



Rmug News

April 2004

This Month

RMUG Meeting, Saturday Morning
April 10, 2004 9-11:30AM

All Mac users, new & old are invited to attend the next RMUG general meeting in the classrooms at:

Little Country Church
873 Canby & Churn Creek Rd.
Redding, California

(RMUG IS NOT CHURCH AFFILIATED)

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

Topics this month will include application and game demos by members, as well as general Q&A.

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Dale Josephson - President
Jim Pace - Vice President
Don Lapray - Treasurer
Mary Gililand - Secretary
Charlotte Ruskowitz - Librarian
Ken Lorenz - Editor
Barbara Benefield,
Louise Zegers, Pat Hiner
- Hospitality

President's Letter

This month's article is about my exploits in upgrading the old jett.net server from Mac OS 9.2.2 on a 700Mhz G4 eMac to Panther 10.3.3 on a 1.25Ghz G4 tower. I started out by using an incredibly hard and long password and ran all the latest updates from Apple. I then used Disk Warrior 3.0 and rebuilt the partition on the HD. Finally, I ran the Disk Permissions application and chose the "Repaired Disk Permissions" button. Since this is a 24/7 server I pulled the iTunes, iMovie and iPhoto icons off the dock to save space. I also got rid of the @ button on the right side of the dock. I did not remove any programs - I just removed the short cuts. Jett.net has the static SBC provided IP address of 209.232.208.203. To set up the new Jett.net I chose 68.186.37.203, a very similar address I own in my Charter Cable IP range. Servers should never slow down so I opened the Energy control panel and unchecked everything and moved both bars to the right side where it says "Never". I then opened the Screen Saver control panel and set it to "Never". I chose our network laser printer as a printer for the new servers using the Printer Setup Utility. Choosing a printer for a computer you may never print from has all kinds of advantages, including the "not getting bitten in the hind quarter" rule. If you fail to choose a printer for a server, then at some point in the future one of your server applications will fail since it could not paginate a piece of output because no printer had been chosen during setup. Servers share their mail and web pages from within their own applications, so inside the Jett.net Sharing control panel I have everything turned off. In the Software Updates control panel I unchecked everything since this is a server and I don't want unscheduled restarts. Finally, I moved my dock to the right side of the screen and made it quite small to save screen space. I then turned on a small amount of magnification. Jett.net shares a monitor by way of a KVM switch ,so I chose 800X600 with millions of colors. My KVM switches allow me to use four servers with one keyboard, one mouse and one monitor. Presently my server rack has two KVM switches with the first one connected to four 400Mhz G3s and the other KVM switch connected to three 1.25Ghz G4s and one

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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 at Little Country Church, 873 Canby Rd. Room B-6. (we are not church affiliated) 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 244-7262 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: Don Lapray, 1745 Crosby Lane, Redding CA 96003. Please make check payable to: Redding Macintosh Users' Group.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

CONTINUED

800Mhz G4. When it comes to setting up professional server software, I would highly recommend you join the news group or talk list sponsored by the software you plan on using. I have been a member of the Eudora Internet Mail Server (EIMS) talk group for years and I have been an on again off again member of the WebSTAR talk list for the past six years. Before I purchased my new OS-X ready server products I sent messages to the groups, but directed toward the manufacturers. I received several good responses including concessions in using the Mac OS 9 version of WebSTAR (Web*) even though I had used it's serial number to purchase newer versions. Glen Anderson, the owner of EIMS, is great in his original pricing and his upgrade price. The recently released OS-X version of EIMS was just \$60 for the current Mac OS 9.X version user such as myself. Even though I own an Internet portal, when it came time to spend big bucks for Web*, I picked up the phone and spoke with the west coast sales rep. He gave me a \$100 discount that I would not have gotten if I had placed my order on-line. Three EIMS upgrades were put on a credit card and I received them by e-mail about three minutes after I placed my order. For a week I ran my new Jett.net server 24/7. I installed the software needed for production ISP work and generally got used to being in an OS-X only environment. During the install of Web* I had to create a second user that had the admin privileges of my admin user. There were new and improved administration programs that had to be installed on my laptop, and I had to learn how to remotely control the new servers the way I had controlled my trusted OS 9 servers. After the core installs were all completed, I reran Disk Warrior and then reran the Disk Permissions application. The EIMS install was good practice as I found that this was a tricky procedure for active mail servers like Jett.net's. EIMS was the key and final application in the upgrade. At approx 12:45 Saturday, March 20th I turned off the Jett.net mail server on the eMac and copied the 1.26GB of mail program and data to a portable

fire wire hard drive. I then copied the OS 9 EIMS data into the Applications folder on the new Jett.net server. Next I took the up-grader file I had purchased on the net and executed it by pointing the installer at the new Jett.net server's EIMS program data, and an OS-X version was installed around my old OS 9 mail server and everything was in place in the OS-X Applications folder. There was a small application inside the upgraded EIMS folder that had to be run to allow EIMS to run with admin privileges and "whalah" an OS-X mail server was born. I shut down the eMac Jett.net server and pulled it's Ethernet cable. Then I changed the IP address on the new 1.25Ghz G4 Jett.net to be 209.232.208.203. Finally, I rebooted the new Jett.net and let it start up with all of it's applications in operational mode. When the server was up and running for about an hour and we couldn't find any problems, I turned off all the server applications and ran the Disk Permissions application one last time. I then rebooted the computer and watched as Web* and EIMS started up all by themselves. My total down time for the mail server had been about 20 minutes and the web server had been down for about 10 minutes. There was only one eagle eye who caught me in

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SECRETARY'S NOTES:

Hi all. I again will not be able to come to the meeting in April as I will be out of town, but if I can I will send a note from my travels. For April we will have Donald do the program that he was prepared to do last month. We may also have a great game demo by Phil. As the saying goes, wish I was going to be there. For me, my new toy is a Minolta Dimage XT camera. It does everything, and fits in your pocket. It is a 3.2 MP and it will do sound recording and movies. Should be fun to use on our trip. Michael, thank you for your Monday class - it is always very informative. Ken, you are doing a great job with the newsletter and the new software. I will definitely be at the May meeting.

Mary Gililand

LIBRARIANS CORNER:

This month I'd like to share some web sites with you all....

The first is <http://www.slickdeals.net/> It rates right up there with <http://dealmac.com/> as my favorite site to check for "killer" deals! You need to check the site daily as deals expire quickly. A deal from Wed. Mar. 24th was a Lexar 256MB JumpDrive Secure for \$35 shipped. This has already expired as of this writing. The best price for same drive at Pricegrabber is \$56.41.

Planning on buying a digital camera? Head first to <http://www.dpreview.com/> There are reviews, side by side comparisons & also galleries to view actual photographs taken with the cameras.

If you are interested in live web cams, check out http://mbayaq.org/efc/cam_menu.asp which is at the Monterey Bay Aquarium. There are six of them, including otters, sharks, and penguins.

A top site to check out all the virus alerts and email warnings we receive is <http://www.snopes.com/info/search/search.asp> Snopes will tell you if it's real or just a hoax. I check out every one I receive here before sending it on as the sender implores!

Just in case some folks aren't aware... Google will track your packages for you. Just type the tracking number, be it Fed Ex, UPS or USPS into the search field.

One final note on Google....

- 1) Go to Google.com. (<http://www.google.com/>)
- 2) Type in (but don't hit enter): "weapons of mass destruction".
- 3) Hit the "I'm feeling lucky" button, instead of the normal "Google search" button.
- 4) READ CAREFULLY what appears to be a

normal ERROR message.

Someone at Google has a sense of humor.

Charlotte ;)

GAMES ANYBODY?

RMUG Member Review:

I used to put tons of quarters in all kinds of video arcade games. I was probably one of the first to buy "PONG". Then I got a computer and all my quarters were invested in various computer games (and some other applications).

As the Mac OS got better the games got more complicated (or my learning curve slowed down) but my interest in video games slowed way down – heck, I still have a game I bought 3 years ago that I have not installed.

If anybody is interested in World War II or even if you are not or you like shoot um up games, then **Rainbow Six 3 Raven Shield** is for you.

Rainbow Six 3 is a group of US Soldiers set out to destroy terrorists throughout the world in 1941. Once you have issued the soldier's clothes, weapons, etc., you are ready to go and annihilate the terrorists. The keyboard and mouse (I use a track ball) learning curve (set up) is easy.

I have played this game for hours and hours and have NOT lost any interest. If you like super realistic live action – THIS IS THE GAME and the background music is FANTASTIC!

System Requirements:

Mac OS X, 10.2.6 or later
G3/G4/G5 Processor at 733 Mhz or faster
1.9 GB hard drive space
3D Graphics Acceleration required

by Philip Nystrom

THE MATIAS TACTILE PRO KEYBOARD

RMUG Member Review:

I bought the Matias Tactile Pro Keyboard. I am very happy with my purchase. I am not a very good typist. In fact, I am rather poor. This keyboard has actually made me better! I am not faster but when I hit a key it is hit, and only one letter per touch appears so I am not constantly going back and correcting myself. The reason for the firm feel of the keys is the mechanical key switches.

Mac users who crave the feel of Apple's quality keyboards of old will love this keyboard. The Tactile Pro Keyboard uses high-quality Alps mechanical keyswitches, with enhanced tactile feedback for greater comfort and faster typing speeds.

I also like the special characters and symbols on each key. There is no need to launch another application to find that special symbol. For quick and easy reference, the Tactile Pro's key caps are clearly labeled with the international characters, accents, punctuation, and currency symbols that are available by holding down the Option or Shift+Option keys.

The Tactile Pro Keyboard has a 2-port USB hub. This can be used for quickly attaching USB peripherals, nothing beats the convenience of an in-keyboard USB hub. No more reaching through the tangle of wires behind your computer to download photos from your digital camera. Just plug it into the keyboard and you're ready to go. Works great with MP3 players, flash hard drives, joysticks, and mice too.

This keyboard also has standard Eject and Volume control keys. I really like the power button to turn my computer on and off "if needed". The Tactile Pro keyboard has the look and features of Apple's Pro Keyboard. It will look as good on your desk as your Mac does.

So... if you are tired of "mushy" keys and do not mind a little clicking noise when

typing, I recommend this keyboard for all computing/typing needs.

The Tactile Pro Keyboard cost me \$79.00 + shipping at Smalldog Electronics

www.smalldog.com. At the companies web site the price is \$99.00 + shipping <http://halfkeyboard.com>

This keyboard is built to last, and comes with a five year warranty.

Michael Peters

DVD OWNERS: FIGHT THE POWER!

In yet another stunning display of complete disregard for individual rights, US District Judge Susan Illston has now ruled that DVD X Copy violates the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (news - web sites). This software provides an easy way to back up your DVDs. You just knew this was going to happen eventually, didn't you? No good deed goes unpunished and 321 Studios, the maker of DVD X Copy, is now being punished for providing software that legitimate DVD owners want to buy and use.

This decision is an outrageous infringement of fair use rights and a slap in the face of legitimate DVD consumers everywhere. How much longer are we going to allow the music and movie industries to run roughshod over our rights?

Why Back Up DVDs?

I own more than 200 DVD movies. Why would I need software like DVD X Copy? Simple: I'm lazy and somewhat of a "coffee table slob." I have a six disc DVD player in my living room, so at any given moment I have a number of discs in my player. When I add new discs to the player, quite often I won't immediately put the previously-viewed discs back in their boxes. Most of the time, I just stick them on something on my coffee table and clean them up later.

Unfortunately, this sometimes means that they get knocked around on the table until I get around to putting them away. This wear and tear can cause scratches that prevent the DVD from screening

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Fight The Power Continued:

properly. It's happened before, so being able to back up my favorite DVDs is important to me.

When I got my first DVD burner, I wanted some good backup software. I picked up a copy of DVD X Copy Express, and it worked fine. Now, unfortunately, it seems that I am retroactively a lawbreaker. Imagine that? I bought a legal product for use with DVDs that I had already purchased and now the government, with one court decision, labels me and every other person who bought the software "probable criminals." Ugh.

When is the DMCA's reign of terror going to end? It's gone on for far too long and, when the right case comes along, the Supreme Court should strike it down. Over and over again, special interest groups like the movie and recording industries have demonstrated that they will use the DMCA to trample the legitimate rights of the individual in an unholy attempt to keep their corporate coffers filled to the brim.

Where are our brave, honest, and courageous congressman and senators on this issue? They're on the take -- or at least it seems that way. That's probably how the DMCA got passed in the first place. Let's face it, we have the best government that money can buy and the movie and recording industries' pockets are deep indeed. How many of our elected officials even bothered to read the DMCA legislation before they voted on it? My guess is that they simply checked their donor list, figured out how much all the various special interests were giving them in campaign contributions, and voted accordingly.

What a disgrace.

Take a Slap at Your Politicians

One way to make your voice known is by calling, e-mailing, or snail-mailing your local congressmen. I doubt it'd do much good, but

being silent doesn't help either. Tell them you're outraged at this court decision and at the oppressive repercussions of the DMCA, and that you want the DMCA reformed or repealed.

You can find your congressperson's contact info here and your senator's contact information here. As I said, I'm skeptical that it will do much good but, hey, why not take a slap at them? If enough of their constituents pay attention to this issue, they might (and I stress the word "might") do the right thing the next time the issue arises. Probably not, but we can always hope...

In the meantime, while all of the legal stuff is being worked out, you might want to consider cutting back or completely boycotting the movie and recording industries. There's no real point in supporting businesses that deliberately attempt to take away your legitimate rights as an individual.

I understand that this might be hard for some folks. After all, sometimes you just have to go see that new flick or have that new CD. No problem -- just cut back where and when you can. Deny these industries your money as much as possible and make it clear to them that you won't be purchasing their products.

You can contact the MPAA (just scroll down to get their phone number and address information), but the Recording Industry Association of America (news - web sites) doesn't seem to be listing their contact information on their site anymore. Hmm...interesting. Imagine that. There is a phone number listed at the bottom of their press releases, however. Scroll down to the bottom of this one to find it.

Support 321 Studios and Protect Fair Use!

Apparently, 321 Studios has until the end of the week to stop selling its software. That means you can still buy it from their site until then if you want to. You can also view the legal brief and their response.

Be sure to stop by the Protect Fair Use site and

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Fight The Power Continued:

sign up for their mailing list. There's also an even easier way to find your congressman and senators: Enter your zip code and your representatives get a preformatted e-mail or snail mail sent right to them.

Another good site to visit is Anti-DMCA.org. You can get a ton of information about the DMCA and how evil it truly is. Read the FAQ, Introduction and Cases to get a good overview of the kind of threat the DMCA represents to freedom.

The ACLU and the Electronic Frontier Foundation have also been active in the fight against the DMCA. Stop by their Web sites to learn what they've been doing to preserve your rights.

321 Studios is going to appeal, so we can hope that this decision ultimately gets reversed in a higher court. But there's no guarantee of that, and it will take a while to get an answer either way. In the meantime,

321 Studios is also asking for a stay of the decision. That would allow them to continue selling their software and would allow all of us legitimate and honest DVD owners to continue buying it and using it. Let's hope they are successful.

One thing is for sure, folks -- this is war. All of our Fair Use rights are on the line. We can either roll over and play dead, or we can fight hard to protect them. We know who the enemy is and we know that they'll stop at nothing to terrorize all of us and take away our rights for their own selfish commercial interests.

Don't let that happen. Fight the power!

Technology -
Ziff Davis@yahoo.com

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Michael

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MACS AND VIRUSES:

Windows users live under a constant threat of attacks from writers of viruses or worms that exploit security flaws in their system. Outside of the annoyance of receiving infected e-mails, however, Mac users are immune to such problems. Or are they? MacCentral recently spoke with leading Mac anti-virus software publishers to find out...

Brian Davis is sales manager for Intego's North America operations. Intego is the company behind VirusBarrier, a Mac-only anti-virus software application. He said his company has seen steady growth in its anti-virus software sales. "Industrywide, these virus [attacks] are tipping people off that they need to be concerned about their security," said Davis.

Intego is largely focused on the consumer and small business market. Those environments place the emphasis on keeping Macs protected upon the individual user...

"I think some of the viruses we had in 2003 made system administrators more aware of where infections are coming from," said Network Associates Inc.'s Candace Worley, product manager for their McAfee Virex software. ".Mac users are familiar with Virex, which they receive as a free software download..." "Awareness, especially among IT managers, is increasing," said Nancy Mohler, senior product manager for Symantec's Macintosh products, including Norton AntiVirus for Macintosh. "They're acknowledging that unprotected Macs can threaten their network infrastructure."

No Mac OS X viruses -- yet, although the experts at MacCentral interviewed for this story admit that to date, they're unaware of any Mac OS X-specific virus or worm, one thing they all agree on is Mac OS X is not immune to a potential hacker attack. Over the years, Unix-based operating systems have been compromised many times, and all of them suspect it's only a matter of time before someone steps up to the plate with their own Mac OS X virus or worm.

"Virus authors are very ego-driven," said Network Associates outbreak manager Brian

Mann. "Eventually someone's going to take [Mac OS X's lack of viruses] as a challenge." Worley agreed. "Any time you make the assumption that what you have is so secure that you'll never have a problem, you open yourself to risk. A virus author might have to tweak a Unix virus a bit to be applicable to OS X, but it might not take much effort to do that."

"Mac OS X is not impenetrable," said Mohler. "Mac OS X does a good job of protecting root access to the operating system, but there's no reason to think that a hacker couldn't exploit some other aspect of the environment."

Unprotected Macs pose a risk "One of the main concerns for Mac users should be to remain a good citizen of the corporate community," said Intego's Davis. "Even though these viruses and worms we've discussed can't infect your Mac, you can pass them along." Macs are immune to infection from high-profile Windows worms like SoBig and MyDoom, which exploit security flaws and architectural shortcomings in Windows operating systems and software applications to cause problems. That software only runs on Windows machines, but that doesn't mean Mac users are off the hook. If you forward an infected e-mail from your Mac to a Windows-using colleague, for example, that person's machine can get infected...

In order to protect their users as effectively as possible, all the virus software companies MacCentral interviewed noted that they update the definition files used by their software on a regular basis, to make sure that Mac users are as well-protected as possible. They also continue to support and tweak the software as necessary to make sure it works well as the Mac operating system evolves. Symantec, for example, recently updated its Norton Anti-Virus software for Panther (and more recently did the same for its Internet security product), while Intego offers support for legacy machines running system software as old as 8.1.

All the security experts feel that a Mac user's best line of defense.. is to stay educated. Make sure you understand how the latest virus and worm threats work, even if your machine doesn't pose an infection risk, and adopt the best practices to avoid problems...

By Peter Cohen
MacCentral

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

From web servers to keyboard and game reviews, from information and buy sites to fair use rights, this month's publication covers a lot of topics.

I want to thank everyone who submitted material for their effort and insight. We all learn and benefit from shared effort.

There will be useful door prizes and raffle items as well as some inspiring demonstrations at the April meeting.

A brief reminder, there are several regular members who have yet to pay their 04 dues. If you have not paid for this year, please do so.

Everyone have a pleasant Easter.

Ken



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PRESIDENT'S LETTER CONTINUED

the transition and his name is Bill Benton. We know that SPAM and viruses are one of the biggest concerns on the web so we added a recently released EIMS filter CounterAgent that scans every mail message EIMS receives using Virex 7.2.1. So far we are catching about 50 viruses per day. We have only enabled the definite virus portion of Virex and we will probably turn on the suspicious checker in the very near future. The suspicious checker will delete emails with locked attachments. Acquiring Virex was easy and free with my ".mac" account. Even though the last known mac virus is 2 1/2 years old, it is good for us mac people to scan for viruses to prevent the inadvertent forwarding of viruses that come attached to email that originated with a PC.

dalej