



# Rmug News

## December 2008

### This Month

RMUG Meeting, Saturday morning  
December 13, 2008 9-11:30 a.m.

**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 officer  
elections, a demo of Photoshop Elements  
by Michael Peters. Personal creativity  
comments, wisdom and issues as well as  
the usual Q&A. Be sure and bring those  
questions..

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### Rmug Officers

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

## President's Letter

Some people think if you work on computers you are immune to problems, but a recent episode where two computers got sick one right after the other will demonstrate how even an expert can get stumped. Stumped for a short time anyway. My story is about failing passwords on my home network. My problem first cropped up on my OS-X Server and then my MacBook. I was almost at wits end on how to solve the cascading problems without erasing my HDs and re-loading everything. On my OS-X Server I did erase the HD and re-installed the OS-X Server software and re-configured everything before my MacBook developed many of the same symptoms.

The symptoms are:

Password is incorrect so you cannot update or install software.

Changing the Password on the main Admin Account from a brand new second Admin Account will result in an error message.

Admin User account may become managed with Parental Controls.

A message telling you an un-named HD is unavailable will flash on the screen even though all normally mounted drives are visible?

On my OS-X Server iTunes would not run more than 30 seconds.

The big symptom/big clue is you can make your password work again if you disconnect from all networks that connect to the Internet. (wish I had found this before erasing the OS-X Server)

I believe with 99.9% conviction it was my mac.come/MobileMe account that was behind all of my problems. I have four Mac computers and all four can use the mac.com iDisk and one computer is set up to use mrdalej@mac.com email, but for the most part I don't use most of the features of my MobileMe account.

To solve the problem I created a new Admin User on my MacBook. In the MobileMe Control Panel I logged into MobileMe, then I logged into Account Details and finally Password Settings, and in here I reset my MobileMe password.

# 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 (530) 241-8227 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:

From the new Admin Account, I reset the password of my main Admin Account to be the same as what I had set my MobileMe password to (probably did not need this step). I then logged out of the new account and into my main Admin Account and everything has now been working for 12 plus hours so I have my fingers crossed.

As I finished this article I logged into my Mail.app for the first time and my mac.com email account had been turned off in the "Advanced" preference pain. Once I turned it back on all the last days email came right in. I guess I will need to keep an eye on the system for the next week or two just to be sure I fixed everything.

Just so Apple knows I love em I will state for the record I do love my MobileMe email account and would highly recommend anyone needing a good email address not from their ISP should get a MobileMe account ASAP. It is about \$99 per year but I find it very worthwhile.

dalej

## Secretary's Notes:

The November meeting was held at YAKS Koffee Shop.

Dale reminded us that the January meeting MAY be moved to the 3rd Saturday - - depending on when MacWorld will be held. More on this later.

Nominations are still open for RMUG Officers and Board Members for 2009. Barbara Benefield said she would run for Newsletter Editor. Mary Gililland said she would be the second on Hospitality. With the exception of Ken Lorenz (current Newsletter Editor) the rest of the officers will continue in their offices and as board members if no one else steps up. We encourage you to take a turn at any of the positions that interest you. The election is held at the December meeting.

The Ambassador (Michael Peters) again encouraged us to write a short review of any software that we win. It helps to show that we do raffle off the software we receive, which encourages companies to send us more software.

Reminder: Macintosh classes are available weekly at Anderson Senior Center. Beginner's class on Mondays, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. – Michael Peters. Advanced class on Fridays, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. – Dale Josephson.

Presentation: Four of the programs that make up iLife '08 were the focus of the presentations.

Barbara Benefield demoed iPhoto '08. Barbara likes this '08 version of iPhoto very much. Information about each picture shows in an information bar at the bottom of the picture. She finds she doesn't have to use Photoshop as much, can name and date her photos, and can group them as she pleases. She can print full 3"x 5" photos. She can do a slide show, add music, and burn a DVD of her finished product. Thank you very much, Barbara.

Dale Josephson demoed iMovie '08, iDVD '08 and iWeb '08. Dale made another pitch to purchase Quick Time Pro for \$29.95 if you are going to make a movie. Photos can be taken from iPhoto or elsewhere and moved to assemble your movie. After assembly, Dale adds a sound track. I believe this is where he exports his movie to iDVD. He said 'Default' produced the best performance.

iWeb '08 gives you more control over website design. You can make and publish a website, store your iCalendar, use as an internet address, etc., etc. Note that Dale has a .Mac email address. Thank you very much, Dale.

Next Meeting at YAKS: December 13, 2008. Michael Peters will demo Adobe Photoshop Elements 6, and we have a copy to raffle. Election of officers for 2009 will also take place.

Jacquie Martin, Secretary

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## Why Bother ?

Two weeks ago, writing about Apple's new flagship laptop, the MacBook, I noted with dismay that Apple appears intent on eliminating the FireWire jack. FireWire is a connector, originally developed and promoted by Apple itself, that lets you import video from a tape camcorder for easy editing. It was a cornerstone of Apple's "anyone can edit video" revolution.

Over 400 of you responded, by e-mail or on the Pogue's Posts feedback forum. Most of you were equally alarmed; many of you have stacks of MiniDV tapes, as I do, that, in a post-FireWire world, you'll have no way to transfer to a computer for editing.

But one e-mail response stopped me cold:

"What makes you think you'll have any grandchildren with the time and inclination to sit through more than a few minutes of your home videos?

"The movies an uncle shot of me and my siblings a few decades ago were projected for about 30 minutes a decade ago, and have not been looked at again by anybody.

"Home movies require a captive audience, for long periods. How many hours could you bestow on your children right now? How many hours would you expect them to sit still for them? And unlike photographs, home movies can't really be dipped into, flipped through.

"I'm not against home movies. I just question whether the people amassing them at great length have much idea of what they require of the people in them, or who inherit them.

"Kind regards, good luck. I respect your affection for your family."

I did a lot of thinking about this.

Why do I film every vacation, every school year highlight, every birthday party? Why am I so upset that format loss (including the FireWire jack) might make all of my videos unwatchable?

Clearly, I'm not alone; the crazy-fast sales of digital cameras, year after year, teach us that recording our lives is a fundamental human instinct.

But why, exactly, do we spend hundreds of dollars on equipment to film and store our pictures and videos, without any assurance that anyone will ever want to view them?

In short: why do we shoot?

Maybe it's just ego. Maybe we record our lives as a hedge against mortality, hoping that some scrap of our lives will live on after us.

And maybe my correspondent is right. Maybe we're fooling ourselves. Maybe, to some extent, home video and amateur photography are mass delusions on a global scale--a gigantic expenditure of money, time and expertise to create a visual record that, ultimately, nobody will ever see.

But then I considered my own motives, and I have an answer to "Why I shoot." Lots of them, actually.

First of all, I object to the "captive audience" notion. The whole \*point\* of transferring video to your computer is so that you can edit it down.

In the early days of fatherhood, when I was a little less busy than I am now, I routinely created five- or six-minute videos: distilled, funny, entertaining highlight reels of our life. And visiting neighbors actually \*asked\* to see them. (Search YouTube for "Pogue Extreme Baby" to see an example.)

But anyway, here are some of the reasons why I shoot video.

1. For our older selves. Life is fleeting, especially

## WHY BOTHER? CONTINUED:

when our children are cute and innocent and still dependent on us. Video and photos are the best way we've got to revisit these chaotic, happy days years from now, when they're grown up and moved away.

2. For our descendants. My correspondent may be right; it's not clear how interested our descendants will be in watching our ancient videos--if, indeed, our recordings don't get lost to changing hardware and software standards.

But you never know. Your kid may become famous, or infamous, and the 2025 edition of "Entertainment Tonight" or "60 Minutes" might consider those old movies a gold mine. OK, it's not likely, but it could happen.

Furthermore, your descendants just \*might\* be interested in your life. I, for one, would love to see videos of my own ancestors. My grandfather spent ten years compiling a great big self-published Pogue genealogy, filled with carefully researched facts--but that's all. Names, dates, places. I'd find it much more interesting to know about their personalities, foibles, facial expressions and accents--to know the people, not just their stats.

3. For pleasure. Getting into photography or video is fun. They can be artistic endeavors, satisfying just to participate. I love trying to improve my shooting, my composition, my technique. It's a hobby.

(And by the way, "home movies" isn't always the same as "amateur movies." Not all amateur movies are intended to document family life, as some of the better YouTube bits clearly demonstrate.)

4. For historians. The home videos of today might become a valuable archive for historians of the future. Remember: an enormous percentage of today's videos are going to disappear, as their tapes crumble and video players become obsolete. So if 2 percent of it survives, we'll be lucky.

Therefore, the more we film today, the better.

5. For posterity. Finally, suppose that my correspondent is correct that thousands of people shoot video because they believe, mistakenly, that their descendants will give a darn. Suppose that much, or even most, of what we photograph and film will, in fact, never be seen by anyone.

You know what? Fine. We admit it: We're shooting on faith. Believing that somebody \*might\* someday be interested in your videos inspires and drives us.

Look, we do all kinds of things based on faith. People expend all kinds of effort now because they hope, without any guarantees, that it will pay off down the line: get married, worship, drink a glass of wine every day. It's human nature.

And it's human to want to record our lives, too.

And that's why I shoot.

David Pogue  
Circuits: NYT

## On a Ring and a Prayer:

PLEASE listen carefully as this menu has changed.

For English press or say "One." Para español oprima o diga "Dos." For all other languages press or say "Three."

One.

Thank you for your interest in our service. If this is a true spiritual emergency, please hang up and dial the number on the upper left-hand corner of the mailing label of your last solicitation. Otherwise, please stay on the line and your prayers will be answered in the order in which they were received.

All right, let's get started. For prayers of repentance press or say "Two." For prayers of

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**A RING AND PRAYER CONTINUED:**

supplication press or say "Three." For prayers of forgiveness press or say "Four." For prayers of serenity press or say "Five." For all other prayers press or say "Six."

I guess...Er...Supplic — three. Three. [3]

I think you said, "Two." Is this correct?

No.

I think you said, "No." Is this correct?

Yes.

O.K., let's try that again. For prayers of repentance press or say "Two." For prayers of supplication press or say "Three." For prayers —

Three.

— of forgiveness —

Three! [3] [3]

— say "Four." For prayers of serenity press or say "Five." For all other prayers press or say "Six."

Three.

I think you said, "Three." Is this correct?

Yes. Correct. Yes.

All right, let me see if I can help you. Please say the category for which you are supplicating. For example, if you are praying for help with a personal life problem, say "Problem." If you are praying for a material object like a new Lexus, say "Car."

Uh.

I'm sorry. I didn't understand your answer. Please repeat your answer slowly and clearly.

It's hard to describe. Things no longer make ... sense ...

I think you said, "Vengeance." Is this correct?

No.

Good, because Vengeance is mine. Please repeat your answer slowly and clearly.

Prob. Lem.

I think you said, "Problem." Is this correct?

Yes. Correct.

Thank you. Let me connect you to that department.

[Hold music: Pachelbel, "Canon in D" — tenor sax version (Kenny G)]

Please stay on the line. Your prayer is important to us. Your wait time is approximately seven minutes.

[Hold music]

We're sorry you are still on hold. We appreciate your patience and look forward to being of service.

[Hold music]

Thank you for holding. We apologize for the inconvenience. Please state the problem for which you would like help. For example, if you would like help healing someone who is sick, you could say, "Illness." If you would like help in making a woman who barely knows that you exist become interested in you romantically, you could say, "Wingman."

No more menus.

I'm sorry. I didn't understand your answer. Please state the problem for which you would like help.

I want help without having to go through six levels of options.

I think you said you would like help with sexual

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**A RING AND PRAYER CONTINUED:**

dysfunction. Is this correct?

No.

I think you said, "No." Is this correct?

Yes.

O.K, please restate your problem. Speak slowly and clearly —

I'm sick of these menus.

I think you said you would like help curing a sickness. Is this correct?

No, no, these menus are driving me crazy.

I think you said you would like help dealing with a mental illness. Is this correct?

No. No, no!

I'm having difficulty understanding the problem for which you are seeking help.

Please state your problem slowly and clearly.

My problem is ... I ... forgot why I called.

I think you said you no longer recall your problem. Is this correct?

I guess. I don't know. Yes.

Excellent. We are pleased to have been of service. How else can we provide you with a wonderful day?

NYT  
Op-Ed Contributor  
Seth Freeman, is a writer for television.

## Text Selection Tips:

Even if you're brand new to the Mac, as long as you've had some exposure to personal computing in general, you probably know how to select text—just click-and-hold, then drag the mouse, and the characters on your screen will be selected as you drag. Once you're done selecting, you can then drag-and-drop, cut, copy, or otherwise manipulate your selection.

But did you know you can also select text not only character-by-character, but word-by-word or paragraph-by-paragraph? If you're a long-time Mac user, you may already know this, as this hint dates to the earliest days of the Mac. However, if you're new to the Mac—or perhaps even if you're not—then these two methods may be news to you.

To select text (and this works in nearly any program that involves text) on a word-by-word basis, do a double-click-and-hold before you start dragging, instead of a single click. As you move the mouse along now, you'll see that entire words are added to your selection as soon as the cursor touches their first character. So if you've got a fair bit of text to select, but still need precision, this is a pretty quick way to get it done.

*"We Speak Mac"*

**JETT.NET**

**JET Technologies LLC**  
 1320 Yuba Street, Suite 101  
 Redding, CA 96001  
 530-242-1800

*Internet Service Provider  
 Web Hosting - Website Design & Maintenance  
 Database Development - Hardware Upgrades  
 Software Installation & Updates  
 RAM Upgrades - Hard Drive Replacements  
 Batteries - Cables - Adapters  
 Software Instruction*

## 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.

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

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

This issue includes a great article by Mr. Pogue, a very realistic conversation with a computer and a couple of practical editing tips. Some good articles were submitted by members which will be included in future issues.

This is my final editorial responsibility after eight years. It has been fun, but I am looking forward to doing other computer things with the time.

This publication will take on a different look and attitude with the new editor, Barbara Benefield. Judging from articles she has submitted in the past I am sure she will do a superb job.

Wishing everyone a gratifying holiday season.

Ken



# Jett's December 08 Mac Classes:

Hi Everyone,

Here is my schedule of classes for December 2008

Tuesday, December 9, 2008 at 2 pm - Basic OSX

Thursday, December 11, 2008 at 10 am - iPhoto

Tuesday, December 16, 2008 at 2 pm - iMovie

Thursday, December 18, 2008 at 10 am - Basic OSX

Tuesday, December 23, 2008 at 2 pm - iPhoto

**\$25 PER PERSON PER SESSION**

You must register for classes as class size is limited to 5 people. Call the office at 242-1800 to sign up.

Bring your computer and your questions.

Thanks,

Kate

[kate@jett.net](mailto:kate@jett.net)

## **TEXT SELECTION TIPS**

### **CONTINUED:**

If you've really got a lot of text to select, try a triple-click-and-hold, then start dragging. With a triple-click and drag, the Mac will select entire paragraphs of text as you drag the mouse. (Another way to select huge blocks of text is to click the mouse once at the start point for the selection, hold down the Shift key, then click at the end point for the selection.)

There's a simple corollary to these tips, of course—if you just want to select a single word or paragraph in a document, just give it a double-click or triple-click, respectively. There are lots of other tips and techniques for text selection, though many vary on a program-by-program basis, but these double- and triple-click methods are two of my favorites.

by Rob Griffiths, [Macworld.com](http://Macworld.com)  
Submitted by Charlotte