



mbug-pc newsletter

Established 1983 / Incorporated 1988

IN THIS ISSUE

MBUG-PC Volunteer Positions	2
MBUG-PC Information	2
Things, Thinglets & Thingassos	3
My Favorite Websites: Cookies!	4
Carolyn's Meeting Review	5
Frugal Computerist	6
Book Review: CSS Anthology	8
O'Reilly Book Discounts	9
Need Computer Help?	10
Computer Volunteers Wanted	10
PG Adult Education Classes	10
Annual MBUG Get-Together	11
Membership Report	11
MBUG-PC Supporters	12
Recycle	13
MBUG-PC Discounts & Offers	13
MBUG Upcoming Workshops	14
MBUG-PC Calendar	15
Book Review: Web Navigation	16

Cookies, Cookies, COOKIES!



For the type that websites put on your computer, see Jack's column starting on page 3; For the type you put in your mouth, see Regina's review on page 4!

Update on Wireless Technology and New Wireless Devices

John Rowe, Manager and Owner of **AAA WiFi** in Marina, will discuss how to set up and secure a home or office wireless network, and how to get access to WiFi on the road. John will explain all about "wireless fidelity," which originally included only certain types of WLAN (Wireless Local Area Network) or products using the "802.11b" standard. He will discuss how this situation has changed over time from the original wired LANs, update and explain WiFi and newer wireless standards (such as 802.11n and WiMAX), and compare all these to the new cellular phone data networks available now.

John is a local expert in this field, and we mean local—he's helped set up many WiFi systems (known as "hot spots") in our area, through AAA WiFi and as a Field Service Technician for **Psion Teklogix Corporation**. Some of the jobs he's been involved with include **The Wharf's General Store** (providing access through most of the Monterey Harbor and much of Cannery Row); **Tully's Coffee**, Marina; **The Inn at Spanish Bay** and **The Lodge**, Pebble Beach; quite a few local **Starbucks**; and several locations in Seaside, Santa Cruz, Scotts Valley, Salinas, Carmel, Capitola and Felton.

Hot spots are now a normal part of many coffee shops, fast food joints, airports, hotels, schools, and libraries. John will tell us how to get access in these places, and what it costs (some hot spots charge daily or hourly rates while some are free). More importantly, John will help us protect ourselves when setting up and using all things WiFi. He will demystify the safeguards you need to know about, such as WEP, WPA, IPsec, VPN, and other ways to prevent unauthorized people from using your Internet connection, as well as ways to stay safe while using other people's hot spots.

Questions? Call (831) 594-3941 or e-mail john@aaawifi.com. ♦

November 2nd 2007 at 7pm

Pacific Grove Adult Education Center

1025 Lighthouse Avenue, Pacific Grove

**FREE to MBUG Members and the General Public.
Great coffee and snacks, and interesting people!**

Open Volunteer Positions Available Now at MBUG !

Association of Personal Computer User Groups Representative

More about APCUG at www.apcug.org. Or e-mail Lee@leekeely.com

Meeting Reviewers and Columnists

Attend General Meetings or any other ongoing workshops and write 500-word-or-less reviews. Or become a regular or occasional columnist on any computer-related subject (hardware or software review, favorite website, etc.)

Workshop /SIG Leaders

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

E-mail or call President **Don Slaiter** at slaiter@pacbell.net

☎ (831) 655-4443 and 657-4154

MBUG-PC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Donald R. Slaiter .. President, 655-4443/657-4154 slaiter@pacbell.net
Membership Consultant & Workshop Facilitator
Carolyn Lake Vice President, 643-2023 lakelyn@comcast.net
Programs/Publicity Chairman, Video Project Team Member,
Library Coordinator
Tom Streeter Secretary/Treasurer, 657-4249 tom223@pacbell.net
Membership Chairman & Newsletter Proofreader
Regina Doyle Editor, 375-4496 reginadoyle@aol.com
& Board Member-at-Large
Nelson French Board Member-at-Large 626-4551 nfrenchjr@aol.com
S.Jack Lewtschuk. Columnist, 757-0123 blacklion@royal.net
& Board Member-at-Large
Charlie Mehler Hospitality Chairman, 375-0316 mehler@sbcglobal.net
& Programs/Publicity Team
Gary Stephens Board Member-at-Large, 384-2440 garykstephens@sbcglobal.net
Vice-Photographer, Programs/Publicity Team, & Hospitality Team

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 © 2007 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 wwwb2@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
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
Carole Harris Hospitality Team N/A N/A
Jim Hinwood Columnist ehinwood@msn.com
Bill Hyler Photographer 624-4456 hyler@comcast.net
Mack Jacobs Vice-Photographer 394-6975 . mackjacobs@comcast.net
Lee Keely 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 john@aaawifi.com
Clive Sanders Advisor/F1 Help, 375-5376 simbacli@pacbell.net
& Membership Consultant
Bob Stephan Historian, F1 Help, 646-1373 ... stephan.bob@gmail.com
Columnist & Workshop Leader
Bill Stockton Recording Secretary 384-6130
David Thorp Video Project Team 373-4623
Ed West Webmaster /Listserv Owner . 372-6200 captain@mobie.com

SUBSCRIPTION: See back cover for rates.

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. For 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 Tom Streeter for card).

THINGS, THINGLETS & THINGASSOS

S. Jack Lewtschuk
MBUG-PC
Columnist



photo: Mack Jacobs, MBUG-PC

IT MAY BE TRIVIA, BUT SO FASCINATING

One problem with encryption is that it's difficult to get computers—essentially boxes of on/off switches—to simulate random numbers on which to base algorithms. Scientists at Tokyo's National Institute of Information and Communications Technology have turned to heavenly sources, quasars, to supply numbers that are impossible to predict. Quasars emit radio waves with irregular frequency and strength. In theory, a snooper would have to have a radio telescope pointed at a particular quasar at a particular time in order to figure out the key to an encrypted document in a timely manner.

THE HANDY “SEND TO” FUNCTION

Folders are easy to add to the “SendTo” folder. This option is used to move files around.

To do this, click “Start,” and “Run.” In the text box, enter “SendTo” (without the quotes); click “OK”; and the “SendTo” folder will open. In the “SendTo” folder, click on “File,” “New,” and “Shortcut.” Click the “Browse” button, click on the folder in which you are interested, click “OK,” click “Next,” type a name for the shortcut and click “finish.” Repeat for each folder you want to add.

If you want to put a file in another folder, right-click the file, select “Send To,” then click the folder where you want to place the file. This will put a copy of the file in the second folder, while leaving the original in its place.

You can also use Send To if you want to e-mail the file. Again, right-click the file and click “Mail Recipient.” This will open your e-mail software with the file already attached. Or you can create a shortcut on your desktop by clicking “Desktop” and “create shortcut.”

For some added functionality, check out Send To Toys, a free program which streamlines the process of adding folders or drives, and adds more places to your “SendTo” list. The program is free at www.gabrieleponi.com/software/.

A LITTLE HELP WITH “MSCONFIG” (WINDOWS XP)

Is it time to check why your computer is running slow? The reasons could be many. Having too many programs running automatically upon boot-up is one.

Click on “Start,” then “Run” and type “msconfig” in the box. The System Configuration Utility window's “Startup” tab will list what is running every time you start up your computer.

If you find the description of the programs confusing, instead of “msconfig” type “services.msc.” Why? Because under “msconfig,” you might mistakenly disable services that are vital to booting your system, while with “services.msc” you cannot. Also, under “msconfig” if you uncheck a box, it disables the service. The “Disable All” button also scares me. It should not even be there as no reason exists to justify disabling *everything*.

If you want even more information on this topic, go to: www.blackviper.com/WinXP/service411.htm.

NOVICE CORNER



Cookies

Question: *Can someone trace a cookie back to my computer, then browse through my personal files?*

Answer: Like your other files, they are protected by your computer's security. Software bugs and weak security are the real culprits.

Cookies are probably the most misunderstood feature of computerdom. They are inert text files that can't do much of anything. True, they can be used by advertisers to collect information on you, but by and large they do much more good than evil.



Cookies allow websites to be interactive. As text files, cookies provide the means for web pages within the same site to pass notes to each other. Otherwise, any selections you make on one page are forgotten as soon as you click to another page.

Cookies are useful for shopping sites. A cookie can store a list of items you've selected to buy as you browse different product pages. Then the checkout page can read that list from the cookie. Another use for cookies is website customization. Cookies can be used to store your preferences whenever you revisit a particular site.

Cookies usually do not carry information identifying a particular computer. You could transfer your cookies to another computer and use them just as well. They identify your computer to websites only as much as your car keys identify you to your car. Most browsers allow cookies to be read by only the website to which they belong. This makes it difficult for any one site to track your web surfing. However, sometimes a website's advertiser will issue its own cookies. The cookies can be used to recognize your computer at any other site associated with that advertiser. Known as "third party cookies," they can be an invasion of privacy.

Internet Explorer has privacy settings to address third party cookies. Right click your IE icon (the big blue "E"), choose "Properties", and click on the "Privacy" tab. In **Firefox's** privacy settings, you can choose to allow cookies "for the originating site only." Even minimal computer security includes a firewall, an anti-virus program and anti-spyware software. Another way to stay protected is by avoiding malicious sites.

IP Address

The IP (Internet Protocol) address is as misunderstood as the "cookie" is. Your IP address identifies your computer on the Internet. But it's not a free pass through your security. Your IP address is given away many times as you surf the web. Each link you click is a request for a web page. The web server that responds needs a return address—your IP address. The process of sharing files over a home network is similar.

Hackers might use your IP address to target your computer for attack. Even so, your computer's firewall stands in the way. Uninvited communication is precisely what firewalls are designed to block. With adequate security, you have nothing to worry about.

In addition to a firewall, you should have antivirus and anti-spyware programs. And be sure to keep your **Windows** program updated.

Post Script

*"Computers in the future
may weigh no more than 1.5 tons."*

Popular Mechanics

(forecasting the relentless march of science in 1949)

Check out Popular Mechanics' website at <http://www.popularmechanics.com/> where you'll find they are now a bit more up-to-date about all things technical and mechanical, including computers. ♦

blacklion@royal.net

my favorite WEBSITES

OK, so Jack didn't mean yummy baked goods when he mentioned COOKIES above, but since the holidays will soon be here, try using your computer to find new and old recipes:

Traditional Cookie Recipes

www.cookie.betterrecipes.com
www.cooksrecipes.com/category/cookie
www.cookingcache.com/cat/cookie_recipes
www.bhg.com/recipes
www.allrecipes.com/Recipes/Desserts/Cookies



Low Fat Cookie Recipes

www.lowfatcooking.about.com/od/bakedgoods/r/chocchipcookies
www.allhomemadecookies.com/recipeindex/healthycookies
www.fitnessandfreebies.com/lowfat/cookies4.html
www.floras-hideout.com/recipes
[www.whatscookingamerica.net/Cookie/Chocolate Meringue](http://www.whatscookingamerica.net/Cookie/ChocolateMeringue) ♦ ReginaDoyle@aol.com

MEETING REVIEW

photo: Nelson French, MBUG-PC



Carolyn Lake
Vice President/
Programs & Publicity
Team Chairman/
Library Coordinator

MEETING REVIEW

At the October 5 General Meeting, **Fletcher Wu** of **Smith Micro Software, Inc.** gave an overview of how to compress, manage, backup, and send files using the various **StuffIt** software utilities. Founded in 1982, Smith Micro has offices in several countries and specializes in software that works on **Windows, Mac, and Linux** computer systems to compress and archive files.

The suite of programs uses a special proprietary compression format developed originally by **Allume Systems**. A major claim for the software is that it provides better, faster compression than the perhaps better known **WinZip** program, offering JPEG compression that can reduce photos and images by up to 30 percent in file size without any loss of image quality.

Fletcher explained that compression works by using algorithms (math formulas) in the software program that eliminate redundant characters without losing any significant information. Smith Micro's compression format is known as **StuffIt X** (the file extension is .sitx) and compresses files smaller than any other compression formats available today.

So why do we need file compression? We probably have all experienced the problems of trying to send a large file, which JPEG photos often are, and either having it take forever to load or else having our e-mail server reject it as too large. Compression, as the word implies, makes files and folders smaller so that storage space is preserved on the hard disk or on backup disks, and also makes files easier to handle for attaching to e-mail and transmitting faster over the Internet.

Fletcher pointed out some really useful features of **StuffIt**. Since e-mail programs may have a 10MB limit for attachments, **StuffIt** provides a segmentation process to split a large file into smaller pieces. Each piece can be attached to a separate e-mail message, and when saved into a folder by the recipient, the file re-constitutes itself when the pieces are opened. Another feature is the ability to make self-extracting PDF files. The recipient does not need special software to open the compressed file; it will expand back automatically when clicked.

StuffIt comes in several packages, with **StuffIt Deluxe 11** being the current version with the most features, meant for the power user. It contains the **Drop Stuff** (for compressing) and **StuffIt Expander** (for self-extracting) utilities. It gives the 30 percent JPEG compression, can expand over 20 different compression file types (Zip, etc.), automatically schedules backups through "Archive Assistant," and allows direct archiving to CDs, to DVDs, or to FTP files for Internet storage. It retails around \$80, with an update version for about \$30.

StuffIt Standard 11 has fewer features, lacking the utility to create self-extracting files but retaining the 30 percent JPEG compression ability.

Retailing around \$50, it is suitable for the more casual user and for first-time users who want to learn the software. There is even a **StuffIt Wireless and Mobile** version available which allows users with camera enabled cell phones to do the 30 percent JPEG compression and to transfer data faster; with **StuffIt** the mobile user will have more device space to store more music, video, and other files. The mobile version also provides the ability to browse image archives through thumbnails without decompressing the archive.

Fletcher presented a most interesting program; as a WinZip drop-out, I was glad to have this overview of software that appears user-friendly for a variety of file compression tasks. He has also provided MBUG with several pieces of software for both PC and Mac platforms, which will be used as raffle items. Many thanks to Smith Micro! ♦

lakelyn@comcast.net

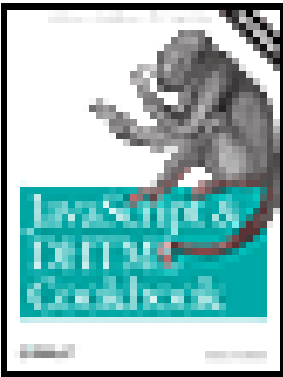


THE FRUGAL COMPUTERIST



by Bob “I Don’t Do
Windows” Stephan

As I mentioned last month (*MBUG-PC Newsletter*, October 2007), I had two “cookbooks” to review. The first, as you may recall, was the one on GIMP (GNU Image Manipulation Program). This month I have a double-header. First the review of the other book, and then a review of an interesting disk utility.



Enhancing Your Website

Again, related to the topic of building your own website, the second cookbook I have for you is “*JavaScript & DHTML Cookbook*” by **Danny Goodman** (O’Reilly, Sebastopol, CA, 2003). This book is a comprehensive collection of problems, solutions, and practical

examples for anyone wanting to enhance web pages. It includes “recipes”—pieces of code that you can insert directly into your web pages. You will also get explanations of how and why the code works. It includes, among others, the following topics:

- Working with interactive forms and style sheets
- Presenting user-friendly page navigation
- Creating dynamic content
- Producing visual effects for stationary content
- Positioning HTML elements
- Managing browser windows and multiple frames

As you may have already suspected from the list, this is not a beginner’s book. You must have at least a rudimentary knowledge of JavaScript concepts. Frankly, some of it was over my head and will require some

concentrated study on my part to come up to speed on the more advanced parts, but it starts out with quite a bit of instruction on the basics of **JavaScript** programming such as “Creating a String” and other string manipulation techniques, Math properties, Dates and Times and other number topics and calculations, “Creating a Simple Array” and other array and object topics, and “Variables, Functions, and Flow Control.” These first 101 pages are all techniques that are the foundation of any programming language and this will adapt your understanding of them to the forms that JavaScript uses.

When building a website you want it to work with as many different browsers and operating systems as possible. Basic HTML is quite compatible across all, but when you start to program special features you have to be concerned about the differences and quirks and compensate for them. Goodman includes discussions of these differences and how some of his recipes have included modifications to handle them, and even which things will not work for certain browser or operating system versions. There are many idiosyncrasies to consider and he tries to cover them all, but he also references other books that can provide solutions to things which are beyond the scope of his book.

When you see a website that has an interesting effect and you are curious about how to create such an effect, this book might well provide the answer. The book is 520 pages long including the comprehensive index. The MSRP is \$39.95 but you can obtain it at the user group discount from O’Reilly (see page 9 for details). If you are into more advanced website building this would be a good book to have on hand.

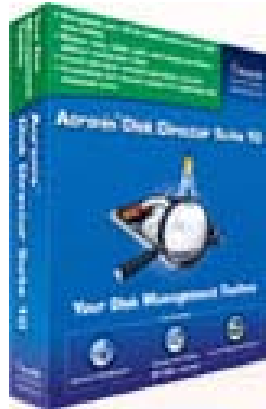
Now For Something Entirely Different

As I recall it wasn’t too long ago that we had **Gene Barlow** of **User Group Relations** speaking to us at one of our regular meetings. Among other topics Gene had some excellent guidance for hard disk organization and backup, and recently I found myself in need of just the information that Gene promulgated.

I have been a long time enthusiastic user of the **PowerQuest** tools *Partition Magic* and *Drive Image*. These were excellent products and always served me well even as far back as DOS before **Windows**, and they even worked with OS/2. In fact, Partition Magic

was first made available for OS/2 and DOS before there was a Windows version. But now I have a newer laptop with **Windows XP** and my latest versions of these products are too old to be certified to work with these newer technologies. Based on Gene's presentation, instead of upgrading I decided to give one of his products a try, so I obtained *Acronis Disk Director Suite 10.0* (which I will refer to as ADDS) from User Group Relations. ADDS supports just about any version of Windows and **Linux**, and has some basic support for OS/2.

The problem I needed to solve was that the laptop hard disk just had one large XP partition on the hard drive. Although this is a common arrangement with Windows computers, I think it is really a horrible way to organize a hard disk. I have always tried to have separate partitions for software applications, data, and other purposes such as, perhaps, other operating systems. This is also what Gene was recommending during his presentation and it makes a lot of sense. Some of the advantages to this system are:



1. The operating system (OS) can be backed up independent of applications. If the OS crashes and becomes unbootable, it can be restored from your OS backup without disturbing the applications. You do keep good backups, don't you?

2. Backups of data become easier. Data doesn't have to be sorted out from the myriad of OS files. It's not necessary to backup application executables over and over, but you do want to keep current backups of your important data. Many of your backups can simply be of data files that have changed since the last backup. This kind of backup is called incremental.

3. Each application can have its own top level folder and not be buried someplace deep within the Windows labyrinth. I like to be able to find my stuff and this makes it much easier to know where things are.

4. Data files are safer from crashes and viruses.

Enough of the background—how did it work? I'm happy to report that it worked very well. Here is what I did:

1. I printed the manual and looked it over carefully to make sure I would not be running into surprises.

2. I installed the suite from the CD to my USB external hard drive so as not to clutter my overly large XP partition that came on the computer. No problems encountered.

3. I opened the program and from the menu ran the Bootable Media Builder to create a CD so that I could run the program without booting the OS. Since this is not a program that I will be using on a daily basis, I could now, if I wanted to, remove it from my hard disk and boot it from the CD when needed.

It is also a handy feature if it is needed to restore an OS if it somehow becomes damaged. If you purchase ADDS in a box you will already have such a bootable CD. To verify this feature, I then shut down and booted from the CD.

4. Before I did anything to my hard disk, I wanted to make a backup of my single XP partition that I could restore if anything went wrong. I created space on my USB drive with the booted-from-CD ADDS that would hold the current XP OS. Since XP only occupied about 12GB on the 100GB partition, I made the unallocated space about 15GB to hold the copy. (I say "only 12GB" which really is a huge amount.) I am more used to installing operating systems in megabyte sizes, not gigabytes, but that's how Windows has become - overly bloated). This copy went beautifully and now I have everything in my current XP partition backed up on my USB drive which, presumably, I can reinstall from there if needed.

5. I then shrunk my main OS partition down from over 100GB to "just" 25GB. This is double the space the files currently occupy, so it gives the OS the free space it might need for expansion and whatever other operations it requires. Again, no problems.

6. I then created two 40GB partitions in the newly created unallocated space. One I named "MyPrograms," and the other "MyData." These will be used as indicated for programs and data.



7. Upon completion of all operations I shut down and rebooted to the now shrunken OS partition. It came right up and ran perfectly as if nothing had changed, and made no mention of the reduced amount of space or any other problems. So now I am off and running with a configuration I can live with.

Several other features are included in this suite. *The Recovery Expert* allows recovery of hard disk partitions that might have been accidentally deleted or damaged. *The Disk Editor* performs a variety of actions on a hard disk such as restore deleted files, find lost clusters, remove virus code, and more. The OS Selector is a boot manager that allows booting from one of several operating systems on a single PC.

If I ever have to use one of these I will report on it. There is also an excellent tutorial with an emphasis on upgrading your computer to **Windows Vista**. I had a problem running the tutorial on my laptop due to a bad echo, but it worked fine on a different computer. You can learn a lot more about hard disk architecture and backup by running this video. The tutorial is available on www.ugr.com, which also contains a wealth of information in newsletters, technical papers and other tutorials.

So what can I say, everything worked as advertised, it was extremely easy to use, and at every step of the way it made me feel confident that it knew exactly what it was doing. My only disappointment is that it has no support for the **OS/2 High Performance File System (HPFS)** like my older version of Partition Magic does, but this is not a problem for the more than 95 percent of users who do not use OS/2 or its current reincarnation as **eComStation** (see www.ecomstation.com for more info). Acronis Disk Director Suite 10.0 is available at a special price (\$29) on www.ugr.com using the price code UGEVAL07. ◆

Bob "I don't do Windows" Stephan is an OS/2 enthusiast with over 40 years experience as a computer programmer and user.

*He welcomes comments and questions that **The Frugal Computerist** can respond to by e-mail to stephan.bob@gmail.com. Bob's home page is at www.bobstephan.net.*

BOOK REVIEW



by **Heidi Fonseca**
MBUG Member 1038

***The CSS Anthology,
Second Edition 101
Essential Tips, Tricks
& Hacks***
by **Rachel Andrew**

Second Edition May 2007

ISBN 10: 0-9758419-8-X/ISBN 13:
9780975841983

Publisher: SitePoint, Pages: 400, Price: \$39.95

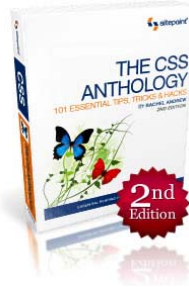
I am pretty much a self-taught “techie”. I started my journey in the early 80’s as a classroom aide in the local high school computer lab—the only requisite then being the ability to type. Now a math teacher, I still enjoy the challenges offered by gizmos, coding and applications now deemed a common necessity. And, of course, online and printed material that both satisfy and/or entice my curiosity for learning a little more.

The CSS Anthology contains a collection of tips, tricks and “hacks” for anyone using CSS (Cascading Style Sheets). The scope presents a rich range of topics, from quick CSS basics to layout techniques, without forgetting about accessibility.

Aside from content, I must mention that the soft glossy cover and binding of the book are user-friendly. I can leave the book open without fearing damage to the spine or loosening the pages. Having spilled coffee over the cover was not a biggie, as it remained undamaged after a quick clean-up.

The organization of the book is logically constructed, just as a user would go about creating web content: from text and other basics, to images, and then to navigation. Then the book continues with forms, user interfaces, cross-browser issues, accessibility, and alternative devices, ending with CSS positioning and layout.

The author, **Rachel Andrew**, is quite objective, offering just enough information for the reader to feel successful when applying suggested approaches to specific issues. This makes her book a “must have” gem for any library. For example, her step-by-step solution to styling a structural list as a navigation menu (presented in the chapter on “Navigation”) is practical, succinct, and to the point, making the material easy to search and read. Issues are phrased as questions, followed by clever solutions, snippets of code, tips, notes, and warnings. These are presented on white pages with generous margins, background color coding and icons making both extensive reading and quick skimming of material easy to do.



Having taken a CSS class online, and written code for a site with tab navigation, images, etc., I find *The CSS Anthology* something I wish I had when I was taking the class. The book addresses many topics that were part of my homework and challenging assignments, especially regarding browser and system compatibility, but also accessibility issues and validation.

In closing, both novices and experts will find great advice and excellent reminders to keep in mind when coding CSS.

Interested readers may download a sample chapter excerpt from the **Sitepoint** website (www.sitepoint.com). MBUG Members can get a 35 percent discount on the cover price by ordering through O’Reilly Books (see details on page 10). ♦ tyrkar@earthlink.net

The code offered is available on line as a download, links to useful sources are offered, leading the reader to sites where he/she may explore topics more in depth or find even more information.

FREE BOOKS FOR REVIEW



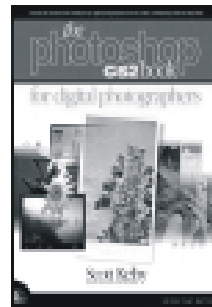
This is a reminder that **O’Reilly Books** offers free computer-related books to anyone willing to write and publish a review in the MBUG-PC Newsletter within a reasonable amount of time.

The procedure is simple:

1. Let me know which book you would like to review.
2. Write the review.
3. Send the review to Regina Doyle for **publication in the MBUG-PC Newsletter** with a copy to me (I verify for O’Reilly that you’ve done it).
4. Keep the book.

WHAT A DEAL! For a list of books which O’Reilly offers for review go to: <http://www.oreilly.com/store/newreleases.csp>. ♦

S. Jack Lewtschuk, blacklion@royal.net



**UPDATE:
MBUG-PC
Members
now get
35% off all**

O’Reilly Books and PDFs!

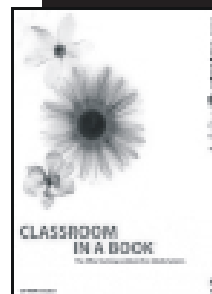
Our Members can now get a 35% discount on all books from O’Reilly as well as their “No Starch”, “Paraglyph”, “PC Publishing”, “Pragmatic Bookshelf”, “Sitepoint”, “Syngress” and “YoungJin” publications. Use the same code “DSUG” when ordering books online or by phone at 1-800-998-9938. We still get free ground shipping on orders of \$29.95 or more (in the US). Go to www.oreilly.com/store/ and see what’s new!

O’Reilly catalogues are available at general meetings.

Want to know more?

Contact:

Jack Lewtschuk
blacklion@royal.net

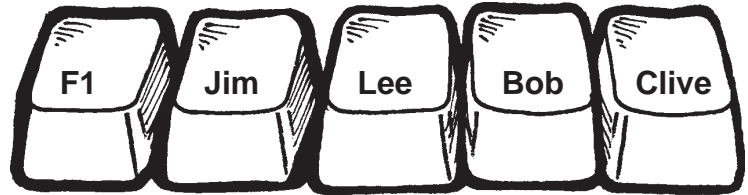


Computer Help - Just a Click or Call Away with MBUG F1

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 F1 Volunteers will share their experience on software and hardware. 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 **Don Slaiter** (831) 655-4443/657-4154 a message; or
- (4) Broadcast a message to all members through the **MBUG-PC Listserv** mbug@listserv.redshift.com **in plain text only** (NO html, please)!



■ 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 Stephan

e-mail to stephan.bob@gmail.com
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 ◆

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!)

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

Andrea Fuerst at the Sally Griffin Senior Center at (831) 375-4454 or e-mail alcdir@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 DESSERT POTLUCK GET-TOGETHER

Photography Essay by **Nelson French**

MBUG Board Member-at-Large & Vice Photographer



On October 24th in the Canturbury Woods auditorium, MBUG had a Dessert Potluck for members, family and friends to share some sweet autumn treats, try their luck at a special raffle, have a chance to meet face to face (instead of seeing the backs of each others heads!), and discuss computers, and the



upcoming holiday season over a good cup of coffee!



MEMBERSHIP REPORT



Tom Streeter
Membership
Chairman

photo: Regina Doyle MBUG

THANKS FOR RENEWING
We appreciate your continued support to MBUG and hope to see you at upcoming meetings!

name	member number
Harry Nicholson	1072
Ben Norwood.....	1075
PC People	5
Connie Perry	1296
Barbara Scheele	1275
Carol Schock	656

raffle items wanted

Cleaning House? Reorganizing? Getting A New PC?

- (1) Donate new or nearly-new computer-related items—books, hardware, or software—all gratefully accepted.* Call **Don Slaiter** (655-4443) if you have questions, or bring items to any MBUG function for evaluation. (2) Contact, or tell us about, suitable vendors from whom MBUG might be gifted some nice computer-related raffle items. (3) Save your lottery ticket money and buy lots of tickets at the next raffle! All proceeds benefit our educational activities.

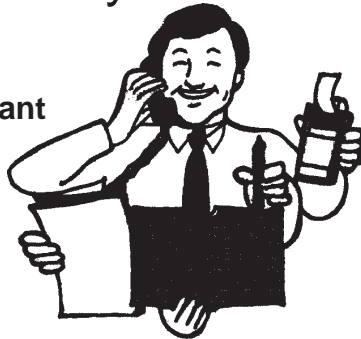
**(Items will be sorted for the raffle, the "freebies" shelf, or responsible recycling)*

MBUG-PC SUPPORTERS

James W. Anway

Retired IBMer
Computer Consultant

Phone: 831 625-5618
Fax: Call first



Bob Weisensee
Production Supervisor
bob@ctimls.com

CREATIVE TECHNOLOGY
of Sarasota, Inc.
5969 Palmer Boulevard
Sarasota FL 34232-2841

Printer of the MBUG-PC Newsletter

(941) 371-2743 / FAX (941) 379-2933 / 1-800-533-1031

COMPUTER POWER

Star Reierson

star@computerpowerstar.com

1173 Ninth Street
Monterey CA 93940

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

Lakelyn
graphics

Carolyn S. Lake

798 Lighthouse Ave, #194
Monterey, California 93940

phone: 831-643-2023
email: lakelyn@comcast.net

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 WordPad E-mail CD Burning

FourWinds Travel

Where the good times begin SM



Dan Presser in Borneo discussing conservation awareness with a local Headman.

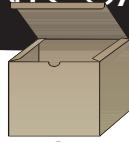
■ **Dan Presser, Owner**

26080 Carmel Rancho Blvd., Suite 103
Carmel CA 93923-8757 ■ (831) 622-0800

Fax (831) 622-9467 ■ CST #1000683-40

info@fourwindstravel.com

RECYCLE INK CARTRIDGES



Go Green, Give to Charity, Support Local Industry

Recycling empty computer ink cartridges through MBUG helps prevent non-degradable plastic and metal waste from polluting our landfills. At the same time we make money for our educational programs by selling them to a local (Monterey) ink-refill company. We make it easy for you, too: just drop your empties (any brand, any type) into the brown box or give them to any Board Member at General Meetings or workshops. ♦

ellias@msn.com

HERB GOODMAN DISCOUNT COMPUTER MAGAZINE PRICE LIST

	1 yr	2 yrs	3 yrs
Computer Games	\$15.95	—	—
Computer Gaming World	\$14.95	\$28.95	\$41.95
Computer Shopper	\$16.97	\$32.95	\$47.95
Dr. Dobbs Journal	\$15.95	—	—
Mac Addict	\$10.97	\$19.97	\$28.97
Mac Life	\$10.97	\$	
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 per yr.)		
	\$25.97	\$48.95	\$68.95
PC World	\$16.95	—	—
Videomaker	\$11.95	\$21.95	—
Wired	\$10.00	\$18.00	—

For over 300 more titles, contact Herb by e-mail.

Prices are for new subscriptions & renewals. Send 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 address label from your present subscription to ensure correct start.

Herb will mail a renewal notice 4 months prior to expiration date.

A TIP FROM JACK: Before subscribing or renewing through the above, check if the publisher has a current special price (which happens periodically). ♦ blacklion@royal.net



Peachpit

Essential books for the creative community

30% DISCOUNT ON COMPUTER BOOKS FOR MBUG MEMBERS

The Peachpit User Group Partner Program gives hefty discounts on books ordered online! Click the Bookstore link at www.peachpit.com, to view books on graphics applications, business productivity, operating systems, digital lifestyle, and more. Discount at point of purchase using group discount coupon code UE-23AA-PEUF (case sensitive).

Another PEACHY deal: Review a Peachpit Book, and Keep it for FREE!

Get a juicy new computer book for FREE! All you have to do is choose a title of your choice from www.peachpit.com, (there are hundreds to select from); contact Peachpit liaison **Carolyn Lake** at (831) 643-2023 or lakelyn@ix.netcom.com; read the book and write a review (see examples at www.peachpit.com/usergroups); and send a copy to Peachpit and to the MBUG-PC Newsletter Editor for publishing! ♦

Smart Computing

FREE tech support

to both subscribers and non-subscribers.
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

Subscribe to Smart Computing and benefit MBUG-PC: use source code **8181** when ordering and for every five subscriptions, we get one free for our raffle to fund our educational activities.
**12 issues for \$29.00 / 24 issues for \$48.00
36 issues for \$64.00**



NOVEMBER

WINE NOTES 2.0

EVALUATION SOFTWARE

Jud Grubbs & Pat Landee



Guest Speakers
Wednesday, November 14
7:00 to 9:00pm
Canterbury Woods
Auditorium, Pacific Grove

Find out more about the modern way to organize wine (by more than just “red” and “white”). **Jud Grubbs** and **Pat Landee** of **Groundspace Corporation** Pebble Beach will demonstrate **Wine Notes 2.0**, a wine evaluation and selection tool for use by the casual collector or serious connoisseur. Designed for managing a wine cellar, the software runs on PDAs or PCs using **Windows XP** (soon to be Vista-compatible). Questions? 655-9907; pat@pinotnoirs.com; or www.groundspace.com/. ♦

DIGITAL ART

& PHOTOGRAPHY

Eileen Begley

Workshop Leader
Wednesday, November 28
7:00 to 9:00pm
Hilltop Park Center,
Monterey



Eileen always provides informative, creative sessions using **Photoshop** and **Photoshop Elements**. Thinking of making your own greeting cards or gift photos from snaps you took at a special event earlier this year? You're sure to get step-by-step tips on retouching, enhancing and publishing digital images from Eileen. Questions in advance? Problems to solve? Contact Eileen at 655-4884; e-mail eb@spyderbytes.com; or check out her website at <http://www.spyderbytes.com/art.html>. ♦

COMING in DECEMBER

HOME NETWORKING

Richard Allen



Guest Speakers
Friday, December 7
7:00 to 9:00pm
Adult Education Center,
Pacific Grove

Richard of **PC People** (MBUG Member #5!), will show us what it takes to link two up to 200 home computers easily. Find out how you and your family/home business partners/housemates can share data or music files, storage space, the same printer, gaming equipment, or an Internet connection using **Novell** or **Windows** (98/NT/ME/2000/2003/XP). Come learn what you might need in terms of hardware, software, tools and/or expertise for wired and wireless systems to get it set up and keep it working. Questions? Call 649-5900 (extension 2), or e-mail rcallen@pcpro.net ♦

VISTA CHALLENGES

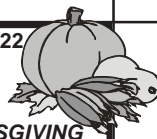
Star Reierson

Workshop Leader
Wednesday, December 12
7:00 to 9:00pm
Canterbury Woods Auditorium,
Pacific Grove

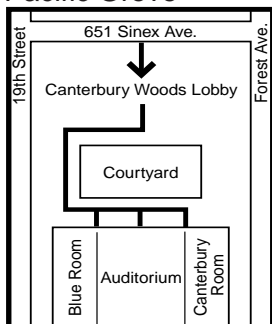


Star of **Computer Power** will demonstrate some of Vista's new O/S features (sidebar “Gadgets”, transparent windows, taskbar thumbnails) and how some features can be disabled (if you want a FAST machine), then discuss versions (five!), system requirements, security enhancements, and networking. If you have Vista, you know “Search” has disappeared, the icons have all been redesigned, and some old programs won't work. Come compare notes, share “work-arounds,” and challenges-yet-to-be conquered. Questions? 373-3919 or star@computerpowerstar.com. ♦

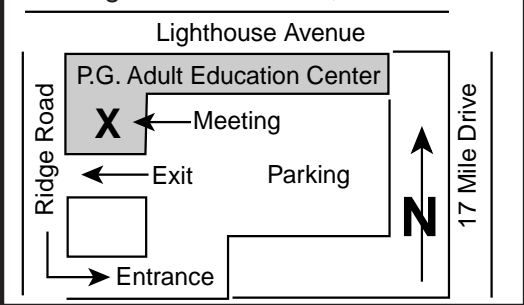
MBUG-PC Calendar of Events - NOVEMBER 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		OCTOBER 30 DIRECTORS' MEETING Canterbury Woods PG Begins at 7pm <i>Everyone Welcome!</i>		1	2 <i>WiFi Update</i> Adult Ed Center PG 7:00 to 9:00pm John Rowe	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 <i>"Manage Wine Cellar w/ Wine Notes 2.0"</i> Canterbury Woods 7:00 - 9:00pm J. Grubbs & P. Landee	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	 HAPPY THANKSGIVING	23	24
25	<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> NOTE LOCATION! </div>	27	28 <i>"Digital Art & Photography"</i> Hilltop Park, Monterey 7:00 to 9:00pm Eileen Begley	29	30	

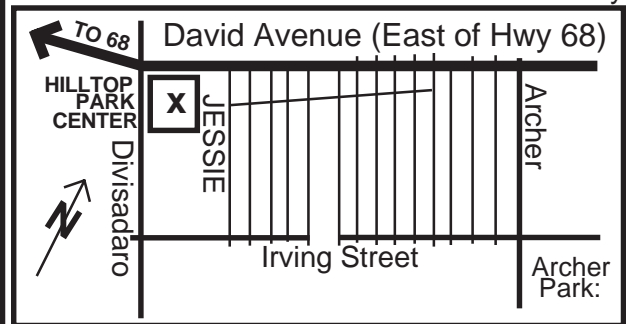
Canterbury Woods
 651 Sinex Avenue
 Pacific Grove







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



Hilltop Park Center
 871 Jessie Street
 Monterey



Tentative Calendar December 2007 Check the November Newsletter for Final Schedule

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 MBUG's First General Meeting in 2008 will be on the SECOND Friday, January 11, 2008 – Check upcoming calendars for Topic & Speaker						1
2	3	4 DIRECTORS' MEETING Canterbury Woods PG Begins at 7pm <i>Everyone Welcome!</i>	5 <i>First Day of Hanukkah</i> 	6	7 <i>"Home Networking"</i> Adult Ed Center PG 7:00 to 9:00pm Richard Allen	8
9	10	11	12 <i>"Vista Challenges"</i> Adult Ed Center PG 7:00 to 9:00pm Star Reiersen	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	 24 New Year's Eve	25 Christmas Day 	26 NO MEETING: HAPPY HOLIDAYS!	27	28	29
30						



mbug-pc newsletter

Vol 26, No 11, November 2007

PO Box 51611
Pacific Grove
California 93950

MBUG-PC is a member of



Check your Membership expiration date above.

Does it say "Exp: November / 2007"?

If so, renew your subscription today!

Enjoy the many benefits of MBUG membership and don't miss an issue of this fine, locally-produced publication. Membership & Newsletter Subscription: Electronic \$20, US Mail \$25, both \$35. **Additional tax-deductible donations welcome!** Send your name, address, phone number, e-mail address & check to: **Monterey Bay Users Group-PC**, Box 51611, Pacific Grove CA 93950

BOOK REVIEW

by **Anthony P. Bober**
MBUG Member 1191

Designing Web Navigation by
James Kalbach
O'Reilly, August 2007, ISBN:
978-0-59-652810-2
Publisher: O'Reilly, Pages: 412,
Price: \$49.99

The author states his aim thus: "*My intent is to provide you with some of the primary tools of navigation design and ways to solve navigation problems.*" For a person who is thinking of designing the navigation of a website for personal or especially commercial purposes, Kalbach provides an illustrative

checklist of ways to think about: planning the design; deciding what kinds of navigation to include and avoid; and what modern tools a designer may wish to include. The "designing person" will then have to decide how both to create the site and to install those tools. The designer may select from the menu of a "free" web host—they usually turn paid—or by programming it through Windows or some commercial program. (I've had the best luck with www.wetpaint.com—how do they make money? I see no advertising. I hope they stay free.) The book offers no help in implementation since Kalbach shows the tools rather than providing ways to solve navigation problems, including setup. As a byproduct, he helps the user be a better navigator.

Some cutely-labeled conceptual tools to put a smile on users' faces toward a productive outcome are: "breadcrumb trails," "tag clouds," "rollovers," "jump links," and "berrypicking model," not to mention more traditional topics. It helps users to know something about "communication channels," traditionally, "chain," "star," "ring," and "Y," as LAN and other kinds of networking have revived them.

For a fuller review that goes far beyond computer-level issues see my website <http://boberscomputerbookreviews.wetpaint.com>. ♦
malafida@yahoo.com

This article was provided to MBUG-PC for our and O'Reilly Books' publication. All other uses require permission of the author.