



Rmug News

April 2006

This Month

RMUG Meeting, Saturday morning
April 8, 2006 9-11:30 AM

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

Yaks Koffee Shop
3274 Bechelli Lane
Redding, CA

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.

Topics this month will include
Photoshop Akavis Plugin and Coloridge
demos, along with personal creativity
comments, wisdom and issues as well as
the usual Q&A.

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Rmug Officers

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

President's Letter

April is upon us and old man winter can be seen hiding among the mountain tops. I normally try and avoid self promotion in my Presidents Article, but this month I can't help myself. I have just doubled the size of JET Technologies by moving downstairs into the space previously occupied by Premiere West Bank. One year ago I bought the bank's outdoor sign and now I have their old digs. When you come to visit JETT you can enter from the front or rear entrance. When you get to the middle of the building by the art deco lighted table in the middle of the foyer, turn west and you are in front of my new entrance. We have been working double time for the last 10 days in preparation for our move. We supply approximately 60% of our building with internet, so we had to wire all the customers (as well as our own office) in two directions at once as we moved from the east end of the building to the west end. All last week Kevin and I were crawling in and out of almost every nook and cranny of the building, and by Thursday at 5PM we had finished the rewire job. On Friday at 11:30AM Kevin went up to the attic and switched the wireless network feed to point at our new office while I was in the basement switching the primary internet feed circuit from the old office to the one going to our new office. We both ran back to our old office where we joined John, my friend Gari and my younger brother Eric. We had a very detailed moving plan all drawn up and everything went like clockwork. First thing Gari and I moved was our 48 port switch, router and two Domain Name Servers (DNS). Just as we were finishing phase one, Gari was yelling to me that we were back up, and John showed up with some monitors and UPSes. Just as soon as those were in place Kevin returned with a 4 pack of servers and a KVM switch draped over the top of the load. Again, just about as fast as we could get the computers off the cart and onto the server rack another load would show up. Our last four servers were in place and started exactly at 12:30PM, so our total outage was exactly one hour. Not bad for twelve servers, one firewall, one lurker, one 48 port switch, one 16 port gigabit switch, six kick-off devices, nine UPSes and a partridge in a pear tree.

(All equipment is not in the server rack pictured on page three, some of it is in hiding with lurker)

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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 – 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.

PRESIDENTS LETTER CONTINUED:



Server Rack At Jett

We will be another week in getting everything ready in our new office and then it will seem like home. I do hope everyone drops by in a few days and checks out our new location. Now you might ask yourself what are those people at JET Tech going to do with all this new space? We are going to start holding classes on subjects ranging from beginner Macintosh through advanced Filemaker Pro web hosting. If you have a question and you were hoping someone would hold a class to help fill your knowledge bowl, the time is right for you to drop kate@jett.net an email and ask her to consider your topic for a future class. Or you could just call Kate at 242-1800 between 9AM and 4PM. There is even enough room that if we wanted a Special Interest Group (SIG) to meet at JETT, we could. I have at least enough room for six or seven people and their computers in the learning area of the new office.

Dalej

SECRETARY'S NOTES:

MINUTES - RMUG MEETING, MARCH 11, 2006

The March meeting was held at the YAKS Koffee Shop. Thirty-three members and guests attended.

Dues are past due for 2006: \$24. Please pay Charlotte.

Dale led the beginners class and Michael fielded questions from the intermediate group.

The club has been looking for new software to redesign our Web site. Softpress gave us three copies of 'Freeway Express', a very easy to use Web site design software. (One to use and two to raffle.) Michael said there is an excellent tutorial on their web site, Softpress.com.

The RMUG By-Laws were approved by the membership. The version Adopted March 11, 2006, are posted on the RMUG web site. Thank you, Jim, for seeing this project through to a successful completion.

Mary Gililland gave a very interesting presentation on how to transfer pictures or other images from your source to T-shirts, pillows or other objects. She scans her picture into Photoshop or Print Shop and goes from there. If you missed the presentation and are interested, see Mary. Thank you, Mary.

Next Meeting: Our next meeting will be Saturday, April 8, 2006, at Yaks Koffee Shop. We will see a demo of the Photoshop Akavis Plug-in.

The Board Meeting will be over lunch following the regular meeting. All are welcome to attend.

MINUTES - BOARD MEETING, MARCH 11, 2006

Present: Dale Josephson, Michael Peters, Jim Pace, Barbara Benefield, Charlotte Ruskowitz, Louisa Zegers, Pat Henderson and Jacquie Martin.

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SECRETARYS NOTES CONTINUED:

Absent: Ken Lorenz

Meeting Place: Yaks Koffee Shop

Program for April Meeting: Photoshop Akavis Plugin and Coloridge demos.

Program for May Meeting: Presentation on Freeway Express by Michael; also the various ways to Back Up your computer.

Other program ideas: How to put pictures on a DVD for a slide show.

By-Laws: Everyone thanked Jim very much for seeing revision of the By-Laws through to a successful conclusion. The membership voted that they be accepted. The Redding Macintosh Users Group By-Laws Adopted March 11, 2006 will be posted on the RMUG web site.

Software for Michael & Ken: Softpress gave us three copies of 'Freeway Express', one copy to use to redesign our Web site and two copies to raffle. Michael said this is very easy to use Web site design software and that there is an excellent tutorial on their web site, Softpress.com.

Raffle Items: Coloridge; Noise Buster; and Discover Your Mac movie.

Door Prizes: Paper, a CD/DVD travel case, and a wrist rest.

Michael made a motion which was seconded by Jim and passed, asking that Charlotte buy one Discover Your Mac movie to use as a Raffle item. We also need more paper. Michael has received a NEW Disc Warrior CD free for the raffle AND discount coupons.

Drawings: With respect to the time of the drawings, Jim moved that the drawing for raffle items be held before the program unless the item is being demoed, then after, and that the drawing for door prizes be held at the end of

the meeting. Dale seconded, motion passed. Jim or Dale: Please announce that, if members leave early before a drawing and wish to claim any prize they may have won, to please leave their raffle and/or door price tickets with someone still at the meeting.

Motion to Adjourn – Michael; Second – Dale. All agreed.

Jacquie Martin, Secretary

Old Dogs New Tricks:

MACINTOSH AND IBM

O.K. so I am prejudiced, but I will try to be fair. A few years ago, two men working for IBM thought the computer was great, but too hard to operate. They developed a system where you did not have to memorize keys on the keyboard. Their system permitted you to point and click on the word PRINT. The old system required you to hold down the command key while you touched the letter "P." Or some other combination of keys on the keyboard.

Through the years, IBM and compatible systems have been using the program called Windows. The windows program uses the same idea as the Macintosh – point and click. The IBM and compatibles are using a system now like the Macintosh was using 15 years ago. An article in the US news and word report called Windows a clone of the Macintosh.

Now the two systems are close enough together you can learn on one and adapt to the other. But the system you learn on will forever be the greatest thing since peanut butter.

The computer is here to stay. It will continue to change our lifestyle. Several years ago when automobiles were first being introduced, two older men were discussing the automobile. One said, "Oh, I guess they are okay, but they will

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OLD DOGS CONTINUED:

never replace the horse.” He was right. Horses are still being used. But I am sure he could never imagine the change the automobile has made in our lifestyle.

In the same way, computers will never replace the pencil and paper. One cannot imagine the changes that lay ahead of us because of the advent of the computer.

I suspect one day in the future there will be a program on the “Traveling antique road show.” The guest will show up with a pencil and paper. She will say, “I found this in an attic of an old house but I don’t know what it is.” He will say, “It is called a pencil and paper and it was used...”

Allen Hall

Hoax Checking:

Urban Legends and Hoaxes

Is the government or AOL planning to implement an email tax? Does your lipstick contain dangerous levels of lead? Will Microsoft send you money for forwarding an email? Do you need to add your cell phone number to a "Do Not Call" directory? Should you boycott Pepsi because their new cans are offensive?

No, Nyet, Nein, Non, and Nope! All of the above are FALSE. Some of these rumors, urban legends and hoaxes may have a ring of truth, but they are all bogus. In some cases, rumors are started by well-meaning people who just got the facts bass ackwards. Others are malicious -- created to intentionally mislead the public, damage the reputation of a company, or to attack an individual.

So before you forward ANYTHING... think first, then verify. Visit a news website, use a search engine, or check it out at one of the urban legend verification websites. I always

point people to Snopes because they are professional journalists and do an excellent job of researching each rumor.

Other good places to validate or debunk rumors and urban legends are the Urban Legends and Folklore pages at About.com and the Urban Legends and Hoaxes Resource Center from the folks at Scambusters.

http://askbobrankin.com/urban_legends_and_hoaxes.html

Submitted by Charlotte

VueScan Review:

A few years ago I purchased an Epson Perfection 1660 Photo scanner. It was supposed to work with OS-10 and had many bells and whistles. True to my previous experience with Epson their advertising was not honest. Some of the features worked with OS-9. After several conversations with Epson, I found that the only way I could scan in OS-10 was to use Image Capture. This was a real nuisance. The scanned image always had a gray background where it should have been white. Again no solution from Epson. The scans were never satisfactory.

Finally, I decided to try VueScan which had been recommended at one or more RMUG meetings. The results were miraculous. I now get great scans and the price was only \$49.95. Before purchasing VueScan I was permitted to download the software and then test and evaluate it on my scanner. The software is easy to use and they provide good instructions. This software saved me from having to purchase a new scanner.

Hamrick is dedicated to providing excellent software that does what they say it will do. To illustrate how up-to-date they are, I am providing the following quote from the Hamrick web page, <https://www.hamrick.com/>.

“VueScan also recently announced the support of the new Apple Macintosh systems that use Intel processors, and all Konica Minolta scanners will

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VUESCAN REVIEW CONTINUED:

be supported on these new computers. This enables Apple users to continue to use their film scanners and flatbed scanners with these new Apple systems. Again, this offers customers the chance to retain their existing scanner and purchase a new MacBook Pro or iMac without needing to buy a new scanner. Even older SCSI scanners can be used with these new Apple systems, by using a Firewire to SCSI converter or USB to SCSI converter.”

The following web pages have some good information on VueScan.

<http://www.connectedphotographer.com/issues/issue200512/00001689002.html>

<https://www.hamrick.com/pmon1005.html>.

I really miss the RMUG meetings but I would not trade living in La Paz B.C.S., Mexico for a return to Redding. Availability of MacIntosh computers and components is very limited but I have been able to circumvent this.

Donald Lapray
dyarpal@yahoo.com

Wanna Class?:

Hello RMUG members!

I was recently asked when I would be teaching another GarageBand Class. Well, when do you want another class? I can have one at the Frontier Senior Center most any Friday from 1:00 till 4:00. Saturday's are harder to arrange but that is also a possibility. So... YOU pick a Friday on April the 28th or May 5th, 12th, or the 19th. I will be leaving for school in the fall and I am trying to get a job. So, the sooner you pick a date the sooner I can have a class! Or it might be too late!

I will also consider teaching an iMovie class if there is enough interest. Both classes

need at least 4 people to pre-register and the class size will be limited to 8 people. You will need to bring your own computer. If this is too much of a hardship there is an eMac in the class room. You can ask for the eMac when you pre-register if you need to use that computer. It will be first come first serve. Contact me ASAP at:

garageband_rmug@yahoo.com. Mention the class : GarageBand or iMovie and the DATE you want the class to be held. I will contact the people who send input to me and notify them of the class that was chosen.

Hurry Hurry Hurry!

This needs to be planned soon!

Jimi Kathryn Bonogofsky

Google Earth:

The Record Searchlight had a article on Google Earth. It is a program that lets you fly from space to any place in the world. Enter an address and hit return. You can zoom in to a few hundred feet.

I tried it two weeks ago and it did not work worth a darn. Has it been updated???

1. My Pismo does not have the video power required to see all the info that should be displayed.
2. The addresses that I wanted to look at did not show the detail that I expected, could not recognize Redding, CA.
3. Most of the time the program quits before showing anything I can recognize.
4. The program is supposed to be able to fly (if I remember the article) around landmarks like the Eiffel Tower.
5. Is any of this related to dial-up????

Jim answers his own questions below..

Google Earth is beta now. It is for high speed only. I went by Yaks and it is much better. If you have the right computer and high speed connection Google Earth looks COOL.

Go to: <http://earth.google.com/>

Jim Pace

Wanna Sell or Buy?:

Not exactly computer info, but if you have something to sell, or want to buy, check out <http://redding.craigslist.org/>. Our daughter in Las Vegas sold her car on Craigslist & I thought it was probably just in the big cities. On a whim I checked into it and lo and behold, Redding has a link! The link above takes you to the Redding site. However, when there, you can click on any other city you desire.

Under the search field on the left is a drop down menu that says "community". Click there & select "sale/wanted", if you would like to buy or sell an item. It's totally free, which is cool considering the high cost of classified advertising, and you can include up to 4 pictures in your ad. You can include your phone number or just an email address for folks to contact you.

A couple of weeks ago I posted a table saw my husband wanted to sell (with pictures) and it sold in one day with several responses!

Charlotte



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<http://jett.net>

Apple Turns 30:

Apple turns 30 April 1, no small feat in an industry where today's leader is tomorrow's answer to a trivia question. Apple has come a long way since its 1976 founding, evolving from a pair of electronics-minded buddies trying to sell printed circuit boards at their local amateur computer club... It is now a 14,800-employee company with more than \$14 billion in sales and an internationally recognized product line.

Apple's accomplishments include a checklist of memorable products—the original Macintosh, the iMac, the iPod. But what kind of impact has the company had over the last three decades? Outside of the people within its Cupertino, Calif., headquarters, who should be celebrating Apple's 30 years of existence?

Pretty much everybody, as it turns out.

On the eve of Apple's 30th anniversary, everyone from former employees to industry watchers agrees that the company has had a profound impact on technology, innovating and influencing not only how we use computers but the what we use them for.

Computers for the rest of us—including Windows users

Apple's accomplishments in producing consumer-friendly computers such as the original Macintosh and the iMac is widely known—just in case you might forget, the company mentions both products at the bottom of every press release it sends out. But Apple's efforts to make computers accessible to a wider audience began long before the Macintosh made its first appearance in a Super Bowl XVIII TV commercial.

"Apple instigated the personal computer revolution with the Apple II, which was the first mass market personal computer as we know them today," said Andy Hertzfeld, a former Apple employee who was part of the original Macintosh team, and author of the book *Revolution in the Valley* (O'Reilly, 2004).

But a key part of making computers that the

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APPLE TURNS 30 CONTINUED:

masses could use was developing an interface that ordinary people could use. Apple didn't invent the graphical user interface—rather, the company drew inspiration from what Steve Jobs and software engineer Bill Atkinson saw on their fateful trip to the Xerox Palo Alto Research Center in 1979. Much of the work that Xerox put into the Alto, the first real personal computer, became the first Macintosh. And elements like the desktop, windows, and a mouse are what helped make the Macintosh such an appealing machine.

“The angels started singing, the clouds parted, it was a religious experience,” said Guy Kawasaki, an early Apple employee, describing the first time he used a Mac. “I’ve never had the same reaction to a product, not in 25 years.”

Many of the features popularized in the Mac OS soon started appearing in competing operating systems, notably Microsoft's windows. But even that illustrates the scope of Apple's influence, pundits say. Apple's advances pushed other companies to make their offerings significantly more user-friendly.

“The people that have the most to celebrate are Windows users,” said Paul Saffo, director of the nonprofit Institute For The Future research group. “But for Apple bringing out the Macintosh and demonstrating the [windows] interface and the mouse, we would all be stuck with a C: prompt.”

A new direction

Nevertheless, Apple lost significant market share to Windows-based PCs. Microsoft's operating system could run on any hardware maker's machine—Apple's software ran on Macs and Macs alone.

However, the fact that Apple soon found itself unable to compete with other PC makers for business users may have been a blessing in disguise, said Phil Leigh, an analyst and

founder of market-research firm Inside Digital Media. Apple made the move to improving its computers' graphics and multimedia capabilities; that, Leigh said, made the Mac the preferred platform for artists, designers and musicians.

“Since the market has for the last 10 years been steadily trending toward digital media, this has worked towards the advantage of Apple,” Leigh added.

“Apple has a rare opportunity that is seldom provided, at a second chance at greatness,” Leigh continued. “Digital media is becoming the dominant application on computers. Ten years ago, Bill Gates wrote a book called *The Road Ahead* and he pointed out that the computers of tomorrow are not going to be used to do word processing 1,000 times faster, they are going to be used to do entirely new things. It's pretty clear that digital media is at the heart of that right now.”

Jobs, front and center

Most agree that Apple's focus on digital media or other innovations wouldn't have happened to as great a degree without Steve Jobs, the company co-founder who was forced out in 1985 only to return as an advisor and interim CEO 12 years before shedding the “interim” tag in 2000. Jobs has had a profound impact on how Apple—and thereby the entire computer industry—evolved.

Dag Spicer, senior curator of the Computer History Museum in Mountain View, Calif., remembers Jobs return to Apple after the company purchased Next Inc.

“Apple had just lost \$740 million in the first quarter of 1996 and things looked very bleak indeed,” Spicer said. “In my opinion, no one but Jobs could have brought the company back. He's the only one who can lead Apple internally and inspire Apple customers externally. Basically, Jobs is Apple, which is both good and bad for the company. This has not changed over the 30 years.”

What Steve Jobs or Apple has up its sleeve next is anyone's guess. Many analysts say that Apple is

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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>
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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

Great member participation in this months issue, now that is what the group is all about. We now have high speed internet, wow! I have been surprised at the attention one has to pay in order to feel secure using it. I have never in all the time I have spent on line had a website direct me to a business in Redding, CA (how do it know?) It is also disquieting to be working with an application and have the producer constantly dun me to update the software. Apple being one of the prime culprits. Now you understand that this is without even having a browser open. Think what could be happening if one leaves their computer on all the time with a broadband connection.

It is clear to me now how important firewalls and other defensive measures are. We are all vulnerable to invasion of privacy if the current administration in Washington continues to have its way and is able to peruse everyones computer use and information through data mining. If anyone really believes that secret surveillance has been confined to phone calls originating outside the U.S., I have an old bridge here in Anderson I would like to sell you an interest in. Remember your rights, remember the constitution? See you at the meeting on the eighth.



Ken

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JETT.NET CREW:

APPLE TURNS 30 CONTINUED:

bound to release some type of set-top media player to play digital media. Even the former employees aren't sure—although many ideas have been floated.

“The iPod will get wireless features soon and eventually morph into a cell phone,” Hertzfeld said. “The Macintoshes will eventually be able to optionally run Windows applications, removing the most prolific excuse for not buying a Mac.”

Most expect Apple to continue innovating and pioneering new technologies, as it has over the last 30 years.

“I hope [Apple is] creating a computer that is to the Macintosh what the Macintosh was to Apple II,” says Kawasaki. “That's the test, that's the main thing.”

Yahoo! News
Cyrus Farivar - MacCentral