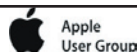


# Macaholics UNANIMOUS

The Official Newsletter of the Upper Keys Macintosh Users Group



December 2009 Volume 18 Issue 01

## ***Snow Leopard: setting the stage for what's to come.***

*by Sue Beal*

Our speaker in November was Joe Kukella from Macintosh Systems Solutions in Key West, on the new Snow Leopard operating system.

Snow Leopard is an evolutionary, not revolutionary release, a set of improvements to Leopard, which is the best selling OS Apple has ever released.

Leopard had some great innovations and has been very well received, but it went out with some of the planned improvements missing. Many of the missing functions were things you'd never even notice, but they will set the stage for what's to come next. Snow Leopard (OS 10.6, released in August 2009) has the foundations in place for the future, and it's being marketed as "Leopard Improved."

Over 1,000 parts of Leopard were improved and 90% of the OS refined in Snow Leopard! Who knew it needed it? Specifically, some of the highlights:

### ***The Finder***

It doesn't look any different, but under the hood, the Finder has been updated with a new services manager, new eject manager, fewer spinning wait cursors, faster emptying of trash, faster cancellations, enhanced icon previews, and new "put back from trash" function.

The Dock has been improved and Exposé enhanced. The system compresses itself after install, making it efficient in the hard drive space it uses.

Preview's rewrite and open JPG functions are two and a half times faster, and opening PDFs is also speeded up. You can now select text by column in Preview, which is an important function if you ever try to copy text out of a PDF.

### ***International Support***

I'm willing to bet only one or two of you needs this, but there's better support for Chinese characters in the OS now, and a viewable palette for selecting Asian characters.

## ***December Holiday Party It's All About COMMUNITY***

Our annual "Non-denominational Holiday Celebration" will be Thursday, December 10, starting at 7pm. Our theme this year is **community**, and we've got several ways we are implementing that... which that means you have some assignments (*all optional... if you can't participate in these ways but can make the meeting, please come anyway!!*)

1. Bring a covered dish, munchie or dessert to share with your UKMUG community on the holiday party refreshment table.

2. Bring a non-perishable food donation for the Burton Memorial Food Pantry... help UKMUG serve its Upper Keys community.

3. Bring any extra computer stuff you have around that you don't need and someone else might want, sharing your wealth with your fellow Macaholics.

4. Think about a difference that having a computer has made in your life... (Mac or not) and compose in your mind a story you can share. Did you meet your mate online? Get divorced from being online too much? Start an internet business? Go broke from shopping eBay? Reconnect with an old friend? Drive away all your friends by emailing the wrong things? Think of one anecdote to share with the group.

### ***The Plan***

So here's what the evening will include:

We start at 6:30 with Beginners' Circle as usual. Come early! As people arrive they put out food for refreshments, donations for the Food Pantry, and computer stuff to share on designated tables.

Shortly after 7pm, Susan Heim from Upper Keys CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) will give a 15 minute talk on what CERT group does and why you might want to be a part of it.

Following that, we begin sharing our stories with the group.

After stories we draw names to have each person go to the gift table and choose their holiday gift from UKMUG from under the tree.

Then we break for refreshments and to give you time to socialize and peruse and pick from the booty provided by fellow UKMUGers. *If you're in town I hope you'll join us!! —Sue*



### ***Mail Improved***

Mail has also been improved, moving messages around faster, searching faster and launching faster.

### ***Safari Version 4***

Even if you don't have Snow Leopard you can upgrade to Safari version 4, which benchmarks at Acid3's 100% adherence to standards for rendering web pages. Javascript is running 50% faster and Safari is using 64 bit computing to run better and faster.

Also new in Safari is crash protection. Used to be that a bad plug-in could bring all of Safari crashing down. Now



*continued on page two*

it has protection so that only that part goes down and it restarts itself.

## Quicktime X

Quicktime has been rewritten from the ground up with a new, streamlined foundation and interface. We now have HTTP streaming (you can stream from your computer's built-in camera to the internet!), and basic QT editing functions are now included (without having to buy Quicktime Pro); it works a lot like iMovie. Screen captures for movies are now supported - meaning, you can capture 10-20 snippets of video. It's easy to record and save your recording into iTunes, then share it from there.

## Behind the Curtain

The new technologies you can't see are in the areas of RAM and the processors.

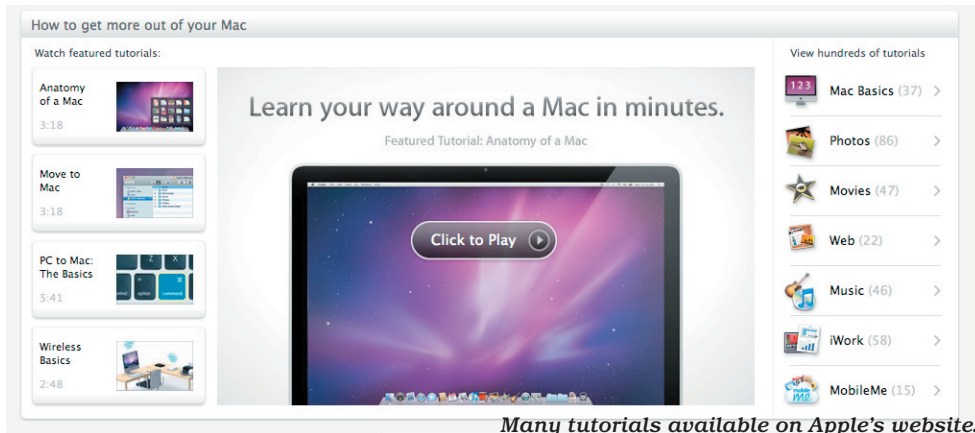


## 64-Bit Technology

This really gets into the deep end of how your computer works. Our word size used to be 32 bit, which limited the size of addressable memory and the throughput of the processors. Now the Mac has gone to 64 bit technology. The improvement isn't just doubly better. Addressability of RAM went from 4GB under 32 bits to 16 Billion GB under 64 bits! And the 64-bit processors are twice as fast!

## Grand Central Dispatch

"GCD" allows the OS to take advantage of processors in your Mac making



Many tutorials available on Apple's website.

it faster. The GCD manages threads of processing and can use up to 8 processing cores at once. I am not sure what all that means but Joe says it uses less energy and helps laptops run cooler with longer battery life!

## Open CL

Previously, processors in your Mac were dedicated in function. Now the Mac will utilize any idle capacity from graphics processors to speed up other functions. The framework which allows this is called Open CL and it's a technology which will benefit us in the time to come, as third party makers of hardware and software come on board to take advantage of it.

## Windows Exchange Support

MicroSoft Exchange is a way to connect email, calendar and apps between home and office. With Snow Leopard we can now interface our Mac software counterparts to the PC ones. Snow Leopard has made it easy, all you need is a password.

## Cost and Requirements

Snow Leopard comes on new Macs, and is available as an upgrade to Leopard users for just \$29. A family 5-pack is just \$49.

Upgrading from Tiger costs \$169, and for that you also get a boxed set of all the iLife and iWork 09 applications.

Minimum requirements: an Intel Processor with at least 1 GB of memory and 5 GB free disk space. You need a DVD drive to install it.

## The Joe Show Live!

All the previous notes were from watching Apple's canned presentation on the new OS. Joe continued, demonstrating features as he talked.

## Exposé

Hit F3 and see all the open windows on your desktop line up and miniaturize to fit. Place the cursor over any one of them and see it enlarge.

Use command-1 to rearrange all those windows into alphabetical order, or command-2 to see them sort by application or type.

Hover over an application in the Dock and get an Exposé window of only that application's windows.

Use Escape or F3 again to get out of the Exposé view.

## Dock

Hover over the Dock. Only open applications will light up. You've been able to add folders to the Dock for some time, but now if you select one of those folders, a new menu pops up with list view or grid view. You can click on the contents right there and open them.

## Help

Help (Mac Help) is an excellent place to search for what you need to know. Help is available for the Finder itself, and in any Apple application. Pay attention to what program you are in when you search for Help - make sure it's in the one you want.

There's also help available on Apple's website - click on the Mac tab and look down the page for tutorials, FAQs and other useful info.

## Safari

The Top Sites feature is new. It shows a cool graphic of your recent and most frequently used websites.

**Get organized today with TopXNotes™ - the premier Personal Note Manager for Mac.**  
*Top rated by Charles Moore, Macsimum News, The Macintosh Guild, and Macworld Magazine.*

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Click the icon to open that site. The Edit button on the bottom left allows you to customize the Top Sites screen, moving the icons and setting the size and layout.

History now works like CoverFlow, showing you pictures of where you've been, making it a lot easier to find that site when you can't remember its name.

At this point, Joe answered questions. The topics that came up:

### Spaces

Spaces works in conjunction with Exposé, and the System Preferences for them are grouped. Each "space" is a virtual screen. F8 becomes the Spaces button. You have up to 16 spaces, shown as boxes. You can drag applications from one box (space) to another when you're setting it up.

Why? It's a way of organizing your workspace so that the things you use together are all together on one space and out of the way when you're in another space. Think of separating your word processing and writing tools from your email distractions.

### Avoid Missing Hard Drive Shock

When you first open Snow Leopard, the first thing you'll notice is that your hard drive icon is missing! Don't be alarmed. If you want the icon back in the upper right corner, open View Options in the Finder and click a box telling it you want View HD on the Desktop.

### How to install?

Joe says it doesn't matter whether you install the new OS over the old or do a clean install. But either way, make a good backup and then follow the Macintosh Systems Solutions steps to avoid trouble! (See page 5.)

Note that Appletalk is gone with Snow Leopard, replaced by Bonjour.

All the Adobe products work but *Adobe only supports CS4* products under Snow Leopard. You can run the older ones but you won't get support if you need it.

Anything old, unusual or pirated may have problems under the new OS. If you use Parallels, you'll need to upgrade it. See the orange box for more info.

*Thanks, Joe!*

We always enjoy having Joe Kukella as our presenter. He brings humor to the topic, as well as a wealth of information, and he always keeps it interesting! Thanks for making the trip up from Key West and spending the time with us, Joe! ☺



### DON'T GO IN THERE

*The question was asked: why are there so many folders called Library, and what should we do with them?*

*Joe says not to mess with the Library folders! At the root level, the Library folder holds things the OS needs which relate to all users of the machine.*

*Under each user there is a Library holding things that pertain only to that user. And there's a third Library inside the System folder, holding things relevant to the System. In all cases, the contents of these folders is set by the System, needed by the System and should not be changed in any way by the user!!*

### Passwords are like Underwear...



**Don't share them with friends!**

## About Incompatible Software

from Gary Kampel, SEMUG

Mac OS X v10.6 Snow Leopard is designed to protect your Mac from certain incompatible software that can quit unexpectedly or cause other issues in Mac OS X v10.6.

When you install Snow Leopard or migrate to Snow Leopard, known-incompatible software is moved to a folder named Incompatible Software on your hard drive.

Snow Leopard also prevents known-incompatible software from opening. If you see an "Incompatible software" message, contact the software's vendor or visit their website for a later, compatible version. More info:

<http://support.apple.com/kb/HT3258>

## FROM OUR READERS

Hi Sue,

**Does everyone know about the Lynda.com training series?** When I bought my CS4 suite, I was given a free month of the training, and it is WONDERFUL! I have since signed on for additional time (you can subscribe monthly) because I've learned so much from it. It covers just about any program you can think of, from Windows to eBay to Excel, in nice small segments. (See the titles on [www.lynda.com](http://www.lynda.com).)

Pat Evans

Hi Sue,

If there are other forgetful folks like me around, you might want to remind them that **10.6.2** is available. It **cleared up several problems for me right away.**

Ciao, Bill Stebbins

Hi,

Would you know of anyone who would like to sell cheaply a **second hand computer**?

It can be an Apple or any other kind (excuse me) as long as it works.! ? If they are interested to give it away - that is fine ofcourse too. I need it basically for one to two months and would be glad to donate it again after that.

Thanks - Monika Graves (contact her at [keysmobill@earthlink.net](mailto:keysmobill@earthlink.net))

### Thunderbird Question/Issue

"With Thunderbird, occasionally when I scroll back through the messages searching for one, the control is taken away from me and it zips up through all the messages and I lose my place. How to prevent that?"

Anyone with an idea, please contact Bill Stebbins at [stebbins@umich.edu](mailto:stebbins@umich.edu)

Hi All,

I get this daily email blog, and I thought this sounded interesting enough to share.

Link: **Productivity501.com**

Productivity501 is a site dedicated to bringing you regular tips and tricks to help increase your personal productivity. This site focuses on original content so the publication schedule is a little slower than other blogs out there. Generally we try to have at least one new article each week, but the focus is on posting when we have something that will benefit our readers.

Karen Strobel

## Microsoft Admits to Copying Apple Mac User Interface

from the Internet Patrol

In a move sure to have Microsoft's legal eagles tearing their hair out, Microsoft Partner Group Manager Simon Aldous, during an interview with Britain's *Intent Media's* PCR publication, acknowledged that Microsoft has been aiming to "create a Mac look and feel."

"What we've tried to do with Windows 7...is create a Mac look and feel in terms of graphics."

Catching up with Aldous at the Microsoft partner conference at London's Wembley Stadium, a PCR staffer asked Aldous about, among other things, Windows 7. Aldous explained that "One of the things that people say a awful lot about the Apple Mac is that the OS is fantastic, that it's very graphical and easy to use."

Aldous then went on to say that "What we've tried to do with Windows 7 – whether it's traditional format or in a touch format – is create a Mac look and feel in terms of graphics."

He also explained that "We've significantly improved the graphical user interface, but it's built on that very stable core Vista technology, which is far more stable than the current Mac platform, for instance."

We're not sure what he means by suggesting that the Mac platform (predicated on Unix) is somehow less than stable, but after this gaffe, we're guessing that it's more stable than Aldous' future with Microsoft. You can read the full PCR interview with Aldous here:

<http://www.pcr-online.biz/features/328/Microsofts-new-vision> 

## How to Protect Your Privacy Online with Safari in Mac OS X Snow Leopard

from *Dummies.com*,  
submitted by Graham Thomas

Even Mac users sometimes need to take steps to protect their privacy. Snow Leopard lets you protect Safari against both outside intrusion from the Internet and from prying eyes around your Mac. Protecting your privacy involves a few simple settings.

*TIP: Although it's small, the padlock icon that appears at the top of the Safari window when you're connected to a secure Web site means a great deal! A secure site encrypts the information that you send and receive, making it much harder for unscrupulous crooks to obtain credit card numbers and personal information. You can click the padlock icon (next to the site name) to display the security certificate in use on that particular site.*

### Limit cookies

In and of themselves, cookies aren't bad things. Unlike a virus, a cookie file isn't going to replicate itself or wreak havoc on your system, and only the original site can read the cookie that it creates. However, many folks don't appreciate acting as a gracious host for a slew of little snippets of personal information. (Not to mention that some cookies have highly suggestive names, which could lead to all sorts of conclusions. End of story.)

You can choose to accept or reject all cookies by choosing Safari Preferences and then clicking the Security toolbar button.

### Clean your cache

Safari speeds up the loading of Web

sites by storing often-used images and multimedia files in a temporary storage, or cache, folder. Naturally, the files in your cache folder can be displayed (hint), which could lead to assumptions about the sites you've been visiting.

Luckily, Safari makes it easy to dump the contents of your cache file. Just choose Safari Empty Cache; then click Empty to confirm that you want to clean up your cache.

### Delete browsing history

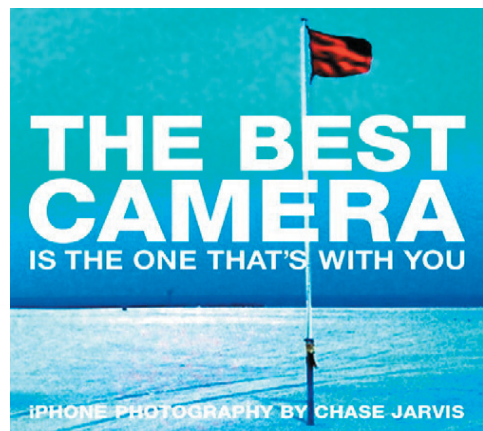
As you might imagine, your History file leaves a very clear set of footprints indicating where you've been on the Web. To delete the contents of the History menu, choose History Clear History (at the very bottom of the History menu).

Safari also allows you to specify an amount of time to retain entries in your History file. Open the Safari Preferences dialog, click the General tab, and then click the Remove History Items pop-up menu to specify the desired amount of time. Items can be rolled off daily, weekly, biweekly, monthly, or yearly.

### Avoid pop-up ads

To block most of those pop-up windows with advertisements for everything from low-rate mortgages to "sure-thing" Internet casinos, click the Safari menu and verify that Block Pop-Up Windows is selected. (If it's not selected, click the menu item to toggle it on.)

## The Best Camera Is The One That's With You: iPhone Photography by Chase Jarvis




A beacon of creativity with boundless energy, Chase Jarvis is well known as a visionary photographer, director, and social artist. In this book, Chase reimagines, examines, and redefines the intersection of art and popular culture through images shot with his iPhone.

The pictures in the book, all taken with Chase's iPhone, make up a visual notebook—a photographic journal—from the past year of his life. The book is full of visually-rich photos and peppered with inspiring anecdotes.

Two megapixels at a time, these images have been gathered and bound into

a book that represents a stake in the ground. With it, Chase underscores the idea that an image can come from any camera, even a mobile phone. As Chase writes, "Inherently, we all know that an image isn't measured by its resolution, dynamic range, or anything technical. It's measured by the simple—sometimes profound, other times absurd or humorous or whimsical—effect that it can have upon us. If you can see it, it can move you."

This book is geared to inspire everyone, regardless of their level of photography knowledge, that you can capture moments and share them with our friends, families, loved ones, or the world at the press of a button. 



## TIPS FROM TOM:

**With the recent release of OS X update 10.6, I would like to remind everyone of the proper procedures for installing a operating system update for your Mac.**

First, you should always check the "health" of the directory structure on your hard drive by running Disk Utility/Repair Disk from the restore Disk that came with your computer (it is under Utilities in the menu bar when you start on the restore disk (CMD & C), available after the first page).

After checking the health of your hard drive, it is most important to perform a current backup of your drive (you do backup, don't you?) before continuing.

Once the Repair Disk process and Backup are completed and there are no errors reported (run Repair Disk at least twice, until you get two sequential reports of No Errors), the first thing to

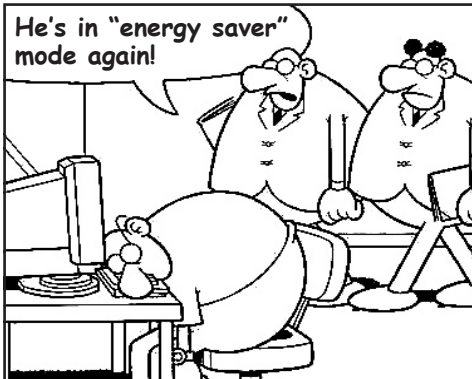
do when shut down is to disconnect everything but the keyboard and mouse from your system-- yes-- Everything but the keyboard and mouse!

Now restart your computer normally, assure that all applications are 'quit' (nothing but the Finder and Dashboard should have little triangles under them in the Dock).

Now you can go to the Software Update function under the Apple and start the update procedures. At this point, once you have started the update and agreed to any licensing, it is imperative that you walk away from your computer like it is a hive of angry killer bees. Do not touch your system while the update(s) are downloading and installing. Only respond to prompts from your system. Once it is safe to restart, do so and again step away while updates are completed. Please note that it is normal for several restarts to take place at this point, and it is also normal for these restarts to take longer than normal. After your system reboots back to a normal desktop and all updating processes are completed, it is now safe to once again use your system.

Never, ever use your computer when a Operating System (or other Apple supplied) updates are being run.

—Tom



## Did you know???

This video has some very interesting statistics about technology, communications and our life and times. It points out the challenges to us and to our children!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cL9Wu2kWwSY>

## Take a fish break and relax!!

from Eugene Hasiak

Even if you aren't into fish this is an unusual site.

The fish follows your mouse, but there's more. If you click on the extreme right hand column you can change the scene of the background. There are some really beautiful ones.

By clicking on the extreme left hand column you can change the type of fish, it's relaxing to watch them swim.

<http://www.sharkbreak.com/>



# Friends don't let friends use Windows.

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**Translation: There are only 10 types of people in the world  
 — those who understand binary, and those who don't.**

## Take a break, visit Cape Cod

*from Pete Bacheler*

When you're ready for a visual break, go to [petebachelerphotography.com](http://petebachelerphotography.com), click on the Cape Cod Gallery, then click on slide show, "fast" sit back and relax to the full screen presentation.

## Smashing Magazine

*from Karen Beal*

This magazine on web page design- best practices and more. <http://www.smashingmagazine.com/2009/03/31/backgrounds-in-web-design-examples-and-best-practices-2/>

## Be Sure to Catch This!

*Our member and friend,  
**STEVE STEWART** making his **Keys**  
 theater debut in **The Key Players'**  
 production of **Don't Hug Me**, playing at  
 the **Murray Nelson Center** on  
**Nov. 27, 28 & 29; December 4, 5 & 6!***

## YouTube - 350.org Observance at Old Steeple, Aquebogue, NY

*by Nancy Dillingham*

This link is to a YouTube video I made on with my ipod nano. I had a bunch of clips which I joined in iMovie. That little video recorder is amazing - no zoom, no flash, but for the size of it, I think it's great - fun too. You can keep it in your pocket and have it with you.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IvBoCiNXqok> 

## MU Classifieds • MU Classifieds

*Call or email Sue if you have  
 something to give away or sell!  
 Classified ads are free.*

One of our members has a few items up for sale...

**Mac G4** tower - needs video card \$200

**New Mac keyboard and mouse** (neither is wireless) \$40.00

**Altec Lansing Multimedia Computer Speaker System** with two speakers and a powered subwoofer \$45.00

*Anyone interested can either email Steve Stewart at [steves@terranova.net](mailto:steves@terranova.net) or call 305-852-9798*

## FREE OS X CLASSES

The Apple Store at the Falls  
 has free OS X classes every  
 Saturday from 9-10 am!  
 Call for more info:


### Apple Store at The Falls

305-234-4565  
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 Sun: noon-7pm

<http://www.apple.com/retail/thefalls>



## Support a Soldier

If you go to this web site: <http://www.letssaythanks.com/> you can pick out a thank you card and Xerox will print it and it will be sent to a soldier that is currently serving in Iraq. It's free and takes about 15 seconds. 



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### Upper Keys Mac Users Group

A nonprofit organization devoted to the use (and sometimes abuse) of the Macintosh computer. Subscriptions are \$25.00 for one year. Contents © 1993 - 2009 by the Upper Keys Macintosh Users Group except where noted. All other rights reserved.

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### VISIT

<http://ukmug.pbworks.com/>

**UKMUG's Collaborative Website**

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**Post tips and tricks**

**Post your favorite links**

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 and UKMUG**

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