



Oak Creek Apples

A 501.c.3 Organization for Education on Apple Computers

Macintosh Users Group Newsletter

March 2008

www.oakcreekapples.com

Meetings Calendar

Wednesday, March 19, 2008:

🍏 Mac Basics & Beyond ... 5:00 PM

🍏 Main Meeting 6:30 PM

This Month's Meeting

Our speaker this month will be Alan Painter, a semi-retired technical writer and long time Apple and Mac user. He will be talking about the iWork Pages and Numbers. Pages, an Apple word-processing program somewhat comparable to MS Word, is a product with which one can switch between word processing and layout; write a letter or create a newsletter or brochure with no more than a point-and-click. Numbers, similar to MS Excel, provides the Mac user the ability to easily create useful spreadsheets.

Notes From February Meeting

The meeting opened, as usual, with Jannah leading the Mac Basics and Beyond SIG, where she dealt with both Basics (passwords, buying stuff on the internet using credit/debit cards, receipts, etc) and Beyond (internet security [https:], passwords again, etc.)

Listening intently were 14 Mac users, ranging from newbies (3 - 4 month with a Mac) to ancients (Carla and I have been using Macs non-professionally for 20+ years.)

Following a short break, Jannah reappeared wearing the Meeting Announcer (Temporary) hat, and the Main Meeting came to order at 6:30.

There was a brief Q & A period, after which Jannah introduced the featured speaker, Ken Hughes, President of Nazteq Consulting. Ken is a well known quantity to our group, having last year presented us an excellent overview of Mac networking. This year, his topic pertained to Email and Web browsers.

Ken prefers to receive mail through his own Web site (khughes@nazteq.net), which he considers to be the most reliable and secure method. Of the current freebie mail systems, he thinks Google Gmail to be at the top. Speaking of Web browsers, he mourns the demise of Netscape, but sees its ghostly shadow in Firefox (Mozilla inherited the Netscape core.)

Ken spoke further of Entourage, IMAP, copying or moving email from the server, and other topics of interest to those more technically inclined than I. Thank you, Ken, for a program with something for all 20 of us, and we hope you will do us another soon.

Oak Creek Apple meetings are held at the Elks Lodge in West Sedona, just off Airport Road, on the 3rd Wednesday of every month, except July and August.

Special Interest Group Meetings

Mac Basics & Beyond SIG:

Jannah Riemer does more than show how to point and click. There is always something to learn for all Mac users who don't make their living with special applications. This is a great place to get questions answered. The **Mac Basics & Beyond** SIG meets from 5 - 6:30 pm every 3rd Wednesday, before the Main Meeting.

The Apple Mug Store (<http://Applemugstore.com>) is a wonderful place to shop for real bargains, and is available to all Macintosh User Group members. You can find

the current **User ID** & **Password** in the email notifying you of the meetings of the month.



The advertisement is split into two main sections. On the left, it features the name 'Jannah Riemer' in a cursive font above 'Mac Consulting' in a bold sans-serif font. Below this, a list of services includes 'Problemsolving • Repair', 'Training • Installation • Internet', 'iPods, digital cameras tool', and 'Apple Computer Sales'. A phone number '(928) 203-0362' is at the bottom. In the center is a graphic of a computer monitor and keyboard with yellow and blue lines. On the right, there is an Apple logo above the text 'the MacClinic Apple Dealer Sedona'. Below that, it says 'We now stock Apple Computers'. Contact information at the top right includes '2675 W. Hwy 89 A', 'Sedona, AZ 86336', 'Tel: (928) 282 5606', and 'e-mail: service@macclincsedona.com'.

Excerpt from:

FASTER FORWARD by Rob Pegoraro

The Taxing Task of Tax Prep

By Rob Pegoraro | March 10, 2008; 11:32 AM ET | Category: Gripes

How are you supposed to follow the law if you can't understand it without the help of a computer program?

Posted comment:

Want to get some real positive changes to the tax code? **Move the election date to April 16th.**

Posted by: Bill80 | March 11, 2008 10:21 AM

Recommended by Marge Herkenham:

From David Pogue's column of 3/6/08 for NY Times, after a visit to a tech-support call center:

Caller: Hey, can you help me? My computer has locked up, and no matter how many times I type eleven, it won't unfreeze.

Agent: What do you mean, "type eleven?"

Caller: The message on my screen says, "Error Type 11!"

IN CASE YOU MISSED THIS !!!

The Oak Creek Apple Macintosh Users Group has been a community organization since 1986. In order to remain vital to Macintosh users we need to reverse the recent trend of low membership and low involvement or the club may fold. Hence, the Steering Committee seeks your input via this questionnaire. Both current and former members are being contacted and asked to return the survey within two weeks of receipt. Please be honest. Identifying yourself is optional. Just print these pages, fill out and drop them off at the membership table at the next meeting. In return for filling out this simple form, you may claim 3 additional raffle tickets at the March or April meeting.

ATTENDANCE

1. First, please type an X before the line indicating the # of meetings you have attended since Sept. 2007:

- _____ 0
- _____ 1-2
- _____ 3-4
- _____ 5-7

2. Presently, we hold meetings the third Wednesday of the month, with Mac Basics and Beyond SIG (Special Interest Group) beginning at 5pm, and the Main Meeting running 6:30-8:30pm.

If you have attended only 0-2 meetings since last September, please type an X in front of the principal reason(s):

- a. The third Wednesday of the month does not work for me

If a major cause of your not attending is the fact we meet the 3rd Wednesday, which days of the month would work better for you?(e.g., Tuesday, etc.) _____
- b. I travel a lot/often out of town on meeting days
- c. I cannot attend the SIG at 5pm
- d. My hamster requires a lot of care in the evenings
- e. The time of the Main Meeting (6:30-8:30) is a problem for me
- f. My life is just too busy in general
- g. The programs and discussions were not interesting to me
- h. I have found the programs and discussions too advanced
- i. The programs and discussions are too basic for me now

j. I forget about the meeting!

k. Other (please indicate)

3. If you attend ONLY the SIG or the Main Meeting please tell us why:

4. If we had meetings in July and August, would you likely attend? Please put an X in front of one:
Yes No

5. Please tell us your gender (put an X in front of your answer) Male Female

6. Your age, please _____

MAC BASICS & BEYOND SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (SIG)

7. If you have attended Mac Basics & Beyond SIG, please put an X in front of your reason(s) for doing so:

a. To get my specific questions answered

b. To learn from other people's questions and answers to them

c. Meet and mingle with other Mac users

d. To share the knowledge I have with others

e. To get ideas about how to better use my Mac

f. It's fun

g. Other (please indicate)

8. Did you feel comfortable asking questions? Yes No (place an X in front of your answer)
If your answer is No, why is that?

9. Please provide any comments/suggestions about the Mac Basics and Beyond SIG. How could it serve your needs better?

MAIN MEETING

OCAMUG March 2008 Newsletter

10. If you attend the Main Meeting fairly often, please X in front of your reason(s) for doing so:

- a. To get my specific questions answered
- b. To learn from other people's questions and answers to them
- c. Meet and mingle with other Mac users
- d. To share the knowledge I have with others
- e. To get ideas about how to better use my Mac
- f. It's fun
- g. Other (please indicate)

11. The following are elements of our Main Meeting. Please rate each element from 1-6 in terms of the value to you, with a 6 being the highest by putting an X in front of your choice:

Introductions / announcements 1 2 3 4 5 6

Open question and answer session 1 2 3 4 5 6

Main talk or program 1 2 3 4 5 6

Raffle/auction 1 2 3 4 5 6

12. Any comments/suggestions about meeting format/contents:

13. The following are the program topics we have had since September 2007. If you attended the meeting, please rate it by putting an X in front of your choice according to its value to you, with a score of 6 being the top rating:

9/07 Tips and Tricks N/A 1 2 3 4 5 6

10/07 iPhone Overview N/A 1 2 3 4 5 6

11/07 New Apple Products N/A 1 2 3 4 5 6

12/07 Mac OS 10.5 (Leopard) N/A 1 2 3 4 5 6

1/08 Making Slide Shows N/A 1 2 3 4 5 6

2/08 Email & Browser applications N/A 1 2 3 4 5 6

14. Any suggestions for topics and/or presenters, including yourself:

NEWSLETTER

15. We distribute a monthly newsletter via email (and to a few people, hardcopy). Which best describes your newsletter utilization (circle):

- a. Did not know it existed
- b. Get it but don't read the newsletter
- c. Read it occasionally
- d. Scan each issue, and read certain portions
- e. Read it from beginning to end
- f. Other (please indicate

16. Suggestions for newsletter changes/improvements:

VOLUNTEERING

The following tasks and volunteer positions keep OCAMUG running. None have required duration.

Emcee the Main Meeting/read from the agenda (meeting time)

Membership table (first half meeting time)

Membership Registrar (approx 1 hr. per month)

Raffle Coordinator (approx 1 hr per month + 1/2 hr. at meeting)

Raffle Item Acquisition (1-4 hrs. per month depending on initiative)

Facilitate Steering Committee (approx 4 hrs per Quarter)

Attend Steering Committee (approx 2 hour per Quarter)

Member of Board of Directors (approx 1 hour per Quarter)

Newsletter (approx 7 hours per month)

17. If you have NOT taken up any of the volunteer positions/tasks please indicate what holds you back by putting an X in front of your choice(s):

- a. I think I need to know more about computers in order to work with the organization
- b. My schedule is just too busy
- c. The tasks don't interest me
- d. I'm concerned I wouldn't know how to do the tasks involved
- e. I don't think I've been a member long enough to get involved
- f. I don't know the people who seem involved well enough to get involved myself
- g. The club seems to get by OK without me
- h. I don't see any benefit to myself from volunteering to do anything

CREATE/DREAM

18. If you were to redesign OCAMUG, what small or major changes would you make—imagine, be creative! What would make the club more useful to you, more fun? Would we meet in a coffeehouse? Member's homes? Serve refreshments? Sit in a circle? Take 'field trips'? Sit at tables with each having a computer in front of us? Play games? Take turns on the jobs needed for the club to run? Please let us know.

19. What do you think we can do to increase our membership?

20. What do you think we can do to increase our volunteering?

21. What can we do to better serve you?

22. If you wish to talk with one of us via phone or in person, please leave us your name, phone and email here.

THANKS, Y"ALL