

Border Connection

Volume 23, Issue 10

The Border Connection, El Paso, Texas

October 2007

Greetings, Everyone! October is finally here and we're all waiting with great anticipation for the newest offering from Apple, Leopard! Slated to release in October, Leopard will be the newest operating system to set the world on its ear. Some of the newest features are Time Machine - Apple's answer to automated backup, Parental Controls, Spaces, and Quick Look.

Check out the following links for more information.

www.apple.com

CNet.com

MacRumors.com

ComputerWorld.com



First! a photography exhibition

October 5th-17th at the SpAG
2419 N. Stanton St., El Paso, TX 79902
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Presented by
the El Paso flickr.com group
El Paso's most talented
photographers come together for one
dynamic show.
Come see photography as you've never
seen it before.
Opening night reception:
October 5, 7-9PM

Macworld 2008: Free Passes and Conference Discounts

Macworld Conference & Expo is once again extending special user group pricing for the upcoming 2008 Macworld Expo, to be held January 14-18 at San Francisco's Moscone Center. For a limited time, Apple User Group members can register for a free Exhibit Hall pass or enjoy an even better value by taking 15 percent off any of the Macworld conference packages. Both options represent a substantial savings and are available only to members using the User Group Priority Code.

User Group Discounts:

September 19 - October 5

Free Exhibit Hall Pass or 15 percent off any of the conference packages.

October 6 - December 14

\$10 Exhibit Hall Pass or 15 percent off any of the conference packages

User Group Priority Code: **08-D-UG01**

<http://www.macworldexpo.com>

(Visit the web site for conference details, rules and package pricing.)

Macworld
Conference & Expo®

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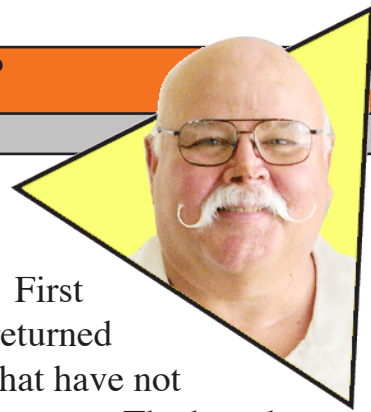
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The President's Corner

Ken Borgh - President - <kborgh@elp.rr.com>



What Did Everyone Say?

Last month the board submitted a 10 question survey to all of our members to receive input on how to improve our group. First of all, I want to say thank you to all of the members that have returned the questions with their input. We still have a lot of members that have not turned in their answers, so we ask that you do that as soon as you can. The board wants to be able to review and summarized these for the month of October board meeting. I will need some time to pull all of the data together so help me out by mailing to me at: kborgh@elp.rr.com.

If for some reason you lost or cannot find the questionnaire, you can download it from the EPMUG web page at: <http://www.epmug.org/survey.html>

We have some exciting demos coming and I am sure you do not want to miss them. The October 6th meeting will be a live demo of the Apple iPhone and hopefully we will have the new iPod iTouch. Ken Westeen has had his iPhone since the first day they were made available. He has learned all of the ins and outs of the unit and will share with everyone. The iTouch is suppose to ship at the end of September. Come join us for a great demo. In November we will be having a demo of the Apple TV by Barry Levine. December is our Christmas party so stay tuned for all of the surprise drawings we will have for Apple products.

Bring your Mac so we can help you with any questions you may have. There are many experts in troubleshooting, application support, system and support for many of the accessories that are sold for the Mac Products. 🍏

Life is short. Enjoy to the fullest.

Regards,
Ken Borgh

Save Your Members Money on .Mac

Posted by Chuck on October 2nd, 2007 via [the MUG Center](#)

For many people, especially Mac User Group members, October marks the anniversary of their .Mac account...and an annual decision on whether to renew Apple's \$99 online service.

The latest updates that include the new Web Gallery, web site hosting options, an increase of 10 GB of online storage and more make .Mac even more valuable. Still, there's no need to spend the \$99 to renew your account.

Simply buy a boxed copy of "[Apple .Mac 5.0](#)" from Amazon for \$78.99, select free shipping and, upon receipt, enter the Activation Key from the box in the renewal section of your .Mac account information online. Your update will go through on the expiration date and you will have saved \$19.95 offer the list, automatic renewal price. Yes, it requires you to pay attention and get it done before your renewal date, but that's \$20...a 20% savings. Tell your members!



For MUG Members Only

Apple User Group Bulletin (September 18, 2007)

Rhinoskin MacBook Hardcases: 41 Percent Discount

Rhinoskin hardcases are custom-designed to fit your MacBook or MacBook Pro perfectly. They are durable and lightweight yet shock absorbent and tough, including ventilation holes and elevated footpads for maximum airflow, drop-down sides to access all ports, detachable backpack straps, and a removable accessory case ideal for cords and adaptors.

User group members get 41 percent off with free shipping within the 48 contiguous states.

View the complete lineup of hardcase solutions. <http://www.rhinoskin.com>

Enjoy the savings: <http://www.mfgdirect.com/static/?s=A928007>

This U.S.-only offer is valid through December 31, 2007.



Sandvox: 25 Percent Discount

Want to create your own website, but don't know how to start? Build your own site with the award-winning Sandvox, an intuitive application that produces beautiful results. Sandvox is the website creation tool for people who want to spend time developing their lives, not just their websites.

User Group members get the special price of \$36 (US), a 25 percent discount off the regular price of \$49 (US), and similar discounts on both Pro Edition and Household licenses. Want to know more? A free trial of Sandvox is available.

Coupon code: muggle

Build a supersite: <http://www.sandvox.com/mug>

This worldwide offer is valid through December 31, 2007.



HandStands: 35 Percent Off Everything

HandStands is a leading provider of computer, iPod and laptop accessories. Take advantage of the exciting iSnug iPod accessory line, unique products like the Sticky Pad and the recently introduced Laptop Desk. Many other novelty items like photo frames, laptop lifts, automotive accessories, stress relief, mouse pads and even air fresheners are part of the Handstand product line and all can be yours at unbelievable savings!

Apple User Group members can save 35 percent off any order and receive free shipping on any order over \$50 (US).

Coupon Code: AUGM_35

Browse and purchase: <http://www.HandStands.com>

This U.S./Canada-only offer is valid through December 31, 2007.



For MUG Members Only (con't)

Apple User Group Bulletin (September 18, 2007)

macProVideo.com: 30 Percent Discount

macProVideo.com produces pro-level tutorial videos for Mac OS, Final Cut Pro, Logic, iApps and other Apple software. Their trainers are Apple courseware authors and respected industry professionals. There's no need to wait for discs to be sent in the mail. Download tutorials to your computer and start learning now!

Apple user group members can save 30 percent off all tutorial videos.

Coupon Code: MUG30

Purchase and download your tutorials today: <https://www.macprovideo.com/cart/code/MUG30>

This worldwide offer is valid through December 31, 2007.



The MUG Store: Great prices, great incentives

The MUG Store is offering tremendous discounts on brand new Macs as well as one of the country's most complete selections of pre-owned Macs, all exclusively for your members.

Every purchase made by your members through the MUG Store brings you a one percent credit toward anything they sell. Be sure to mention the MUG Store to your group as their very own place to buy Macs!

06/01/07 - 10/31/07- User ID: **harmony / Password: **elephant****

11/01/07 - 02/28/08- User ID: **leopard / Password: **classic****

<http://www.applemugstore.com>

This U.S. only offer is valid through February 28, 2008.



That's Easy: Get the Apple User Group Market & Apple User Group Offers From One Site

Looking for information on a past offer? Tom Piper of the Apple User Group Advisory Board publishes a single page with all current offers, expiration dates and codes.

Password until November 15, 2007: **easy**

<http://homepage.mac.com/ugab/offers/vendorcodes.htm>

Also, be sure to subscribe to the Apple User Group Market Report podcast. This month's sessions feature David Feng, Apple User Group Regional Liaison for Eastern Asia, plus Martin Sitter of macProVideo.com discussing his discount offer on pro-level tutorial videos. The AUG Market Report is a great source for information about Apple user groups, vendor discounts, special events and more.

Apple User Group Market Report podcast

<http://homepage.mac.com/ugab/resources.html>

For public information about vendor offers and more visit:

<http://homepage.mac.com/ugab/offers.html>



Computing Under Attack

Last week, when ABC evening news finally recognized the threat of hackers and phishing to the US National Security I cheered. The main stream media finally gets it: phishing attacks leading back to Chinese government servers, and hundreds of daily hacker attempts to breach US .gov computers. They thought it was news. It was to them, but not to Infomanager readers for the past five years. Now, *there's yet more bad news for computer users...*

Unhacking Your iPhone

With the release of the latest iPhone upgrade, many people if not all of them that hacked the iPhone are regretting their efforts. So how do you reverse the process? there hasn't been nearly as much research done on that procedure. (*Read More*)

AppleWorks Alive and Well?

I have not had a chance to test out Apple's new iWork beyond a cursory look. On that first skim however, it doesn't look like a program to rival the functionality of AppleWorks. Ted Bade also will miss Appleworks, as he writes in his latest column in "MacCompanion" ... *See the full story...*

Pixelmator alternative to Photoshop

Most of us individual users don't have the need to spend the dollars necessary for Photoshop. Of course, Adobe also has a version of Photoshop Elements available for the Mac. But there are other options. One is Pixelmator which was built from open source and Mac OS X technologies. *See the full story...*

Repair Movie Files

As you probably known, one of the big problems with the Mac over the years has been Font files. If they became damaged, all kinds of problems could happen. Developers developed software to repair those files. Later we had similar issues with Microsoft Word documents and we had programs that were designed with those files specifically in mind. Now the pro-video market is coming up with many of the same issues. (*Read More*)

Photoshop Lightroom Adventure

Field testing in Iceland turned out to be a stroke of brilliance," enthuses George Jardine, pro photo evangelist for Adobe Systems, about Mikkel Aaland's new book, *Photoshop Lightroom Adventure*

Showtime Gets CS3

Showtime Networks Inc. has implemented Adobe Creative Suite 3 Design Premium edition across its in-house creative agency, The Red Group. After successfully switching to Adobe InDesign (*Read More*)

Buttons for Photoshop, Elements and Illustrator

three new Button Themed Sets for use in Adobe Photoshop, Elements and Illustrator as well as a corresponding Fonts Button Pack. Custom Shapes Pack consists of 200+ custom button themed shapes for digital scrapbooking, fashion designs, packaging, books and more *See the full story...*



Automate Illustrator and Photoshop

Production Pack 5.0's plug-in interface integrates directly with the Workgroups 2007 suite, enabling users to quickly access information about the job or project they are working on. (*Read More*)

Protect your photos with watermarks

iWatermark is the popular watermarking package for Mac OS X and Windows - ease of use with efficiency for beginner and professional photographers to protect their work. Add digital signatures, url, email address or company logo to one, or a 1000 images at a time. *iWatermark*

Custom shapes for Photoshop

Graphicextras.com's latest set of royalty-free releases feature flames and fiery imagery: custom shapes for Photoshop and Elements; symbols for Illustrator; and font set for *DTP and 3D and others*

Trend Micro Announces Alliance with Intego

It is true that Macs don't have any active virus working on their systems. But now with the increase of the market share and the use of Windows on Mac systems the vulnerability is increasing. Thus Trend Micro announce that they will be distributing Intego's security software. *See the full story...*

Protection against cybercrime

Intego VirusBarrier X4 Dual Protection and Internet Security Barrier Antispam Edition could save your six by helping Mac users protect both Mac OS X and their Windows installation. (*Read More*)

Apple Expo Awards

This is kind of a strange year for Apple Expo Paris. Apple has been off making iPhone announcements all over Europe, but not doing much at the Expo. Of course, in the past Apple has made many product announcement in Paris. And since the demise of the east coast MacWorld Expo we have come to expect more from *Apple Expo*.

Web Design Conference

New Riders, Pearson's Web design imprint have announced a dedicated conference for the Web design community, VOICES THAT MATTER: WEB DESIGN CONFERENCE featuring speakers include bestselling authors and leading web design experts *See the full story...*



Welcome Members!

Renewal

- Andrew Mammei
- Art Harrison
- Robert Thum
- Barry Levine
- Judy Richards

Family Renewal

- Arthur & JoAnn Shera
- Alberto Portillo & Family

Inching Towards Microsoft Office 2008 for Mac

by Glenn Fleishman - Contributing Editor to TidBits

Microsoft's Macintosh Business Unit (MacBU) has announced the shipping date, pricing, and upgrade path for the next major revision of Office for Mac. The now appropriately named Office 2008 will ship 15-Jan-08 for prices ranging from \$149.95 to \$499.95, depending on version. The standard package of Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Entourage - including Exchange Server support - will list for \$399.95, with an upgrade costing \$239.95.

The Home and Student Edition includes just the four core applications and runs \$149.95; there is no upgrade pricing. This is the first time Microsoft has advertised a plain version of Office intended for the home, too, as opposed to a student edition that educators, academic staff, students, and parents of students could purchase.

The Home and Student Edition may be intended to put Office up against Apple's \$79 iWork suite, which now competes head-to-head with Office in word processing (Pages versus Word), presentation (Keynote versus PowerPoint), and spreadsheet capabilities (Numbers versus Excel). Although Office also comes with Entourage for email, contacts, and calendaring, those functions are built into Mac OS X in the form of Mail, Address Book, and iCal.

A Special Media Edition (\$499.95 full version, \$299.95 for the upgrade) adds the digital asset management tool Expression Media, Microsoft's rebranding of iView MediaPro, acquired last year (see "Microsoft Buys iView Multimedia," 2006-07-03).

If you purchase any edition of Office 2004 for Mac starting 25-Sep-07, you qualify for a \$10-plus-tax upgrade to Office 2008's comparable version. This is an attempt by the MacBU to avoid sales being cannibalized by the announcement of the next release's shipping date.

The press release that accompanied the announcements says that upgrade pricing is available for any "legally licensed users of previous versions," which we have confirmed includes owners of versions of Office before Office 2004.

Office 2008 will look and work in a manner that's somewhat different from Office 2004, much in the way that Office 2007 for Windows broke the previous mold. Reviews of Office for Windows said that while the new approach wasn't necessarily worse, it wasn't better, either, and required relearning everything one ever did in Office for Windows. The revision to Office for Mac seems less severe, but we'll see if the release version still induces learning-curve vertigo. 🍏

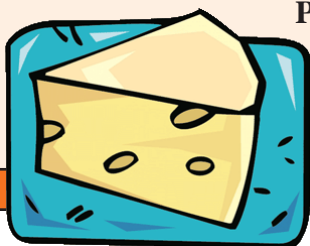
Macworld 2008: Apple User Group Wine and Cheese Reception

Apple user group leaders and friends from around the world are invited to the Apple User Group Wine and Cheese Reception on January 14, from 4-7 p.m. at The Westin San Francisco Market Street (formerly The Argent).

The Apple User Group Advisory Board (UGAB) is proud to bring you a user group event at Macworld for the 10th consecutive year. This exciting new event will offer vendor interaction, raffles, entertainment and some surprise guests. User group members qualify for a 50 percent discount by using a special user group member URL available from your group's ambassador.

Hosted by the Apple User Group Advisory Board (UGAB) and UGAB Support Services

Password: UG08 **URL: <http://www.acteva.com/booking.cfm?bevaid=141393>**



This worldwide offer is limited to the first 300 registrants.

Reviews From MUGS Around the World

courtesy of the User Group Advisory Board

macProVideo.com: Cost-Effective Learning Tools



Need a powerful Mac software tool to accomplish a project or improve your productivity, but have hesitated because the size of the manual scared you, or you didn't know who to turn to when you had questions?

Excellent video training tools are now available from a reliable company at very reasonable prices to help you learn quickly and effectively.

macProVideo.com specializes in a cool interface called the Nonlinear Educating Device (N.E.D. for short) which is a friendly tutorial video player that really improves the learning experience. Audiovisual teaching is taken serious by this company, starting with all of their instructions on their website which uses efficient QuickTime movies for ease of learning. N.E.D. features a revolutionary integrated download manager that incrementally and progressively downloads your tutorial videos.

Read the *Review* from *the appleJAC Macintosh Users Group*



Sidewinder case by Marware



Those who aren't afraid to part with some hard-earned cash to purchase an iPod, usually aren't afraid to hand over a little more on accessories of one kind or another. Everywhere you look, you'll see a vast selection of add-ons for your favorite music player—cases, speakers, headphones, docks, chargers, etc. Probably the most popular of all accessories is the case. It's your chance to individualize your iPod to fit your personality—whether you go for one made of leather, plastic, metal, silicone, or even those molded from old LP's—there's something for everyone!

I've purchased several different cases over the 21 months that I've had my white iPod video. I'm always trying to find that perfect combination of form and function. I've purchased one with a stand so that I don't have to hold it while watching videos. I've purchased a separate case with a removable clip so that I could use the iPod with or without it. The component that I've had the hardest time managing is the cable tangle and storage of my earbuds. I've purchased a retractable holder, but they only accommodate certain size cables.

Read the *Review* from *the Lawrence Apple Users Group*.



Adobe After Effects



I now understand why Adobe After Effects is considered the benchmark application for video compositing and special effects. The range and power of the application is phenomenal allowing most anyone who can devote the necessary time to become proficient with the application to produce creative, original and high quality animations and video effects. Though many of the concepts behind the operation of AE are relatively simple, the variety and precision of controls available make developing proficiency no small task. New users of AE would clearly benefit from true human interactive training. Tutorials and CBT are useful but probably more so once the fundamentals are well understood. The more I learned the more I wanted to learn. The application is stable and solid with extensive user customization options. About AE one could honestly say "If you can imagine it, you can create it". I found the speed performance of the application fully acceptable considering the relative vintage of my test system and complexity of the processing tasks. There is no question that Adobe After Effects should be recommended to anyone who wants to create professional animations and video effects.

Click *here* to read the detailed review by *The Macintosh Guild*.

Squeaky-clean systems

Q: I recently found a program called Disk Cleaner (for PCs) and was wondering if there was something similar for Macs.--Gordon Werb

A: Disk Cleaner is a free, open-source utility that deletes temporary, cache, and cookie files, as well as stray items in the Recycle Bin, from a Windows PC. There are loads of similar utilities for the Mac, but my favorite is Titanium Software's OnyX (; payment requested). It allows you to easily muck with parts of the operating system that are usually accessible only through Terminal. But unlike many tools of this sort, OnyX helps you stay out of trouble while you do so--it clearly explains what its features do and warns of potential problems.

For example, in the Cleaning tab, where it seems that you'll be spending the bulk of your time, you'll discover that you can delete a wide variety of cache files, as well as form values and cookies (see "Empty the Cache"). OnyX warns you that deleting these things may mean that you have to reenter user names and passwords when you revisit favorite sites (this could cause trouble if you've neglected to make a note of any passwords).



Of overcharging and iPods

Q: I recently got a Bose SoundDock and wanted to know whether it was a bad thing to keep the iPod permanently mounted in the dock. The SoundDock continuously charges it. Can that hurt the battery?--Dany Sat

A: In general, you can't overcharge your iPod. It's a savvy little piece of gear that understands when enough is enough, even if it's connected to a power source like the \$299 SoundDock () for days on end. Some folks (but not Apple) suggest that undocking the iPod once a month and letting it run on battery power for a while is a good idea. Allegedly, this will "exercise" the battery and lengthen its life span.

I haven't tested the theory, because, frankly, I don't have the patience to conduct multiple-year battery trials. But given that even the most devoted homebody is likely to leave the house on at least a monthly basis, it certainly wouldn't hurt to take your iPod for a walk every so often.

Another battery question I hear frequently is "So, when should I charge my iPod--should I run it all the way down first? Halfway down?" Invariably, my response is "Don't sweat it." No matter what you do, the battery will eventually die, and you'll either replace it or get a new iPod.

Running an iPod all the way down and letting it sit for a week with no juice is unnecessary--the batteries in iPods don't have a "memory" that you need to reset by running them dry, as did the batteries in some older devices. Nor will the battery become overly stressed if you recharge it at the end of each day, even though you've used only a quarter of its charge.

In short, charge your iPod when it's convenient. If you're going on a transpacific flight, then by all means find a spare power outlet at the airport and top your iPod off. Or if you've listened to it for only a couple of hours and don't feel like taking it out of your backpack, pocket, or purse, then leave it where it is at the end of the day, enjoy its many gifts tomorrow, and charge it the next time you think of it.



Membership

Complete This Form for One Year's Membership or Membership Renewal

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 Platforms of Interest:
 Mac OS Linux UNIX
 Other

- EPMUG New Membership\$ 25.00
- EPMUG Membership Renewal\$15.00
- EPMUG Family Membership Renewal\$ 25.00
- EPMUG Family Membership\$ 35.00
- For Mailed Newsletteradditional.....\$ 15.00
- Change of Address

Mail This Form and Membership Fee To:

EPMUG
 2722 Savannah
 El Paso, TX 79930



Workshop Demos

- Oct** - iPhone presented by Ken Westeen
- Nov** - Apple TV with Barry Levine
- Dec** - Christmas Party - No Demo
- Jan** - Audio Sync with Arturo Enriquez
- Feb** - MacWorld Roundtable

Calendar of Events

October 2007

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

EPMUG Workshop -
 1st Saturday,
 9:00 am to 2:00 pm
 St. Paul's Lutheran
 Church, Montana Ave.

EPMUG Planning
 Meeting - 3rd Wednesday,
 6:30 pm - Village Inn
 Restaurant at
 2929 N. Mesa, El Paso,
 Texas

November 2007

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	



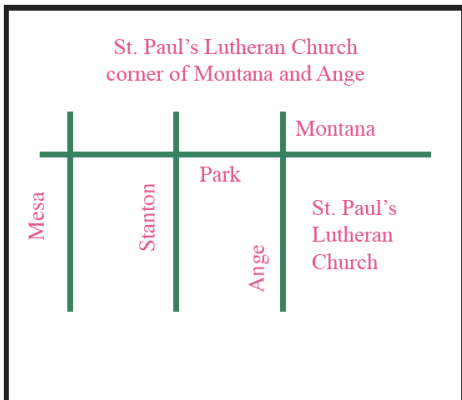
Border Connection
2722 Savannah
El Paso, TX 79930



Apple
User Group



Church Hall Opens: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm.
Programs start at 10:30 am



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