



Rmug News

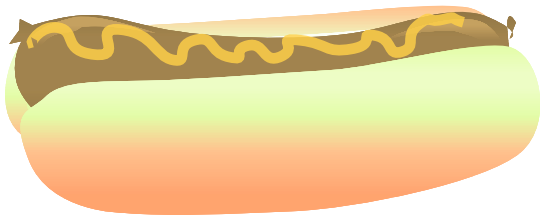
August 2005

This Month

RMUG Picnic Saturday afternoon
August 13, 2005 11:30 a.m. to ??.

RMUG Picnic:
at Jim's home!
Be there or be Square.

Directions to Jim's place are in the
NL notification eMail.



Contents

Presidents Letter	1
RMUG Information	2
E-Waste	3
Secretary's Notes	3
Old Dogs / New Tricks	3
Kill Low Cost WiFi	4
DVD Standards War	5
For Sale	6
Local Member Tips	7
Hints & Tips	7
Editorial	9
Our Host	10

Rmug Officers

Marcus Harner - President
Jim Pace - Vice President
Charlotte Ruskowitz - Treasurer
Jacquie Martin - Secretary
Dale Josephson - Librarian
Ken Lorenz - Editor
Barbara Benefield,
Louise Zegers,
- Hospitality

President's Letter

Hello again RMUG members.

An encouraging fact has come into the news lately. The age old trend of the declining Mac using population is seeming to reverse. I can only hope this is the work of Apples strategic planning and not some fluke. Also that an increase Mac population is an affirmation of the quality of the Mac OS rather than a knee-jerk reaction of the displeasure the users have with the 'other' major operating system. Although I would not blame anyone for switching away from Windows. It is apparent, to me anyway, that the Mac is designed for the user, by people who just want to user a computer to get work done, rather than being designed by programmers who are trying to implement the latest uber-geeky technology. Apple users know this and that is why we like to use Macs. I see one of the problems Apple has previously had with helping people migrate to the platform is that of a new learning curve. People struggle to learn Windows, then assume that when migrating to the Mac they will have to go through another ordeal to learn a new OS. Apple needed a way to show most of the computer using population that there can be simpler, and more efficient, ways to compute. Apple introduced the population to ease of use and simplicity of the Mac by introducing the iPod and iTunes. A pair that work together seamlessly.

The iPod has the mass market appeal and simplicity to show off Apples design expertise to millions without people having to buy an entirely new PC. iTunes on Windows is just as easy to use as its Mac brethren. Of course, there are a few concepts to learn about before using the iTunes/iPod pair e.g. importing music to iTunes, making playlists, and moving music to the iPod. But after these, using the devises are pretty simple. Kind of like a Mac, nice and simple and straight forward.

The migration of users to the Mac because of the iPod is known in computing circles as the Halo effect and has been described numerous times in online articles. Hopefully it is now coming to fruition.

Marcus

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, Marcus Harner at 245-0895 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.

E-WASTE:

Each year in California hundreds of thousands of computers, monitors, copiers, fax machines, printers, televisions, and other electronic items become obsolete in the eyes of consumers. Rapid advances in technology and an expanding demand for new features accelerate the generation of "old" electronic equipment or e-waste. If you have e-waste you should first search for ways to reuse, recycle, or properly dispose of this equipment. E-waste is accepted free of charge at the City of Redding Transfer Station, Monday through Saturday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. Please limit your items to 10 per customer, per day. You can call the Transfer Station for more information at 224-6201.

SUBMITTED BY: CHARLOTTE

SECRETARY'S NOTES:

MINUTES - RMUG MEETING, JULY 9, 2005

Two new members were introduced: K. David Steele and Julie Hinson. Dr. Chet Moore joined last month. Welcome

Two new very worthwhile software updates are:

- . iTunes 4.9 (free), and
- . Quick Time Pro (\$29.95).

Michael announced two Fall Macintosh computer classes at Anderson Sr. Center:
. Beginner's class on Monday, 1 – 3 p.m.;
. Intermediate/Advanced class on Friday, time TBA.

He asked if anyone would volunteer to teach the Beginners class. Please call Michael if interested.

Ron Brink recommended two recent publications with good articles:
. P.C. Photo, July/August issue. 5 – 6 excellent articles that benefit Mac users also.
. I Create Issue Eighteen. A European publication full of Tutorials on Apple products. He also recommended a 700 Map finder GPS Unit at Costco for \$750 - \$850. that vocally covers all the U.S.

Dale, Michael and Marcus brought in three versions of speakers to demonstrate.
. Soundsticks II by Harmon Kardon – available at Costco for \$114.
. Altec Lansing speaker - \$139. Charges iPod
. Bose SoundDock - \$299. iPod docks on it to charge.
All gave out very good sound even tho there were variations.
Thank you Michael, Marcus and Dale.

Also, I would like to thank Kevin Anderson of Jet Technologies for his presentation at the June meeting on the use of Widgets in MAC OS X Tiger. I was not there, but I hear it was excellent.

Talk to Dale about subscribing to a Podcasting service in connection with iPod and iTunes 4.9 that Apple hosts and distributes for free. Log onto Apple.com; click the tab "iPod+iTunes"; click on second tab "Podcasting". Up comes "Podcasting. The next generation of radio."

Reminder: On August 13, there will be no regular meeting. Instead, there is a club barbecue / picnic at the home of Jim and Donna Pace, 2847 Balaton, Redding, 96001.

Last name initials A – L bring salads, M – Z bring desserts. The club furnishes the hamburgers and hot dogs to barbecue.

Jacquie Martin, Secretary

OLD DOGS NEW TRICKS:

CELL PHONES AND E-MAIL

The e-mail function of the computer age has become increasingly popular because of its ease of operation and the speed with which you can send and receive mail. There is no paper to fold, no envelope to store, no stamps to lick, no mailbox to deposit your letter in, and best of all – E-mail has a spell checker. The spell checker is especially good for us folks who need a 6-inch pencil and a 12-inch eraser.

The computer must have a telephone patch cord plugged into the computer and phone jack mounted on the wall in your house. All E-mail and Internet information comes through the phone lines (with a few exceptions). If you are

continued on page 4

OLD DOGS CONTINUED:

close enough to the phone company you can get a faster supply of information than the folks who live many miles away.

The cell phone and the satellite phone have become the newest gadget, status symbol, toy, accessory, or basic necessity of life – depending on your needs. I extend my deepest sympathy to anyone who needs to have a phone tied to his or her belt, or stuck in his or her ear.

Ha, Ha, I have an idea. When I am traveling why not plug my laptop computer into a cell phone so I can get my E-mail and Internet service while I am away from home. Great idea – but it doesn't work.

Of course, someone thought of the idea before I did. The normal cell phone does not have the capability to carry that much information for your E-mail and Internet service. A few companies have developed some "band-aid" approaches to solve the problem. At least two phone companies have phones that will receive E-mail and Internet, but they are so slow it is not worth waiting. Especially, when you are paying by the minute! Even then, they will receive text only, no graphics, no pictures, and no voice. Some "palm tops" can receive E-mail in text only – no Internet, no graphics, and no voice. Another company has an accessory to plug into your laptop with an antenna, again, with text only – no pictures, no graphics, and no voice. Does it seem strange to have a phone connection with no voice capability? It does to me but what do I know about such things?

It will come. The ability to have your cell phone, computer, E-mail and Internet, all together, but it is not here yet in a practical form. When it is available please make it affordable. I like toys.

Allen Hall

KILL LOW COST WIFI:

Pete Sessions, a Texas member of the House, believes in states' rights. But, he also thinks that there are situations so extreme that Congress must slap down state and local government initiatives. One such case: localities that offer citizens free or low-cost Internet service. Idealists may view extending high-speed Internet as a boon to education, an economic shot in the arm and a vital component in effective emergency services. Sessions (who once worked for telecom giant SBC) sees it as local-government meddling in the marketplace – "trying to pick winners and losers," he says – and thus justifies federal meddling to stop elected officials from giving their constituents a stake in the 21st century.

The Sessions bill is only one shot in the battle over municipal wireless, or muni Wi-Fi. In hundreds of communities, public officials have concluded that the Internet is an essential service. They see that their residents are either offered prices that are too high or are not offered services at all. They are aware that while our nation stumbles in high-speed-Internet adoption, other countries make sure consumers can get connected at lower prices (Japanese and South Korean users pay about half what we do). "We are asleep at the wheel," says Andrew Rasiej, a candidate for public advocate in New York City.

Using "mesh" networks that run on the Wi-Fi wireless standard, cities can deliver the Internet affordably to everyone within their boundaries. "We can cover a city for a fraction of the cost of the traditional providers," says Ron Sege of Tropos, a company that installs shoe-box-size devices that beam the Net from street lamps. This enables cities like Philadelphia to launch nonprofit efforts to make whole neighborhoods into hotspots: public spaces get free access, and citizens who use the

continued on page 5

KILL LOW COST WIFI CONTINUED:

service at home or around town are billed less than \$20 a month. "We all have to compete in a knowledge economy," explains Dianah Neff, the city's chief information officer, who says the current providers focus excessively on the affluent.

The telecom and cable giants that sell broadband Internet have mobilized to stop organizers like Neff. The likes of Verizon, SBC and Comcast are lobbying hard and donating big. They argue that taxpayer-funded competition makes the marketplace unfair (ironic, since those firms owe their dominance to government-granted monopolies). Then they claim that cities are too unsophisticated to pull off such projects (so why are they worried?). They fund think tanks that churn out white papers with titles like "Municipal Networks: The Wrong Solution." And they are racking up successes — 14 states so far have passed laws that constrain localities in muni Wi-Fi efforts. In Pennsylvania, only a grass-roots protest from Philadelphians forced the legislature to exempt the city from its bill—but elsewhere in the state, cities and towns can't proceed on plans unless they offer the deal first to the phone companies, which can stall for years before deciding.

The fight isn't over. As people learn what's at stake, they are less likely to tolerate efforts that make it illegal for local officials to serve them. Tech companies like Dell are beginning to exert lobbying pressure on the other side. And Sens. John McCain and Frank Lautenberg responded to the Sessions bill by introducing the Community Broadband Act, which stops states from banning muni Wi-Fi. Those yearning for affordable broadband—or any at all—should let their representatives know which bill they prefer. And if you live in Colorado, Florida, Pennsylvania or any

other state where legislators have roadblocked cheap wireless, you might check out whether your local rep supported the telcos—or you.

By Steven Levy
© 2005 Newsweek, Inc.

DVD STANDARDS WAR:

It's a summer blockbuster mystery that Hollywood movie studios eagerly want to avoid. With a billion-dollar DVD market hanging in the balance, studios and manufacturers are facing off in a standards war that could decide the future of home entertainment.

If a new format is not agreed upon soon, buyers might avoid purchasing a new breed of high-definition home entertainment systems that many in Hollywood believe could revive an industry experiencing a slow-down.

Inability to decide on a format recalls the days of VHS versus Sony Betamax. Consumers that opted for Betamax were left with obsolete hardware after the industry settled on the VHS format in the 1980s.

HD DVD or Blu-ray?

The studios are divided between the HD DVD standard backed by Toshiba and NEC and the Blu-ray standard created by a group of developers that includes Sony, Hewlett-Packard and Panasonic. Each standard has its advantages and proponents.

Almost half of the DVD market, including Warner, Paramount and Universal studios, support the HD DVD standard. The technology is viewed as an easy hardware update, costing little to make DVDs based on the technology. The HD DVD format could permit studios to ship a regular-formatted DVD movie on one side of a disc while a high-definition format would be available on the other side.

On the other hand, the Sony-led Blu-ray camp cites the need to offer consumers more interactive

continued on page 8

DVD STANDARDS WAR CONTINUED:

games and add-ons as an incentive to buy new equipment. To back up that claim, the Blu-ray Disc Association released a survey of consumers indicating 58 percent of consumers polled said they prefer the Blu-ray standard over the competing HD DVD spec.

Consumers Will Decide

Which new DVD technology will eventually become standard for movies and equipment is a chicken-or-egg question, said Michael Gartenberg, home entertainment analyst at Jupiter Research.

Consumers won't rush to buy new DVD hardware until they see what content for the players is available. Likewise, studios won't embrace a standard until they understand which hardware consumers are buying.

"Ultimately, the consumer will decide" which standard prevails, said Joni Blecher, a Jupiter Research analyst who has written on the issue.

Until more homes have high-definition televisions, interest in HD DVD likely won't rise, said Blecher. At least 25 percent of homes need to be HD-capable before an HD DVD standard takes on importance.

The impact of DVD sales on studios is ever-present in the minds of Hollywood execs. Pixar Animation Studios and Dreamworks Animation, producers of popular animation movies, such as Shrek 2 and The Incredibles, have reported lower than expected sales.

Ed Sutherland,
newsfactor.com

For Sale:

1. ALPS 2010 Dry Ink Photo Printer Extra cartridges, Paper, Instructions, etc. This Printer makes the BEST iron ons! This is a SCSI printer, I no longer have a SCSI ported computer.

Cost : \$500.00+
Asking \$50.00. OBO

2. Snow iBook 12 inch G3 500 mhz 640MB RAM, 10 GB HD, DUEL BOOT 10.3.4/ 9.2.2 Combo Drive, AC Adapter/Charger, Screen Protector...

This does have a broken latch and a very small blemish on the screen.
Asking \$650.00.

3. Epson 3000 Wide Format printer Will print up to 17x22 inch paper. I have 4 Epson ink refills and 4 Chron-Jet Archival Ink refills. Individual ink tanks are just one of the many features of this printer. MAC or PC Serial and The Ethernet network card is Installed.

Can still be found online for \$799.00
Asking \$500.00.

The reason for selling these items is to get funds for hardware and software upgrades in order to be more current with my consulting and instruction .

Michael Peters
347-6599

Local RMUG Member Tips:

If anyone is interested in getting their pictures developed at Costco, they can send their digital pictures (or scanned photos), but they must use Safari. I overheard someone talking about having difficulty doing this, and I, too, was unable to send photos to them. So.....I contacted Costco by email, and followed the instructions. The only problem I still have, is that I use a dial-up connection, and it's too slow for me to bother with.

The other thing, and I was going to bring it up at the last meeting, is that you can get a "free" ream of paper at Office Depot, for every ink cartridge you give them. I still donate some cartridges to Kim Farrar once in a while, but I no longer buy paper. I trade one at Office Depot on Dana Drive, and another at the store on Cypress, on the same day, about once a month. They ask no questions.

Barbara



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

Hints and Tips:

Show All Your Fonts

If you have a lot of fonts, at some point you'll want to check out all of your font faces and look to see which ones have bold and italic versions. On the surface, Panther's Font Book doesn't appear to make this easy -- but it does. Just open Font Book, highlight all your fonts, and press the right-arrow key on your keyboard. Voilà!

Font Book expands all of the fonts so you can scroll through them and peruse the available faces for each one. To collapse the view, simply select all your fonts and click the left-arrow key.

MacAddict Magazine

The Secret Screen Capture Shortcut

You probably already know that Command/Shift/3 take a screen capture of your entire screen, and saves it to your desktop as a file named Picture 1. And you probably already know that Command/Shift/4 lets you draw a selection around the area you want captured, which is also saved to your desktop as a file named Picture 1. But, did you know that you can use this spiffy shortcut to select an area to capture, but instead of saving a file to your desktop, instead it just saves the selected area into memory, so you can paste it where you want? That's right, just press Control/Shift/4, drag out your selection, then open the app where you want to paste the selected area and press Command/V for Paste.

Bonus Screen Cap Tip: Want to capture just a particular window? Then press Command/Shift/4/Spacebar. A camera icon will appear, and you can click on the Window you want to capture.

Scott Kelby's Mac OS X Killer Tips

Faster Computing

If you choose "About This Mac" from the Apple menu and click on the OS version number, it will

continued on page 8

HINTS AND TIPS CONTINUED:

change to the OS build number. Clicking again will change it to your computer's serial number.

- Hold Option and click on an open application in the Dock, and the application's windows come to the front while hiding all other open windows.

- Hold Command and click on a Dock item, and the Finder displays the folder that contains that item.

- Hold Command/Option and click on a document to launch the program that's associated with that file and hide all other windows.

- Hold Command/Option and click on an application in the Dock, and it hides all the open programs and displays only that application's folder.

Hopefully you will find some of these tips and tricks informative and helpful. "Now you know, and knowing is half the battle."

Marcus J. Albers

Tip for Tiger - How to Fry a Drive in One Easy Lesson

It's easy-use a disk utility that is not compatible with the operating system you're using! The same thing happened when Jaguar came out, then Panther and now Tiger: people would use an outdated disk utility and destroy everything on their drives. And the #1 offender every time is (drum roll, please)... TechTool Pro. Here's a typical example, from someone who wishes to remain anonymous: "I am a service person and we have seen 3 machines where users successfully installed Tiger and then have destroyed their drives by using TechTool Pro. All data was lost and not recoverable.

Tiger has a huge issue with third-party utilities. The data structure for Tiger disks has changed, and these utilities will attempt to fix issues that do not exist. This will trash your drive!"

This is a known issue and Apple has covered it at <http://docs.info.apple.com/article.html?artnum=301269i>: "To avoid issues with a Mac OS X 10.4 volume, do not use disk utility software that was released before Tiger (late April, 2005) with it. If you do, the software might report false errors or attempt 'repairs' that could lead to data loss."

My favorite utility has always been DiskWarrior, and Alsoft got right on this.

They've already released version 3.0.3 that is Tiger compatible, and comes on a CD that can start up old Macs as well as the latest ones (except for the 3 new desktop G5s that were released last month). Learn more or order your upgrade at www.alsoft.com/DiskWarrior/support.html#Tiger.

MacValley Voice, Northridge, CA

Interesting Tidbit

Macs are Easier

We have a Sony digital camcorder. The instructions for connecting it to a Windows computer take eight pages. For Macintosh Systems through 8.6 it is two pages. For Mac OS 9 and X, it takes just two lines.

Mouse Droppings, Corvallis OR

Paul Taylor's
www.mac-hints-tips.com

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 may be hand written, typed, or submitted on a 3.5" floppy disk (using any popular word processing program).

Submissions must be accompanied by the author's full name, address and telephone number. The submissions become the property of RMUG unless otherwise specified.

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

See the June 05 editorial.



Jet Technologies

www.jett.net

Macintosh parts and service by trained technicians who "Speak MAC"

Internet service using Macintosh Servers

Dial-up and Wireless Internet, 10 MB mail boxes, Personal web sites,

Domain Hoasting, Customized Training, Office Network Intergration.

Repairs and Upgrades are our Specialty !

1320 Yuba St. #214 - Voice (503) 242 - 1800

Redding CA. 96001 - FAX (503) 242 - 5901