



mbug-pc newsletter

Established 1983 / Incorporated 1988

IN THIS ISSUE

MBUG-PC Volunteer Positions	2
MBUG-PC Information	2
Carolyn's Viewpoint	3
Donna Jett's Conference Report	4
Will Radecki's Desktop Tips	4
Things, Thinglets & Thingassos	5
Book Review by Joe Asling	6
Frugal Computerist	7
My Favorite Website	9
MBUG Discounts	11
Need Computer Help?	12
MBUG Supporters	13
MBUG-PC Upcoming Workshops ...	14
MBUG-PC Calendar	15
Ink Cartridge Update	16
Membership Report	16

DO YOU KNOW THE 18 COMMANDMENTS?



Check out Jack's Computer Commandments (page 5) so that thou shalt not commit netiquette *faux pas!*

Identity Theft: Spotting and Stopping It

As broadband connections become more and more commonplace, how can we protect ourselves in the cyber world? How do we go about managing the risks associated with connecting, interacting, and submitting personal information via the insecure Internet? Identity theft is one of our nation's fastest growing crimes. If a criminal manages to steal personal information such as bank account, loan, credit card, social security, user ID and other numbers, along with passwords, mother's maiden names and other such data, they can steal entire identities, money, good credit ratings and reputations. And, although this is NOT just a computer-users problem (thieves can get information about us via telephone or mailboxes), a lot of this type of fraud is being perpetrated faster and wider via the Internet and e-mail. Learn the latest about this alarming trend, ways to protect yourself and what you can do immediately if you think your identity has been stolen.

Scott Coté, a lecturer on network design and integration, wireless networking, network security and robotics at the **Naval Postgraduate School of Monterey**, will introduce what identity theft is, how it happens, and how our cyber world can be victimized. He will also present possible solutions to many of our common vulnerabilities.

Scott comes to us with the highest recommendation from the **Monterey County District Attorney's Office**, so you won't want to miss his practical information on: ways to protect home networks from the evil Internet bad guys; understanding malware and spyware; basics on cookies; what you need to know about firewalls; wireless connections (what you need to know to protect your wireless network); how to use secure connection online (for banking and the like); recommended software to help you manage these items; spotting scams such as phishing and urban legends; safeguarding online information (credit card numbers, birth dates, etc); how to safely look for information on the web; and looking towards the future (PKI).

Questions? Contact Scott at e-mail scott@coteconsulting.com or call the Naval Post-Graduate School (831) 656-2519. ♦

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2005 at 7pm
Pacific Grove Adult Education Center
1025 Lighthouse Avenue, Pacific Grove
FREE, educational and always interesting!

WE NEED A FEW GOOD VOLUNTEERS FOR THESE MBUG-PC POSITIONS!

Program Chair

Find and schedule First Friday General Meeting Guest Speakers.

Publicity Chair

Publicize MBUG in local publications and to members on the Listserv.

Workshop /SIG Leaders

Share your knowledge: run workshops or Special Interest Groups monthly/bi-monthly/quarterly

Meeting Reviewers

Attend General Meetings (or any other ongoing workshops) and write 500-word-or-less reviews.

Hospitality

Provide coffee service at First Friday General Meetings
(store equipment and supplies, bring the needful and set up for coffee and goodies).

E-mail or call Vice-President **Don Slaiter** at slaiter@pacbell.net ☎ (831) 655-4443 and 657-4154

MBUG-PC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Carolyn Lake President 643-2023 lakelyn@ix.netcom.com
& Video Project Team
Donald R. Slaiter .. Vice President, 655-4443/657-4154 slaiter@pacbell.net
Assistant Treasurer, Membership Chair
& Lead Mtg Facilitator
Tom Streeter Secretary, Treasurer 657-4249 tom223@pacbell.net
& Newsletter Proofreader
Regina Doyle Publishing Editor 375-4496 reginadoyle@aol.com
S.Jack Lewtschuk. Columnist 757-0123 blacklion@royal.net
& Immediate Past President
Charlie Mehlert Workshops Coordinator .. 375-0316 mehlert@sbcglobal.net
Clive Sanders Advisor / F1 Help 375-5376 simbacli@pacbell.net
Gary Stephens Workshops Coordinator.384-2440.. garykstephens@sbcglobal.net
& Vice-Photographer

MBUG-PC Newsletter is published monthly by Monterey Bay Users Group-Personal Computer, Inc., a nonprofit, tax-exempt, charitable, educational corporation, PO Box 51611, Pacific Grove CA 93950, telephone Don Slaiter (831) 655-4443 or 657-4154, website www.mbug.org.

DISCLAIMER: No warranty, expressed or implied, is made by MBUG-PC, Newsletter editorial staff, or any individual authors or contributors.

This disclaimer extends to all losses, incidental or consequential, from the use of this publication.

Unless specifically stated otherwise, the opinions expressed in any article or column are those of the individual author(s) and do not represent any official position of, or endorsement by, MBUG-PC which is a 501c3 corporation and is not affiliated in any way with any vendor or equipment or software manufacturer.

Copyright © 2005 by the Monterey Bay Users Group-PC. Permission for reproduction in whole or in part is hereby granted for other nonprofit use, provided credit is given to MBUG-PC and to the author(s). Other reproduction without prior written permission of MBUG-PC is prohibited.

MBUG-PC VOLUNTEERS

Jim Anway Workshop Leader/F1 Help .. 625-5618 AnwayJ@comcast.net
Joe Asling Video Project Coordinator .. 641-9560 jasling@pacbell.net
Bill Baumgardt Workshop Leader 372-5500 www2.comcast.net
Eileen Begley Workshop Leader 655-4884 eb@spyderbytes.com
Richard Binsacca . Raffle Sales 678-2518 .. rjbinsacca@sbcglobal.net
Bill Bowles Columnist 375-3954 B@bowles.com
Margaret Bradbury Workshop Leader 657-4119 .. mgradbury@redshift.com
Norma Cocklin Canterbury Woods 657-4257 nmchec@aol.com
Liaison & Newsletter Proofreader
Joyce Elisha Video Project Team & 646-9603 ellias@msn.com
Ink Cartridge Coordinator
Ralph Games Meeting Facilitator 394-8876 gamesri@redshift.com
Jim Hinwood Columnist ehinwood@msn.com
Bill Hyler Photographer 624-4456 hyler@comcast.net
Lee Keely APCUG Rep & F1 Help 626-8033 Lee@leekeely.com
Kristen Knutson ... Special Projects 375-6072 mcle@msn.com
John Laughton Legal Advisor 649-1122 john@netlawyers.com
John Rowe Columnist 384-3617 johnr@tolt.com
Bob Stephan Historian, F1 Help, 646-1373 bob@bobstephan.net
Columnist & Workshop Leader
Bill Stockton Recording Secretary 384-6130
David Thorp Video Project Team 373-4623
Ed West Webmaster /Listserv Owner .. 372-6200 captain@mobile.com

SUBSCRIPTION: See back cover for rates. (Subscription is not tax deductible). **NEWSLETTER AD RATES:** Special rate for local business card ads (approximately 1/10 page) is \$30.00 for 6 issues or \$50.00 for 12 issues. Full and partial page ad rates are available upon request. MBUG will publish at no charge classified ads for individual subscribers who have computer hardware or software for private sale. Advertising information contact: Regina at ReginaDoyle@aol.com.

MBUG-PC benefits: Computer Help, the Newsletter and 15 - 20% Discount on Computer Books at Borders and Waldenbooks with MBUG-PC Membership Card (see Don Slaiter for card).

CAROLYN'S VIEWPOINT

Carolyn Lake
President



photo: Bill Hyle, MBUG-PC

CLIP ART CONFRONTATION

Well, the shop displays tell me it's time to start thinking about Halloween. If that's so, then the other major Fall and Winter holidays can't be far behind. For the craft-minded computer person, it also means an opportunity to produce lots of cards, invitations, activity announcements, brochures, gift tags and so on. Of course that means you must either be artistically original, or else fall back on the tried and true resource of CLIP ART!



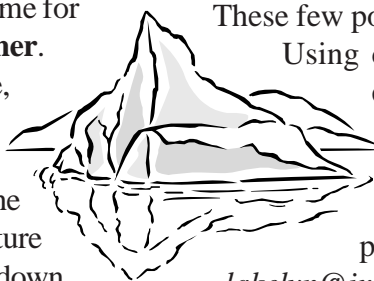
There is lots of it out there, just ready for the harvesting.

A friend recently needed a piece of clip art with an Oktoberfest theme that would meet several important criteria — no inappropriate text, no overloaded mugs of beer, no Bavarian castles — and finding hundreds of Oktoberfest items to choose from through a **Google search**, she located the “just right” easily reproducible piece. There are literally hundreds of thousands of clip art images available to us. But how to access and manage them is the problem — they are definitely in the “overly available” category.

If you are not satisfied with the hundreds in your Microsoft applications, more can be added free (from the **Microsoft website**) or bought (e.g. **Art Explosion** from Nova Development, Broderbund's **The Print Shop**, etc.).

Inserting an image

Access through the MS applications works the same for **Word, WordPad, Excel, PowerPoint** and **Publisher**. Click in the document at the location for the picture, then select “Insert”, “Picture”, “Clip Art”. Enter your topic, click on “Search”. The result will be a number of small pictures in the selection pane. To change the topic, click “Modify” and start over. Click on a picture to insert it, or roll your cursor over it, click the drop down



These few pointers are just the tip of the iceberg.

Using clip art can be uncomplicated and enjoyable at a basic level, but it has considerable flexibility and is certainly a very large, easily accessible resource for graphic projects of all kinds. ♦

lakelyn@ix.netcom.com

arrow for a menu, then click “Insert” or “Copy”. Insert places image where cursor was blinking, Copy allows you to Paste later at same or different location.

Sizing the image

If you find the image is so large you can't see any of the edges, right click on the picture to display a context menu; left click, select “Format Picture” and “Size”. Check “Lock Aspect Ratio”. The boxes under “Scale” show “Height” and “Width” in percentages. Enter 50 “Height”, tab to “Width” (it automatically changes to 50), and click “OK”. Now you see the bounding box around the picture. Click on one of the small black squares on a corner and drag diagonally to make it larger or smaller. Hold down the “Shift” key while dragging to maintain the proportion. Or, if you *want* to distort the picture, click and drag on one of the small black squares on a side of the bounding box.

Text flow

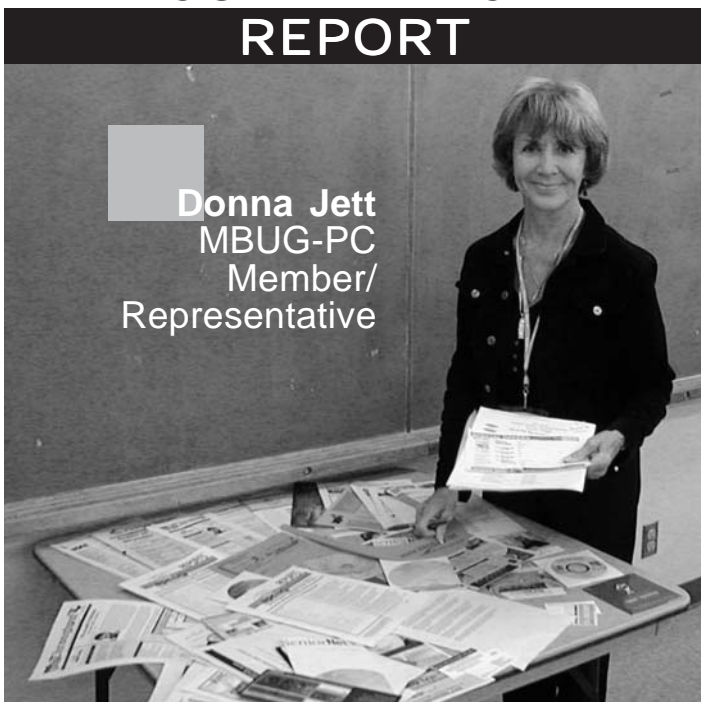
Your program will treat the picture as if it were a letter in a line of text, with the bottom edge lined up with the bottom of the text, and allowing only one line of text next to the picture. To make text flow around the picture, right click on the picture; left click, select “Format Picture” and select “Layout”. Click on “Square”, or any choice other than “In Line with Text”. Click on left or right alignment to have picture on left or right of text. Click “OK”. You can then click and drag on the picture to relocate it or drag its corners to resize it.

Where do those downloads go?

With sizing and text flow managed, you may want to download more clips from the Microsoft Office website. In Word, select “Insert”, “Picture”, “Clip Art”, and click on the “Clips Online”. Select a category; then select one or more pictures to download by checking the box below the image. Click on “Download X Items” (top or side of page), click “Accept” on User Agreement, select application version from choices, click “Download Now”, and on “Open” when prompted. Clips are now in the “Clip Organizer”.



CONFERENCE REPORT



Donna Jett
MBUG-PC
Member/
Representative

photo: Gary Stephens, MBUG-PC

I arrived at the conference on Friday evening in time to register, pick up a beautiful free canvas goodie bag and enjoy dinner (the first of six incredible meals included in the registration fee). The over 360 attendees were from all over the southwestern states and it was an inspiration for seniors using their computers to create art, stay current, reach out to family and friends, store digital photos, sell products and continue their learning curve. Several organizations are dedicated to teaching and educating seniors on becoming computer literate.

I was pleased to report that **Pacific Grove Adult School**, the **Carmel Foundation**, the **Sally Griffin Senior Center** and many public and non-profit organizations in our area continue to serve seniors in this area.

The workshops, lectures and vendor show were worth the price of admission! I listened, I learned, and encourage others to attend similar conferences.

At the MBUG meeting, I displayed vendor and conference information and brought tee shirts, an Intel computer reading light, trial software and many items of interest to share (many of these are available through MBUG, who will receive credit and gifts from SWUG).

I believe the contacts I made and information acquired will be useful to MBUG in recruiting interesting speakers and requesting donations. It was a trip south well worth taking! ♦

jettcarmel@aol.com

[Editor's Note: Volunteer needed to represent MBUG-PC at APCUG in Las Vegas. Details on page 14.]

SWUG Conference Report

At the mid-month MBUG workshop (Wednesday, September 24), I reported my positive learning experience at the **Southwest User Group (SWUG) Conference in San Diego**. After volunteering to represent MBUG-PC and paying the \$40 early fee, I went online to view the conference schedule and plan which individual workshops I wanted to attend. I contacted friends in the area, stopped in LA to visit my family and then went south (I lived in San Diego on two separate occasions so am very familiar with the place and love visiting this beautiful city).

DESKTOP MANAGEMENT TIPS FROM WILL RADECKI



*Guest Speaker Will Radecki
with veteran MBUG's F1 for
Help Guy, Jim Anway*

On September 14, **Will Radecki** demonstrated the end to desktop clutter by dividing icons into their respective groups: system icons, program icons, folders, and files. He then spaced the four groups around the desktop in imaginary "quadrants" for easy recognition.

Main Desktop Tips

- Keep folders and files to a minimum - display only those currently in use
- Keep actual programs, folders and files, on C:\ or another drive and use shortcuts on the desktop
- Don't forget to empty the Recycle Bin frequently

Fun Desktop Idea

Echo the quadrant layout with appropriate wallpaper. Import your own digital images or create simple bitmap drawings in the "Paint" program (under "All Programs", "Accessories"). To display, right click on your desktop; choose "Properties", "Background", "Browse" to locate the file. ♦

lakelyn@ix.netcom.com

VIDEO BOOK REVIEW



photos: Bill Hyley, MBUG-P

by Joseph Asling

Digital Video Hacks: Tips & Tools for Shooting, Editing, and Sharing by Joshua Paul et al.

Published by O'Reilly
\$29.95 ISBN 0-596-00946-1
www.oreilly.com/catalog/digitalvideohks/

When I requested this book for review, I feared it would be filled with suggestions such as, “*Take the lens cap off*” and, “*Don’t shoot into the sun.*” No worries.

Digital Video Hacks is designed to help you take the quality of your video productions to a level suitable for publishing on the Internet or broadcasting on Public Access Television. If all you want is to take your vacation footage and get rid of the shots of your shoes, you don’t need this book. But if you are itching to develop a project with a storyline, proper lighting and good audio, go and buy it before you start production.

Digital Video Hacks contains one hundred “how to” contributions by fourteen professionals. The authors assume that you are experienced in nonlinear computer editing and that you have no problem finding information on the Internet. Reading Chapter One (“Prepare”) before you start your project will help you develop a storyline and keep your tapes and clips organized in your computer.

After that, I suggest that you skim the rest of the book so that you know what it contains, then keep it nearby as you edit; reach for it any time you run into a problem and want an ingenious effect or you need to develop a new technique such as a blue screen key.

You won’t find all the “Hacks” useful of course (I doubt that I’ll ever use Hack #13: how to digitize one hundred

hours of footage in two days on multiple computers). But any one of the Hacks can justify the price of the book. How about turning your basement into a blue screen studio for \$30? Or using your DV camera and an NTSC television to monitor your editing? For me, the chapters on Lighting (Hacks #17-25), Audio (Hacks #51-60), and Effects (Hacks #61-74) contain information I can put to good use immediately.

Whether you are PC-based or Mac-based, you will find Hacks designed for you. Where possible, specific menu instructions are provided for three editing systems: **Premiere**, **Final Cut Pro**, and **Avid**. There are short tutorials on **iMovie** and **Windows Movie Maker**, although if you are editing at that level, much of the book is probably beyond your current capabilities.

A subject I’ve rarely seen presented in a useful, accessible manner is Chapter 7 (“Distribute”). In addition to conventional tutorials on burning your project to a VCD or a DVD, you can learn how to select the best codex for your specific use, how to encode your video to stream on the Internet, and even build an Internet TV station

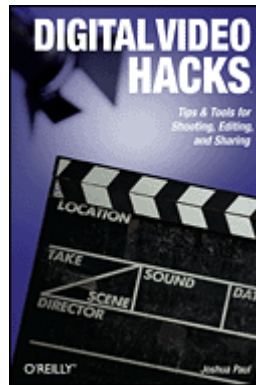
with the **Darwin Streaming Server** (Apple only). Oh, and you can ask for donations through **Pay Pal**!

Digital Video Hacks is written by pros with considerable experience in commercial TV and indie productions, and it shows. What you get are recommendations for equipment and programs with which you can build a close-to-professional editing facility and equipment kit for a small fraction of the cost of a commercial enterprise, plus practical information on how to use them.

The writing style is generally informal and lucid—a few spots left me scratching my head, which means I’ll just have to play with the Hack until I understand it better or give up. It’s going onto my bookshelf, within easy reach, right next to my favorite book on **Premiere Pro** editing techniques—but first, I’m going to download off the Internet some of the freeware utilities I read about in Digital Video Hacks! ♦

jasling@pacbell.net

Joseph H. Asling is the Video Project Coordinator for Monterey Bay Users Group - PC Volunteer Producer, AMP (Monterey Peninsula Public Access TV)



THE FRUGAL COMPUTERIST



by Bob “I Don’t Do
Windows” Stephan

photo: Bill Hyley, MBUG-PC

NEW MODEL PILOT ON THE ‘NET

In a previous life I flew US Navy airplanes for a living. The first operational airplane I flew was the **Martin PBM Mariner**, a seaplane, or more properly referred to as a “flying boat”. This was a WWII era large, lumbering, underpowered, noisy monster that had no power assistance and required brute strength to manually horse the controls around. Taking off and landing on water is not always as smooth and easy as on a paved runway and could require quite a bit of physical strength to keep the plane under control.

Later I graduated to land planes including the **Lockheed P2V Neptune** and finally to the best one of all, the **P-3 Orion**. Although the last time I flew a P-3 was about 40 years ago, updated models of the same airframe are still flying operationally in the Navy and around the world today. They are also used in hurricane reconnaissance and forest fire fighting. Compare that to running a 40-some year old automobile today. The P-3 is a dream to fly and requires only a light touch on the controls. It is everything that the PBM was not. I’m glad my flying career lasted until I had the opportunity to experience the pleasure of flying the P-3, but after that you would be more likely to find me at the console of a mainframe computer rather than that of a multi-engine airplane.

Why tell you this? Recently an old squadron mate directed my attention to a web site featuring the newest model of P-3 pilot at www.sf49ers.com/cheerleaders/bio-jany.asp.* This delightful looking creature was not only a cheerleader and math student, but claimed to also be a P-3 pilot. My, how Navy pilots have changed! Although never in my flying career did I have a co-pilot that looked like that

:(, I can easily imagine her at the controls of a P-3, but would she have had the muscle power to fly the PBM or other large planes of the WWII era? It’s difficult to see her horsing a PBM through the bouncing and teeth-rattling jarring of a rough-water landing or take-off. It’s like trying to imagine delicate young women (wo)manning the old sailing ships. Technology and engineering have made it possible to be politically correct in providing equal opportunity in today’s military forces.

So, why is this in our newsletter? If you look in the right places, you can find some surprising things on the Internet.

**Editor’s Note: Although Jany is still on the 49ers website, she has since graduated from NPS and is no longer an active cheerleader.*

NOW BACK TO THE FREE STUFF

As I’ve mentioned before, I regularly use the free **Open Office suite** and the **Mozilla Firefox browser**. I find them excellent products that leave nothing to be desired, and I have had no difficulty exchanging documents with users of other office products. There may be some highly specialized requirements that these products might not be able to handle as well, but I feel very confident in recommending them to just about anyone. When products like these are available I just can’t see paying good, hard-earned cash for software that will do exactly the same thing. In recent months I’ve also mentioned other free products such as antivirus, various image managers and graphics editors, genealogy software, and a whole CD-ROM suite, but I’ve been too busy with other things to actually get into using all of them.

I have, however, installed the free **Nvu Web Authoring System** from www.nvu.com and took a preliminary look at it. I played around with it briefly and was impressed that it has the appearance of being a professional program. I looked at a few of the features that I might use to maintain the websites that I manage and was satisfied that Nvu will handle those features very well. It is definitely going to be my primary web authoring tool. With a tool like this anybody can become a webmaster without shelling out big bucks or learning a programming language.

TELL ME ABOUT YOUR FREE SOFTWARE

I would be interested in hearing from other members of MBUG-PC about their experiences with using free software, either products that I have written about, or possibly some



that I have not heard of yet. Please e-mail me with your evaluations, whether they are favorable or unfavorable. This, to me, is what MBUG-PC is all about.

ANOTHER FREE ANTI-VIRUS

The following information is from www.clamwin.com. **ClamWin Free Antivirus** (version 0.86.2) is for **Microsoft Windows98/Me/2000/XP/2003**. It provides a graphical user interface to the Clam AntiVirus engine. ClamWin Free Antivirus comes with an easy installer and open source code at no cost. It features:

- Scanning Scheduler
- Automatic Virus Database Updates: ClamAV team updates Virus Databases on a regular basis, and almost immediately after a new virus/variant is out
- Standalone Virus Scanner
- Context Menu Integration to Microsoft Windows Explorer
- Addin to Microsoft Outlook

Old Frug says: Keep an eye on this as it shows promise, but since it is still a beta release, it might be best to wait and see. Meantime, check out **AVG Free Edition** at free.grisoft.com (mentioned in April). Scroll down and click on the link to the free version. AVG Free Edition is for private, non-commercial, single home computer use only.

Frug's Hints: For a variety of FREE or donorware methods to cut down on spam, check the following web sites: www.jetable.org/en, www.MailExpire.com, www.spamgourmet.com, www.sneakemail.com, and www.mailinator.com. ♦ bob@bobstephan.net

Bob "I don't do Windows" Stephan is an OS/2 enthusiast with over 38 years of computing experience who welcomes comments and questions.

Correction to Memoriam:

Ann Haller Mack 1930-2005

In September we printed information about our Immediate Past President who died on July 26, 2005. We reported, incorrectly, that Ann got her degree in Mathematics from California State Polytechnic, Pomona. Ann actually studied ancient Greek and European Cultures at Pomona College. Also, it was only after her children had graduated from college that she took an interest in genealogy. ♦

Smart Computing

Anyone who's ever picked up a copy knows that there's more to Smart Computing magazine than meets the eye!

But did you know that Smart Computing gives

FREE tech support

to both subscribers and non-subscribers?

Check it out by phone:

1 (800) 368-8304

Mon-Fri 7am to 8pm CST

Saturdays from 8am to 4pm CST
(Nebraska time)

or any time on the Internet:

webhelp@smartcomputing.com or

www.smartcomputing.com

To subscribe to Smart Computing:

12 issues for \$29.00 / 24 issues for \$48.00

36 issues for \$64.00

PO Box 85380 / Lincoln NE 68501-9807

Phone: 1-800-733-3809 / Fax: 1-402-479-2193

Use **source code 8181** when ordering and for every five subscriptions MBUG gets a free subscription which we raffle for funding educational activities.

A Quick Reminder to Ensure MBUG-PC's Smart Computing Credits

To make sure that MBUG-PC gets credit in Smart Computing's User Group Program (as above), subscribe or renew in one of these ways:

- Go to the User Group portion of the web page at www.smartcomputing.com/secure/membership.asp. In the drop-down list, select MBUG-PC as the group to credit.
- Click on the Smart Computing logo on our website (www.mbug.org), and follow the same procedure as above.
- Call 1 (800) 334-7458 to subscribe or renew and say you'd like MBUG-PC to get credit.

This will ensure that MBUG gets the most FREE SUBSCRIPTIONS it possibly can!

NOTE: This goes for your friends, relatives, neighbors and co-workers who are not MBUG members yet ... but you'll work on that, right? ♦

S. Jack Lewtschuk blacklion@royal.net

MY FAVORITE WEBSITES

*This month we feature websites from
"29 Useful Bookmarks"*

by **Richard Johnson, TUGNET**

The Users' Group Network, San Fernando Valley,
California (www.tugnet.org)

The Web is a marvellous resource, and most of us come nowhere near tapping its full potential. I've attempted here to list 29 websites that without any necessary downloading provide exceedingly useful free non-specialized services and tools, that require no particular knowledge except how to navigate the World Wide Web.

1. Time Cave www.timecave.com and

2. Memo to Me www.memotome.com

By using these two e-mail reminder services you'll never forget another upcoming activity or event. Time Cave allows you to schedule incoming messages by interval (so many hours, days, weeks, months, or even years away) as well as by date and time. Memo to Me allows editing of content and date. With Time Cave you can choose your own subject line and send reminders to others, but Memo to Me will charge you for those features. On the other hand, Time Cave charges for the ability to repeat messages (monthly, weekly, etc.), standard with Memo to Me.

3. Way Back Machine

www.archive.org/web/web.php

Is a website you're seeking no longer around? If it was active as late as 1996, you'll probably find it easily in this huge archive.

4. Centerwatch Clinical Trials

www.centerwatch.com

Gives information on more than 41,000 active clinical trials in which you could participate. (Some compensate you handsomely for helping, along with free medical monitoring.) Includes a notification service for trials in areas of your interest. Also describes the newest drug therapies.

5. Objectgraph Dictionary

www.objectgraph.com/dictionary

A combination standard dictionary, technical dictionary, and thesaurus (with a dictionary of chemical elements, of rather limited interest). A unique feature is the site's ability to "read

your mind" if you're not sure of the word you're thinking of — or its spelling — or if you just want to save typing.

6. Myway email www.myway.com

An excellent Web-based e-mail provider with an exceptionally clean interface (no banner ads or pop-ups). Unlike the case with competitors like Yahoo mail, Myway will respond to support inquiries. (It also has a terrific weather page — see link #7 following.)

7. Myway weather weather.myway.com

The best weather page on the Web. Even though its weather information is from weather.com, you'll see when you use it that the interface is much cleaner (and loading therefore faster) than if you were to bring up either weather.com or one of its competitors. You can personalize the weather according to your home town or zip code; the page you'll want to bookmark is that personalized page.

8. Past Weather www.weather.com/activities/other/other/weather/yesterday.html

Use this site to compare today's forecast with yesterday's weather. There's also interesting historical data and a graph showing the weather for the past seven days. The past weather information can easily be compared with the forecast from Myway weather (link #7), which derives its data from the same source.

9. Furl www.furl.net

Bookmarking is useful, but what do you do when you find that a bookmarked page has disappeared (left the Web)? Or maybe it's still there, but — as with many newspaper sites — you can't read it without going to a paid archive. This won't be an issue if you've Furl'd the page. Furl allows you to create a set of special bookmarks that can be easily searched or browsed — or shared with others — but whose contents are permanently stored on your hard drive. (If you feel the need to save parts of a page, try Net Snippets Free at www.netsnippets.com/basic. This does require a download.)

10. Gold Star Events snipurl.com/bl9o

Gold Star enables admissions to a large variety of live California productions at 50 percent off or better. After your (free) registration, you'll receive regular e-mail notices of well-described shows in the zip code areas of your preference. There's a small per-ticket service fee, usually between \$3 and \$7.



11. Password Generator

mistupid.com/computers/passwordgen.htm

Random characters compose the safest passwords. This tool will create a password with random characters according to your specifications. On your instructions, will even avoid ambiguous characters [o and 0, 1 and I].

12. Zap2it www.zap2it.com

With Zap2it you can check out both TV and movie schedules. Various options let you permanently personalize each set of listings, to give you just the information you need, in the format you prefer.

13. Acronym Finder www.acronymfinder.com

Don't be baffled by acronyms and abbreviations you encounter on the Web and elsewhere. This site offers definitions for over 398,000 such terms. Optional downloading of any of a number of search tools (for various browsers) will allow you to view a definition almost instantly.

14. Restaurant health ratings (LA County)

lapublichealth.org/rating

Avoid travelling to an appealing restaurant only to find that its health rating is below the level with which you're comfortable.

15. Translation Wizard

www.faganfinder.com/translate

The Translation Wizard uses other sites' services to ease the process of finding a translation — that otherwise might require visiting ten or more sites to find the language of interest! It also has a neat button to identify a mystery language.

16. Anybirthday

anybirthday.com

A fun site that can divulge your friend's birthdays or even tell you where to mail the card.



17. TrackEngine www.trackengine.com

Notifies you via e-mail of changes in Web pages that you have selected. You can preview the changes or view the whole page via email, with changes highlighted. Choose the Web address of a neighborhood theater to see what plays are coming up. Or see every new installment of a favorite newspaper column, without having to buy the paper.

18. GovBenefits.gov govbenefits.gov

Information on over 400 government-funded programs that extend benefits for which you may qualify, including compensated volunteering. Features a confidential questionnaire designed to point you to the most likely matches.

19. AddALL www.addall.com

Use this site to find the very best price for a book you want to buy. Unlike most other comparison sites, it figures in shipping costs for your location. Links will take you to pages for magazine subs, music CDs, and videos.

20. jux2 www.jux2.com

Jux2 lets you receive and compare search results from two or three different search engines, or see what you're missing from your regular search results. (According to the site, competing search engines typically share fewer than 4 out their 10 top results.) Still in development, it's currently limited to Google, Yahoo, and Ask Jeeves.

21. Medem Medical Library

www.medem.com/medlb/medlib_entry.cfm

Searchable and browsable medical library, organizing contributions from 45 medical societies. Features a complexity indicator for each article, from "introductory" to "professional."

22. Metacritic www.metacritic.com/film

Metacritic is an excellent source for movie critiques. For each film, it arranges its large variety of reviews from most to least favorable, and then tabulates the opinions, for an overall "metascore."

23. Kids-in-mind www.kids-in-mind.com

For evaluating movies for children, or if you have a concern about violence, sex, or profanity, Kids-in-mind will rate and describe each film's content in those three areas.

24. CardRatings cardratings.com

Maintains information on over 700 credit cards, and will suggest the best cards in a variety of categories — low or no credit, no annual fee, low interest, rewards/rebates, etc.

25. The California Patient's Guide

www.calpatientguide.org

A well-organized extensive guide to Californians' health care rights, and what you can do if they're compromised.

Assembled by medical, legal, and consumer experts, and published by the Foundation for Taxpayer and Consumer Rights.

26. CheckFree www.checkfree.com

There are a host of good reasons for paying your bills online. It saves time, saves the cost of stamps, reduces the chance of late payment, extends the time in which you can use your money, cuts down clutter, eliminates the danger of checks lost in the mail, and facilitates tracking. With CheckFree you'll be able to pay many or most of your bills online, and the service is free to the payers.

27. Bug Me Not www.bugmenot.com

This site and the one following save you time and trouble while helping you cut down on spam. Bug Me Not keeps on hand log-in data (passwords with user names) for a huge number of sites that require registration. If you want access to such a site (like latimes.com), but don't want to bother registering, just visit the Bug Me Not site and log in easily.

28. Spam Bob evil-wire.luvfeed.org/cache/1269

Spam Bob offers a choice of three e-mail addresses that you create, to protect your privacy. Anything@spambob.org is a phantom address, messages to which disappear into the ether. Use anything@spambob.com if you'll want to check on a reply message (handy for registrations that require confirmation). And you may want to use anything@spambob.net for all your correspondents. Mail from each such "net" address can be forwarded to you, and if it starts generating spam, just cancel the forwarding order!

29. Google Maps maps.google.com

Head and shoulders above the competition, these maps are much larger and far easier to configure. Zooming in and out is quick as a bunny, and re-centering is instantaneous. You can locate by category businesses in the map area, along with their phone numbers. Note that (at least as of this writing) these maps are not implemented in the regular Google search results, which will still point you only to **Yahoo** and **MapQuest** maps. ♦ rj@theskillspool.org

Richard Johnson is a writer and editor, and founder/administrator of FREE FOR ALL The Skills Pool, a 29-year-old membership organization (www.theskillspool.org). He is a volunteer with TUGNET Help and assists its members with Internet Explorer, Outlook Express, and Gmail.

HERB GOODMAN DISCOUNT COMPUTER MAGAZINE* PRICE LIST

	1 yr	2 yrs	3 yrs
Computer Games	\$10.95	\$20.95	\$29.95
Computer Gaming World	\$14.95	\$28.95	\$41.95
Computer Shopper	\$16.97	\$32.95	\$47.95
Dr. Dobbs Journal	\$15.95	\$30.95	—
Mac Addict	\$10.97	\$19.97	\$28.97
Mac Home Journal	\$15.97	\$29.97	—
Mac World	\$12.95	—	—
Maximum PC	\$9.95	\$18.95	\$27.95
Microsoft System Journal	\$21.95	\$39.95	—
PC Gamer	\$12.95	\$23.95	\$33.95
PC Magazine	(22 / 44 / 66 issues)		
	\$25.97	\$48.95	\$68.95
PC World	\$16.95	—	—
Videomaker	\$11.95	\$21.95	—
Wired	\$6.00	\$12.00	\$17.00

Prices above are for new subscriptions & renewals. All orders must be accompanied by a check, cash or money order payable to:

Herb Goodman
8295 Sunlake Drive
Boca Raton FL 33496
phone (561) 488-4465
hgoodman@prodigy.net

Allow 10 - 12 weeks for magazines to start.

Renewals: Send your address label from your present subscription to ensure correct start of renewal. As an extra service Herb will mail a renewal notice 4 months prior to expiration date.

*For over 300 more titles at excellent prices, contact Herb by e-mail.

MBUG-PC Members now get 30% O'Reilly Discounts

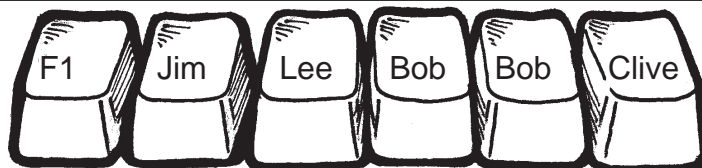
Our Members get a 30% discount on all O'Reilly, No Starch, Paraglyph, PC Publishing, Pragmatic Bookshelf, Sitepoint and Syngress publications: use code **DSUG** when ordering books. Group purchases with better discounts are also available. O'Reilly catalogues are available at general meetings. Interested? Contact:

S. Jack Lewtschuk blacklion@royal.net



Computer Help - Just a Click or Call Away with MBUG F1

You know you push the "F1" button on your computer when you need help. But do you also know that you can call or e-mail **MBUG-PC** "F1 for Help" with your computer questions?



Our expert team of helpful F1 Volunteers

is willing and able to share experience on software and hardware. And if they don't know the answer, they'll direct you to someone who does. To get computer help:

- (1) Contact any of the people listed below; or
- (2) Ask questions during any MBUG-PC meeting break or Q&A session; or
- (3) Leave a message with Vice President **Don Slaiter** (831) 655-4443/657-4154 ; or
- (4) Broadcast a message to all members through the **MBUG-PC Listserv** (mbug@listserv.redshift.com) *in plain text only* (NO html, please)!

Services are free of charge

(with the understanding that MBUG-PC, its Board of Directors, and the F1 Volunteers themselves are in no way responsible or liable for the accuracy or the outcome of any advice or suggestions)!

■ Jim Anway

STRICTLY Wednesdays & Fridays
from 2pm to 5pm at 625-5618

■ Lee Keely

Prefers e-mail at Lee@leekeely.com
or call 626-8033

■ Bob Shanteau

e-mail to shanteau@iname.com
or call Monday - Friday 10am-5pm
394-9420

■ Bob Stephan

e-mail to bob@bobstephan.net
or call only between 9am-5pm
646-1373

■ Clive Sanders

e-mail to simbacli@pacbell.net
or call only between 1pm to 9pm
phone (831) 375-5376 ◆

VOLUNTEER COMPUTER COACHES/TEACHERS NEEDED

Sally Griffin Senior Center in Pacific Grove

is in need of additional "computer coaches" and instructors for their

Technology Access Program for Seniors.

The center provides older adults an opportunity to learn and practice their technical skills in a small lab, working one-on-one and in a small class format.

If you have the time, ability and patience to tutor beginners in a relaxed setting, contact **Kimberle Herring** at the Sally Griffin Senior Center at (831) 375-4454 or e-mail kherring@mowmp.org

*Pacific Grove
Adult
Education
Center*



Vocational
Education
Computer
Classes

"Learning for Life"

1025 Lighthouse Avenue
Pacific Grove CA 93950

See PGAEC catalog & web pages for
class descriptions.

Call: Computer Office (831) 646-6657
or e-mail Bruce Cates: bcates@pgusd.org

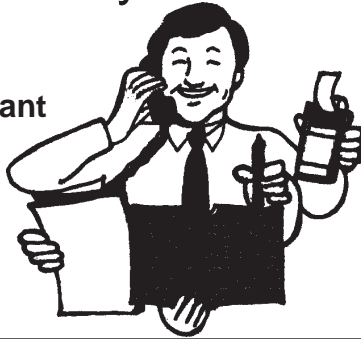
<http://www.pgusd.org>

MBUG-PC SUPPORTERS

James W. Anway

Retired IBMer
Computer Consultant

Phone: 831 625-5618
Fax: Call first



BIZTECH SHIPPING & COPY CENTER

Richard Pryor, Owner

26384 Carmel Rancho Lane, #101
Carmel CA 93923
(831) 622-9024 Fax (831) 622-9026
E-mail - bizcopy@aol.com

COMPUTER POWER

Star Reierson
star@redshift.com

1173 Ninth Street
Monterey CA 93940

Phone: (831) 373-3919
Fax: (831) 373-0671

Clive R. Sanders Sanders and Associates

Computer Consultants

636 Spazier Avenue
Pacific Grove
California 93950

Telephone: 831-375-5376
Cell: 831-521-6676
E-mail: simbacli@pacbell.net



Carolyn S. Lake

798 Lighthouse Ave, #194
Monterey, California 93940

phone: 831-643-2023
email: lakelyn@ix.netcom.com

In-home Computer Coaching

- Practical guidance to make your computer work for you
- Sessions geared to the older adult (beginner/intermediate)
- Special projects: document preparation, graphics
- Learn the basics of popular Microsoft programs and more...

Word	Outlook	PowerPoint	Internet	Scanning
Excel	Publisher	FrontPage	WordPad	CD Burning

Four Winds Travel



Where the good times beginSM

■ Dan Presser, Owner

26080 Carmel Rancho Blvd., Suite 103

Carmel CA 93923-8757 ■ (831) 622-0800

Fax (831) 622-9467 ■ CST #1000683-40

fourwinds@redshift.com/www.fourwindstravel.com

ARE YOU A REGISTERED MBUG LISTSERV MEMBER YET?

Join the MBUG listserv and send messages to all other MBUG Members
and have other Members reach you with important information:

- **It's secure** (messages are monitored by MBUG's Webmaster ensuring messages are computer-related, virus-free and sent by Members only — no outsiders, no spammers!)
- **You get current MBUG announcements**
- **You get up-to-date virus & scam warnings**
- **You can ask and answer computer-related questions**
- **You can make computer-related announcements**

Register at www.mbug.org or go to <http://listserv.redshift.com/mailman/listinfo/mbug>



MICROSOFT WORD: TIPS & SHORTCUTS



Debbie Jones

Guest Speaker

Wednesday, October 12
7:00 to 9:00pm
Hilltop Park Center
Monterey

Debbie, Founder and CEO of *Anything Is Possible* computer training service, isn't finished yet! By popular demand, she'll be telling us more basics about Word, shortcuts and handy computer tips for beginners to advanced users. Questions? (831) 402-1810 or anythingispossible@comcast.net. ♦

COMING in NOVEMBER:

INTERNET SECURITY & ORGANIZATION



Linda & Gene Barlow

Guest Speakers

Friday, November 4
7:00 to 9:00pm
Adult Education Center
Pacific Grove

Can't make it to **Scott Coté's** talk on **Identity Theft** this month (see front page)? Hear Linda and Gene in November. Even if you did hear Scott, find out more about Internet security using **Invisu Computer Security** and Internet organization using **Optimal Desktop Pro**. Questions? Contact User Group Relations, phone Utah (435)652-3005, e-mail linda@ugr.com or visit www.ugr.com. ♦

WANT TO RUN YOUR OWN SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (SIG)?

MBUG has 1st/2nd/4th Mondays available from 10:30 to 12 noon at Carmel Foundation Computer Lab (12 PCs w/MS Office XP, other applications, Internet, e-mail). For info on fees, schedules, etc., contact Carolyn Lake lakelyn@ix.netcom.com.

Want to Go to Las Vegas in the New Year?
MBUG-PC Representative Wanted!
We need someone to represent MBUG-PC at the upcoming **APCUG Annual Conference** January 2 through 5, 2006 at **The Stardust Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada.**



MBUG-PC will pay your registration fee (\$75 early bird special if registered by October 17, 2005). You pay for transportation and room, but APCUG has a great deal for conference attendees - Room and Suite Rates:

	Sunday	Mon/Tues	Wed-Sat
	1/1/06	1/2-3/06	1/4-7/06
West Tower	\$150	\$67	\$112
Spa Suites	N/A	\$110	\$175

Interested? Contact MBUG-PC President **Carolyn Lake** at (831) 643-2023 or e-mail lakelyn@ix.netcom.com. ♦

ADOBE ILLUSTRATOR SIG UPDATE



This Special Interest Group (SIG) meets every 3rd Monday of the month at **Carmel Foundation, Computer Learning Center**, on Lincoln between 8th/9th Streets in Carmel.

Fee: **\$3.00** (payable at the meeting).
Next meeting: **MONDAY, October 17, 2005**
10:30am -12 noon. Previous knowledge of Illustrator not required.

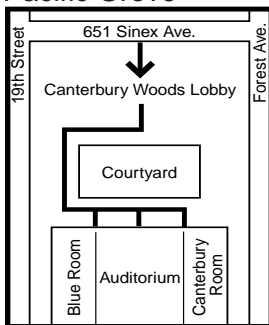
To be placed on the SIG mailing list (receive information/announcements), call Carolyn Lake at (831) 643-2023 or e-mail lakelyn@ix.netcom.com.

Space is limited:
advance reservations are strongly recommended.

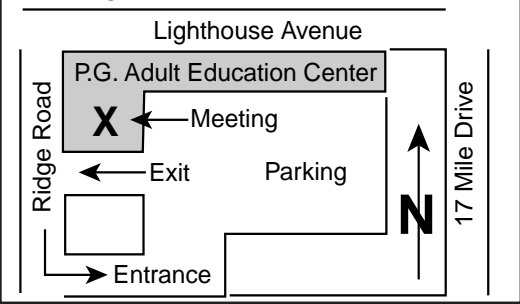
MBUG - PC Calendar of Events - October 2005

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4 <i>DIRECTORS' MEETING</i> Canterbury Woods PG Begins at 7pm <i>Everyone Welcome!</i>	5	6	7 General Meeting <i>"Identity Theft"</i> Adult Ed Center PG 7:00 - 9:00pm Scott Coté	8
9	10	11	12 <i>"More About MS Word"</i> Hilltop Park Monterey 7:00 to 9:00pm Debbie Jones	13	14	15
16	17 <i>"Adobe Illustrator SIG"</i> Carmel Foundation 10:30am to noon Carolyn Lake	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 <i>To Be Announced</i> Hilltop Park Monterey 7:00 to 9:00pm	27	28	29
30	31					

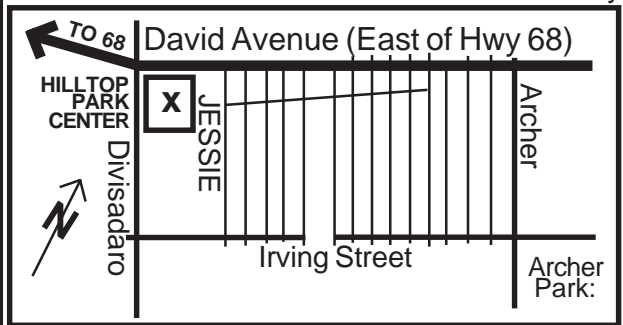
Canterbury Woods
651 Sinex Avenue
Pacific Grove



General Meeting Location
Adult Education Center, PG
1025 Lighthouse Avenue, Pacific Grove



Hilltop Park Center
871 Jessie Street
Monterey



Tentative Calendar November 2005 *Please Check the November Newsletter for Final Dates & Times*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 <i>DIRECTORS' MEETING</i> Canterbury Woods PG Begins at 7pm <i>Everyone Welcome!</i>	2	3	4 <i>"Backup & Security"</i> Hilltop Park Monterey 7:00 to 9:00pm Linda & Gene Barlow	5
6	7	8	9 <i>"Windows98"</i> Hilltop Park Monterey 7:00 - 9:00pm Jim Anway	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 <i>"Adobe Illustrator SIG"</i> Carmel Foundation 10:30am to noon Carolyn Lake	22	23	24 THANKSGIVING	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Vol 24, No 10, 2005



monterey bay users
group-pc
PO Box 51611
Pacific Grove CA 93950



Non-Profit
Organization
U. S. Postage Paid
Monterey, CA
93940
Permit No. 273



INK UPDATE

**Joyce
Elisha**

Video Team &
"The Ink Lady"



FINISHED

In looking for a helpful ink titbit, I found that the ink manufacturers have become so expert and refined that the ink rarely gets clogged in the nozzle heads anymore. All ink cartridges will wear out: if you are refilling your cartridges, this does not always coincide with when your cartridge runs out of ink. If you start seeing horizontal bands, white streaks, or incomplete areas with no ink — that could be a sign that your inkjet cartridge is nearing the end

If you have this kind of a "finished" cartridge on your hands, please remember MBUG. The revenues we receive from their reimbursement continues to help our programs. The brown box is always ready to receive **HP, Sharp, Xerox, Dell, Canon** and **Lexmark** brand-name empties! ♦

ellias@msn.com

Check your (upside down) label.

Does it say "Exp: October / 2005"?

Don't miss an issue. Renew today!



Check the expiration date of your MBUG-PC membership & newsletter subscription: Electronic \$20, US Mail \$25, both \$35.

Additional tax-deductible donations welcome!

Send your name, address, phone number, e-mail address and check to:

Monterey Bay Users Group-PC, PO Box 51611, Pacific Grove CA 93950

MEMBERSHIP REPORT



**Don
Slaiter**

Vice President,
Asst Treasurer
and Membership
Chair

photos: Bill Hylter, MBUG-PC

THANK FOR RENEWING

name	member number
Joe Asling	1232
Ella Bigger	1255
Mary Boyken	1070
Gisela Canez	562
Norma Cocklin	1063
Connie D'Attilio	1064
Cliff Hylton	472
Anita King	1254
Renati Mannan	1214
Carol Meyer	556
Thomas Pelikan	222
Leo Poppoff	754
Michael Pouls, Jr.	854
Star Reiersen	161
John Shillcock	729
Barbara Tyrrell	1120

WE REALLY APPRECIATE THE SUPPORT OF OUR GENEROUS DONORS

name	member number
Ella Bigger	1255
Gisela Canez	562
Norma Cocklin	1063
Leo Poppoff	754