



**SIERRA MACINTOSH USERS GROUP**

**March 2013**

[www.sierramacintoshusersgroup.org](http://www.sierramacintoshusersgroup.org).

**Founded for the purpose of increasing the knowledge of Macintosh users in the use of their computers and software**

Founded March 15th, 1995

**We will meet in March in the Murphys Library**

**Tuesday, March 12th  
2:00 pm to 4:00 pm**

The meeting will take place in the afternoon, in SMUG's winter location, in the upstairs community room of the Murphys Library, 480 Park Lane, adjacent to Murphys Park. An easy access is to turn off Main Street at the hotel and go down past the park. Cross over the little bridge and turn left into the library.

### **Featured Topic**

Dick Cross, SMUG president, will present information and lead discussion about changes to iTunes in its latest version. It's about movies, music and "much more". This is version 11.0.2. (You might choose to update your iTunes before the meeting.)

(Here also is a repeat from an earlier newsletter, FYI—

"Take Control of iTunes 11: The FAQ" now answers iTunes 11 questions

Few upgrades of late have engendered as much press - and hand-wringing among users - as iTunes 11. It's not surprising - millions of people rely on Apple's media management tool for a wide variety of tasks, but the new version revamped the interface and moved controls for many long-standing features.

If you've upgraded to iTunes 11 and are having trouble navigating its new interface or figuring out how best to use the new Up Next feature or the changed Genius, Shuffle, Search, and MiniPlayer features, help is now available in Kirk McElhearn's freshly published "Take Control of iTunes 11: The FAQ." Written in question-and-answer style with a strong focus on audio and video, this 192-page guide will help you take your iTunes know-how to 11 thanks to chapters such as Play, Rip, Buy, Tag, Organize, Search, and Sync that cover the basics and beyond. Start answering your iTunes 11 questions today!

The book normally costs \$15, but the 30% MUG discount drops that to \$10.50. Learn more about the book via the coupon-loaded link below.

<http://tid.bl.it/tco-itunes11-mug-discount>

cheers... -Adam & Tonya Engst, Take Control publishers)

## **Opportunity,** From Phill—

Information about the latest Take Control eBook for distribution to our membership.

A couple of copies will be raffled off at the next meeting.

Phill

Overcome password frustrations with "Take Control of Your Passwords"

Do you find juggling Web site usernames and passwords frustrating? I know I do, thanks to having over 300 Web accounts, accumulated over a decade or more. During that time, the recommendations for secure passwords have changed significantly and both the likelihood of problems and the liability of having accounts compromised have increased radically. It's maddening, and, honestly, a bit scary, especially after the high-profile hacking of Wired writer Mat Honan last year, coupled with password thefts from the likes of Yahoo, Twitter, and Facebook.

Luckily, Joe Kissell is on the case, and his latest ebook, the 88-page "Take Control of Your Passwords," calmly offers a secure, reliable strategy that you can apply with a minimum of fuss. I'll explain more about the kinds of problems Joe's approach solves in a bit, but I strongly recommend you watch Joe's short intro video on the book's page linked below - it's a lot of fun, as is the "Joe of Tech" comic we commissioned from our friends Snaggy and Nitrozac at the Joy of Tech, also on that page. The book normally costs \$10, but the 30% MUG discount drops that to \$7; it's all encoded in the link below.

<http://tid.bl.it/tco-passwords-mug-discount>

"Take Control of Your Passwords" helps you overcome frustrations that arise when dealing with the following password problems:

- \* 9-character passwords with upper- and lowercase letters, digits, and punctuation are NOT strong enough.
- \* You CANNOT turn a so-so password into a great one by tacking a punctuation character and number on the end.
- \* It is NOT safe to use the same password everywhere, even if it's a great password.
- \* A password is NOT immune to automated cracking because there's a delay between login attempts.
- \* Even if you're an ordinary person without valuable data, your account may STILL be hacked, causing you problems.
- \* You can NOT manually devise "random" passwords that will defeat all potential attackers.
- \* Just because a password doesn't appear in a dictionary, that does NOT necessarily mean that it's adequate.
- \* It is NOT a smart idea to change your passwords every month.
- \* Truthfully answering security questions like "What is your mother's maiden name?" does NOT keep your data more secure.
- \* Adding a character to a 10-character password does NOT make it 10 percent stronger.

\* Easy-to-remember passwords like "correct horse battery staple" will NOT solve all your password problems.

\* All password managers are NOT pretty much the same.

\* Your passwords will NOT be safest if you never write them down and keep them only in your head.

Author and database developer William Porter said, "Joe handles a confusing and scary subject more clearly and calmly than I would have thought possible. I'll be recommending this book to just about everybody I know." And Securosis CEO Rich Mogull, although he's also a TidBITS friend, said this after our collaborative feedback pass on the book: "Awesome. You did an amazing job breaking it down. This should be mandatory reading."

<http://tid.bl.it/tco-passwords-mug-discount>

As you might have guessed from Joe's video short and the Joe of Tech comic, we're trying to have more fun telling the world about our ebooks this year, and another step in that direction is to reprise something we did with the initial release of our first title, Joe's "Take Control of Upgrading to Panther" back in 2003: if you find this ebook helpful, we encourage you to write to us about your experiences - for example, how you overcame bad password habits or solved a challenging password problem. (If you want to include a photo of yourself, perhaps with an "uncle" you've helped out with advice from the book, feel free!)

We'll post the most interesting and creative responses on our Web site, and once a month (for the first three months after publication) Joe will pick his favorite story and send the lucky reader a batch of his famous homemade chocolate chip cookies. Photos and testimonials about the cookies are also welcome, of course!

As always, thank you for your support of the Take Control series!

cheers... -Adam & Tonya Engst

**About SMUG**

SMUG meetings are open to everyone and there is no charge to attend. The organization exists to keep Mac users abreast of the latest developments and to address the nagging questions that arise from time to time. Its goal is to take the mystery out of computers and to enable members to take advantage of all the features their Macs possess.

SMUG was founded in 1995 and is a non-profit organization run completely by volunteers. Annual dues are \$15. For more information visit the SMUG website at [www.SierraMacintoshUsersGroup.org](http://www.SierraMacintoshUsersGroup.org) or call 795-3798 or 728-9012.

*Members: If you have friends or acquaintances with Mac who aren't SMUG members, you might forward this newsletter to them, inviting them to join us and come to our meetings.*

*Also,*

*This newsletter can be a way for you to reach our 145 members if you have a need (hardware? software? other?) or want to share Mac news and information with us but can't get to a meeting. While we invite and urge you to come to our meetings, as you have seen in earlier issues, other members do indeed share here. The newsletter gets assembled about ten days to two weeks before each meeting: this defines our "deadline." Ye Ed.*

## **SMUG—**

### **YOUR OFFICERS**

**PRESIDENT** Dick Cross  
diskc@sbcglobal.net

**VICE PRESIDENT** Bob Reagan  
reagans@mlode.com

**SECRETARY TBA**

**TREASURER**

Paul Keeton pauly4@earthlink.net

**SMUG WEB SITE** Paul Keeton  
www.SierraMacintoshUsersGroup.org

**NEWSLETTER, "Ye Ed"** Dave Self  
dwself@goldrush.com

**AMBASSADOR**

Phill Hoxie, adobes@hughes.net

**SMUG REGIONAL HELP DESKS**

•**ARNOLD**

Dick Cross (795-3798)  
diskc@sbcglobal.net  
Mike Garland (795-3016)  
mgarland@att.net

•**MURPHYS**

John Hofstetter 728-0841  
Hofs@goldrush.com

•**HATHAWAY PINES/ARNOLD**

Denise Summersett 795-5679  
summersett47@comcast.net  
Seth Summersett 410 695 4547  
summerset@hotmail.com  
(Welcome!)

•**HATHAWAY PINES/AVERY**

Phill Hoxie (728-8712)  
Adobes8@hughes.net

•**FOREST MEADOWS**

position open

**PIONEER**

Paul Keeton (295 6261)  
Pauly4@earthlink.net

π•**CALAVERAS & TUOLUMNE**

Norm Milsner (795-3615)  
nmilsner@comcast.net

The Sierra Macintosh User Group  
Newsletter is an independent publication  
and has not been authorized, sponsored  
or otherwise approved by Apple  
Computer.







