

Macaholics UNANIMOUS

The Official Newsletter of the Upper Keys Macintosh Users Group



October 2011 Volume 19 Issue 11

Jim Lee shows TopXNotes, 2Remember, and Kitchen Timer

by Sue Beal

In September we welcomed back James Lee, from Tropical Software, makers of these three products.

TopXNotes is the flagship product (pronounced Top Ten Notes) and it's available on the desktop, iPhone and iCloud... soon to be on the iPad as well. What is it? Just the handiest little notes organizer!

I am an unabashed fan of TopXNotes, and have been for years. I enjoy being organized and hate wasting time looking for things. TopXnotes lets me put all those odd little things in one place and keep them right *there* - ready for access or easy update in a second. What kind of things?

I keep a list of stuff I've ordered online or from catalogs, so I can be sure what I paid for actually arrives. A list of magazine subscriptions and when they're *really* due for renewal, and when I paid the renewal. A list of things I need to order from Office Depot next time. A list of what to buy on the mainland next time I go up. Technical settings for certain hairy print jobs I need to remember. Credit card numbers, so I can just copy and paste when shopping online. Books I want to look for next time my Au-



Jim Lee, President of Tropical Software.

dible account comes due. New musicians I want to check out. Things I need to take to the condo on vacation every year. A list of all the meds my hubby takes, and I take. The "honey-do" list... you get the idea.

Everything is in one place and so easy to use and update. Oh yeah, this article isn't about me, it's about Jim and his presentation!!

I asked Jim to tell us some stories about what it's like to get products into Apple's store and the App Store, because no one we've ever had at UKMUG has had that experience. I was surprised to learn that it's a pretty frustrating process for the developers. Who knew that our beloved Apple, who makes computing so easy for the rest of us, could make developing apps so hard? Mary Anne Roper asked if it was worth all the trouble he described, and Jim said it was. Jim also noted that boxed software is going away at the Apple stores, and the AppStore online will be the place to go.

If you like Jim's Apps, remember to give good feedback at the App Store. You can also buy from Tropical's website, www.tropic4.com, or Amazon. \$40 for the desktop version, 99 cents at the App Store. The phone app is called TopXNotes Touch. You can start with any one product, add others later and then sync your devices.

One of the warm fuzzy features of

continued on page two

OUR NEXT MEETING:

October 13

7pm • KL Library Community Room

Allan Miller presents

Doing it for Free

Allan Miller will cover a wide range of sources to get digital items for free, from music, videos and books, to software apps and games, to education, to e-gifts, and even virtual items and electronic currency! This should be interesting, and Allan has the background to present it well.

Allan is the Owner and Chief Engineer at Binary Engineering, Inc., a Miami-based boutique computer consulting company specializing in making computer technology helpful and affordable to small business and individuals. He utilizes cloud based services and open source software to give clients the technological advantage needed in the 21st century.

This presentation will be available online, I'll send the link later!!

Beginners: Come at 6:30 and bring your Mac and your questions. There will be some experienced users there to help for the half-hour before the formal presentation starts! Experienced users: please come and help!

**ATTENTION:
MAC PEOPLE
OF MARATHON!!**

We have a growing number of people from the middle Keys who are traveling up to the meetings in Key Largo. If you are interested in carpooling (and meeting your fellow Marathon-area Mac devotees, contact Jody at gyokeres52@gmail.com



Photographer Pete Bacheler is one of Jim's beta testers!

TopXNotes is built-in backups, even on the iPhone. You can get back a deleted note. You can also email notes from your iPhone.

Create, View, Access and Organize

These are the 4 things you can do with your notes with TopXNotes.

Basic Notes

You can customize the look of your notes, and add emphasis where needed, using all the Apple fonts, and an array of colors - color for the text and/or color behind it, and even "emphasis color" which is like using a highlighter. You can use bold, italic, condensed, expanded and shadowed type, and you can align the text right, left or center.

NoteOrganizer

The NoteOrganizer is an overview of your notes, allowing you to group them (sort of like folders in the Finder's list view.) You can drag and drop them to reorganize your thoughts. You can categorize them, and assign colors and icons to help you better recognize the ones you use more often.

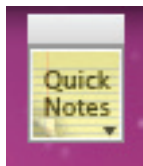
There are tabs in the NoteOrganizer, so you can sort them by Groups, Notes, Category, Date Created or Date Modified.

MultiView

You can click a button and create a MultiView window. You see the organizer on the left and one or more notes to the right of it. When you click in the body of a note, all the controls in the window jump under/over that note and apply to it; it is the active one.

QuickNotes

QuickNotes is both a category and a system — when you assign that category, the note shows in a special tiny TopX icon called Quick-Notes. The QuickNotes icon is a global floating window which is always on top of other windows on your screen. Clicking on the QuickNotes



We're collecting equipment for Jamaican schoolkids again

UKMUG is joining forces with Mike Mongo of Key West to send computers, Apple and PC, to schools and children in Jamaica, in October and November.

This is a great project that finds new uses for phased-out equipment and makes a big difference in the education and motivation of children. Mike personally goes over to refurbish and help set up the systems interacting with the students and the school.

Starting with our October meeting, UKMUG will collect equipment in the Key Largo, Tavernier and Islamorada areas; the next container shipment and trip to Jamaica for Mike is planned before Christmas.

If you don't want to haul your stuff in, call Karen for pickup!

What can be used:

- Laptops and computers, both Macin-



tosh (with OS9 or better) and Windows (must be able to run XP, Vista or 7)

- Flatscreen monitors
- Software & cables
- Hard drives & RAM - memory
- Mice, keyboards, cords, USB routers

Note: Printers, computers from before 2005 and the older, huge monitors cannot be used. If you love the project, but don't have a computer to donate, a few dollars towards the shipping would be most appreciated.

If you have questions or to coordinate collection, call 305-394-1841 or email Karen@keysgee.com 

PLEASE BRING YOUR DONATIONS TO THE OCTOBER 13 MEETING - BRING & DROP OFF, EVEN IF YOU CAN'T STAY. KAREN & SUE WILL BE THERE AT 5PM

icon drops down the QuickNotes note access menu containing your "Top 10 Notes"— always available for rapid and easy access. MacWorld calls QuickNotes a "killer feature!"

More Cool Features

- Drag and Drop Notes: you can drag them out of TopXNotes to the desktop and they will show up there as an RTF (Rich Text Format) files.
- Export Notes: Save any note where you want it, in RTF or TXT format.
- Export a Group: They export in

TopXNotes format, which is handy for exchanging notes with friends who also have the package.

- Drag and Drop between notes by dragging and dropping between note views.
- Insert special items like date or time, or links.

Security

There are a whole lot of settings in preferences. You can set AutoSave and backup options, startup and quit options, defaults for text, color etc., note options and security options.

continued on page 3



Jan Akos & Sally Bauer.



John & Bernie Cooper.



Karen Sunderland & Pete Bacheler



Mary Anne Roper & Jody Gyokeres

TopXNotes offers note-level encryption, in case you only want selected notes covered. You can set a different password for every note if you wish, but this is not recommended, because if you forget the password... well, you know!

Versions

The newest release of TopXNotes is 1.7.1. The latest release includes all of the above features plus 100 sample notepads (10 samples for 10 built-in templates) to get users started.

What's Coming

Jim plans to add support for pictures in the next release, and of course, the iPad version is coming.


2 Other Apps

Kitchen Timer is a simple little timer application. Just set it for a time - hours, minutes, whatever - and an alarm will go off when the time has elapsed. You can have multiple timers and give them names to keep them straight. Simple and easy!

2 Remember

This one is also very simple. You put events in that you want to remember, set an event type, what you want to do, a date and time, and it will notify you.

- Click the little magnifying glass and the phone number gets nice and big for readability.
- As you type a person's name, if they are in your Contacts, it will autofill the info for you.

Thanks, Jim, for another informative evening and 3 great products! 

Jody Gyokeres and Christine Moss both won free TopXNotes as door prizes.

My Top Ten TopXNotes Features

This package has a lot of nice things built in... here is a list of my Top Ten:

1. Backup file settings - save as many copies as you want, pulled at an interval you set.
2. Not only can it recognize URLs when you type or paste them in, but it can set them up as friendly links. What this means is, instead of "https://secure.tropic4.com/WebStore/index.php?" you can have the blue underlined link say "Jim's Website" and click on that, hiding the messy URL.
3. Global Find and Replace editing capability with case matching.
4. Free updates on the website, and Jim Lee himself will help you if you need it!
5. Help is built in and easy to access. There is no printed manual to store.
6. QuickNotes' tiny pop-up window is optional, you can turn it off in preferences. (I like it off!)
7. Widen the Organizer window and you see more info about your notes - date created/modified, for example. You can sort by these, which can sometimes help you spot things when you can't remember what you named them (yes, it happens to all of us, not just you!).
8. Predefined and customizable notes templates get you started easily.
9. Functions can be accessed through the menus or by using toolbar buttons.
10. You can print your notes easily if the need arises. One note or all of them.

Check Out This Video

from Video Dave Kay

Dave wrote:

Bruce Huffman, 86, and his wife Esther, 79, of the Hillside Retirement Home recently purchased their first laptop computer, an aqua colored beauty with built-in webcam.

Late last month they sat down together and tried to figure out how to make a video with the webcam, something the granddaughter had painstakingly attempted to teach Esther a few days beforehand.

Esther said she was trying to figure out how to do the videos and didn't know the thing was actually running.

When the couple's granddaughter saw the video, she uploaded it to You Tube under the title "Web Cam 101 For Seniors."

Apparently the video has spread like wildfire. Though Esther said she didn't know anything about You Tube.

They have no immediate plans to make another one. Bruce said, "we're still trying to figure out how to work it. But we're having fun trying."

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FcN08Tg3PWw>

Questions from a Reader: Can you help?

Don Barrett wrote:


I have some questions that perhaps you could put out to other Mac users.

I am using iDisk to store almost all my files at work. I understand that with iCloud coming out, iDisk will not be available after June 2012. I also understand that iCloud will have something called "documents in the cloud," but I'm concerned that this will only work (or primarily work) for iWork applications (pages, numbers, etc.). I store many types of files on iDisk (word files, pdf's, rtf, photos, audio, you name it).

I've heard rumors that Apple may change its mind and actually keep iDisk. Assuming that's not true, I'm looking for an alternative, and I'm considering using Dropbox.

My questions are:

1. Any chance Apple keeps iDisk?
2. Will "docs in the cloud" be the same as iDisk (can store all types of files)?
3. Is Dropbox a viable alternative?

Please respond to Don at attydcb@yahoo.com 

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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Hot Spot Hacker

How to protect your data in a public space

by Sid Kirchheimer | from: AARP
submitted by Karen Beal

You think you're logging into the coffee shop's Wi-Fi network to check your email. But you may actually be connecting to a crook.

Scammers have gone public, invading libraries, airports, hotel lobbies, coffee shops and other spaces that offer public Wi-Fi network connections to the Internet.

Take precautions using Wi-Fi in public spaces.

With hacking tools that are easily available online, sometimes for free, scammers can create their own parallel wireless networks that mimic the name or look of a bona fide establishment's hot spot. So you think you're on the shop's network, but you're really on the hacker's network.

Or you can be specifically targeted after you've connected to a shop's network with your laptop or smartphone. The hacker, perhaps someone sitting at a table just across the room, is able to intercept your transmissions and read them.

The crook knows what you may not, that many Wi-Fi networks are not secure, allowing for easy pickings of your personal data — email addresses, cellphone numbers and passwords. And if you bank or shop online while connected to these networks, your

financial account numbers are at risk, too.

So if you use Wi-Fi in public spaces, follow these 10 tips to safeguard your information:




"We used to use a crystal ball. Now we just hack into your credit card accounts."

How to protect yourself

1. Set your laptop or smart phone so you have to manually select the Wi-Fi network. You may need to change the default setting.
2. Make sure you know the exact name of the establishment's Wi-Fi network and connect only to it. Don't be fooled by look-alikes.
3. Avoid any hot spot that your device lists as "unsecured." Keep in mind that even if a password is required, a hot spot can still be unsecured.
4. If your device shows the site as secured, pay attention to what kind of encryp-

tion it lists. WEP (Wired Equivalent Privacy) is an early system, dating from over a decade ago. If it's WEP, treat the network as not secure. WPA (Wi-Fi Protected Access) is better, and WPA2 is best of all.

5. If you send personal data over a Wi-Fi link, do so only to an encrypted website. You can tell a site is encrypted if you see the letters "https" (the "s" stands for "secure") at the beginning of its Web address. Also, look for a lock icon on the top or bottom of pages throughout the site.
6. Before using a public Wi-Fi network, install such software as Force-TLS and HTTPS-Every where, which are free add-ons to the Firefox browser. They make sure you use encryption features available on websites you visit. Virtual private network software — some of it free, some not — can also add security.
7. As with your home computer, change your passwords frequently and make them hard to crack by including digits and symbols. Use different ones for different websites.
8. Keep your security software up to date and pay attention to on-screen warnings.
9. Turn off Wi-Fi when not using it.
10. If you can connect by laptop or smartphone, use the phone. It's generally harder to hack. 

Friends don't let friends use Windows.

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SENIOR TEXTING ABBREVIATIONS:


with thanks to Lenore Troia

ATD -at the doctor.
BFF -best friend fell.
BTW -bring the wheelchair.
BYOT -bring your own teeth.
FWIW -forgot where I was.
GGPBL -gotta go, pacemaker battery low.
GHA -got heartburn again.
MHO -is my hearing aid on?
LMDO -laughing my dentures out.
OMMR -on my massage recliner.
ROFLACGU -rolling on floor laughing and can't get up.
TTYL -talk to you louder!

Wow, what some people can do!


from Sandy Santiago

Now check this new thing out... cinemagraphs! (reminds me of Harry Potter's newspapers).

<http://contrary-garden.blogspot.com/2011/07/cinemagraphs-by-jamie-beck.html> 

Check out our Hyperlinks

by Sue Beal

In case you never tried it, click on a link in our newsletter - it should live link to the site! This used to be a hit-or-miss, but with the new inDesign CS5, it seems to work for me every time. 

Cheap iPads for Sale

from Harold Pinder

If you are interested in getting an iPad I know someone who can get hold of them through a contact. These are legit, not off the back of a truck; they are from a canceled Hospital contract due to the Government cutbacks. The numbers are limited - he has twenty iPads going for less than half price so it's first come first served. He has already sold one (pic is below so you can see what you are getting). Get back to me as quick as you can if you want one.



Glims for Safari



from Graham Thomas

Free application Glims adds a cocktail of features to Safari ...

- Adds thumbnails to Google/Yahoo/Bing search results
- Adds search engines to the default Safari's search tab
- Adds Favicons to tab labels
- Adds keyword search from address bar
- Adds new tab position option (right/left/leftmost/rightmost)
- Adds tab closing using middle mouse button (or CMD-Click)
- Focus last selected tab
- Type-ahead support (auto cmd-f)
- Sets the focus on the search field when opening a new window
- Adds Amazon's information banner on Google/Yahoo/Bing search results
- Adds a "Max Window Size" menu item to resize the Safari window
- Autocomplete search phrase
- Adds bookmark separator
- Adds bookmark actions
- Dated download folders
- Auto-Closes download window
- Undo "Close Tab" (cmd-z)
- Localized to Japanese, French, Polish, German, Spanish, Italian, and Korean

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

Coming in November (the 10th):

Jack Buccellato presents...

"Get the most from your iPad, iPhone or iPod Touch with iOS 5"

Try Grappler

from Karen Beal

Grappler lets you download videos and music from YouTube and the web easily and quickly. \$20

<http://thelittleappfactory.com/grappler/> 

30+ Awesome Utilities to Boost Your Mac's Functionality

from Graham Thomas

The Mac App Store has brought about a whole mess of new utilities that make your Mac more functional than ever.


This article locates thirty particularly useful utilities that you'll definitely want to check out and consider downloading.

<http://mac.appstorm.net/?s=geek> 

Google+ available in App Store

submitted by Karen Beal

Google+ (pronounced Google Plus), which is Google's new social networking site meant to compete with Facebook, has had explosive growth, hitting 18 million users after being introduced only three weeks ago. AND, it's not even yet publicly available. It's rolling out gradually via the invitation model, which is how Gmail began its life. I've used it a bit and it's impressive — more intuitive and friendly than Facebook. And if you're one of the lucky ones who's been invited to sign up, Google has now released their free Google+ app. You can read a review on CNET:

http://news.cnet.com/8301-1023_3-20080704-93/hands-on-google-app-on-the-iphone/?part=rss&subj=news&tag=2547-1_3-0-20&tag=nl.e703 

FREE CLASSES IN KEY WEST!

Macintosh™ Systems Solutions has a free class almost every Saturday morning at the store in Key West! Visit them at 1001 Truman Avenue at the corner of Grinnell. They offer a wide range of classes for new and experienced Mac users. Stop by for all your Apple sales, service, and training needs, or call 293-1888.



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Free Manual for Newbies Mac Users!



This 69-page PDF guide (from Makeuseof.com) supplies you with numerous tips, tricks and free applications.

Download it from <http://ukmug.pbworks.com/>

dummies.com

is a great place for useful and brief Mac Tips and Tricks! Check it out!



Karen S. helps new Mac owner Barbara, as Norma looks on, during Beginner's Circle.

HELP A NEWBIE!

Every meeting we get a couple of new users who have a lot of questions and anxiety about learning to use their Macs. Introduce yourself to an unfamiliar face. Even if you don't think you're an expert (who does?), you probably know a few things that can help them!

It's what UKMUG is about!

FREE OS X CLASSES

The Apple Store at the Falls has free OS X classes every Saturday from 9-10 am! They also have one-on-one training, workshops and the Genius Bar. Call for more info:

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



Come at 6:30 for the Beginners Circle:

Bring your laptop and your questions at 6:30, and for a half-hour prior to the main meeting we'll have experienced folks available to help, one on one, or in small groups.



VISIT TODAY!

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

UKMUG's Collaborative Website

Post questions and requests for help

Post tips and tricks

Post your favorite links

Check on upcoming meetings

Download our newsletters & more!

Did you see that picture of you, taken at the last meeting?

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



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Three G4 Macs for Sale:

G4-400 Sawtooth, G4 867 Quicksilver and a G4 MDD Dual 1.4 (fw 800). They are maxed out with ram and solid machines from a reliable source. Contact Jack: jack@twistedarts.com

Next collection for Mike Mongo's Jamaica School coming Oct./Nov. - save your stuff!!

Macaholics UNANIMOUS

is the official newsletter of the

Upper Keys Mac Users Group

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