internet: Civility 101.

David Pogue, NYT

Visit David Pogue on the Web at DavidPogue.com.

Happy New Year!:



Policies

This newsletter is published monthly for the Redding Macintosh Users' Group and is distributed to all club members.

No other individual, group or business may use any portion of this newsletter without prior written permission.

RMUG News welcomes articles and questions relating to Macintosh or Macintosh compatible computers. Articles should be pasted into the body of an eMail, or links to articles submitted. It is important that full credit be given to the author.

If you have a change of address or other questions, please notify the newsletter editor or other RMUG officer as soon as possible.

Deadline for submissions is the last Saturday of each month. E-mail or deliver all material to:

Ken Lorenz
E- mail submissions to:
krlore@cwnet.com

OR

rmug@rmug.org

(stuff files if possible)

Ad Rates

RMUG members are invited to place "Wanted", "For Sale" & "Trade" ads in the newsletter at no charge. Business cards or commercial accounts are welcome at the rates listed above. One of the best reasons for belonging to a user's group is to let other people know about your activities, as well as learning what other people are doing with their computers and software. Please give your business cards or ads to the newsletter editor.

| |
|--|
| <p>AD Rates</p> <p>\$4-business card</p> <p>\$6-quarter page</p> <p>\$9-half page</p> <p>\$15-full page</p> |
|--|

Advertisements in the RMUG newsletter will not influence reviews or critiques of hardware, software companies or stories.

RMUG does not endorse any specific dealer or product, but we do encourage the distribution of information which may assist club members in identifying best buys and services.

Editorial

Another issue with something for everyone.

I will miss the next couple of meetings, but should be able to keep up with the editors job as long as I can get access to the internet. Remember the meeting this month will be on the third Saturday and it will be held at the Pace home.

Directions to the home of Jim and Donna Pace:

2847 Balaton Avenue
Redding, California 96001
E-Mail address:
donnapace@earthlink.com
(530)241-8885

Directions:
From I-5 Exit #675 South Bonnyview Road.
Go west to East Side Road.
Turn left, South to Star Drive (which becomes Sacramento Drive) turn left.
To Balaton Avenue.
Right to 2847.

From 273. Turn east to Eastside Road. Turn right, South to Star Drive (which becomes Sacramento Drive) turn left.
To Balaton Avenue.
Right to 2847.

Ken



Jett's January 07 Mac Classes:

| | | |
|------------|----------|--------------|
| January 16 | 2:00 pm | Basic OSX |
| January 18 | 10:00 am | iLife series |
| January 23 | 2:00 pm | Basic OSX |
| January 25 | 10:00 am | iLife series |
| January 30 | 2:00 pm | Basic OSX |

If you have questions or want to schedule a class, please call the office at 242-1800.

Kate