

# Grand Mac SIG Newsletter



March, 2009 Volume IV, No. 3



March 16 Mac SIG Meeting to Feature  
iLife '09 by Ruben Mercado  
Arrowhead Apple Store



Join us at 5:00 PM in the Pima Room

Wondering what's new in  
iLife '09?

Well, here's your answer!

Ruben Mercado, Apple representative at the new Arrowhead Apple Store, will be presenting all that's new in iLife '09. We feel privileged that the Apple Store is coming to present at our Mac SIG meeting.



Many of the new features in iPhoto, iMovie, iWeb, and Garage Band have been praised on different sites on the internet. Before you make that upgrade, join us for an interesting demo on what's new in iLife '09.

*Two New iMacs  
Added to Open Space Room*

*Thanks to the Grand Computer Club Board of Directors for authorizing the purchase of two new iMacs to replace two of the oldest computers. And thanks to Art McCall for purchasing and installing all the software on the machines.*

## Winter Class Updates

### Class Registration Continues!

You can still register either online or at the Club. Go to [grandcomputers.org](http://grandcomputers.org) > Education > Course Listing to read the class descriptions and availability for all classes.

Or email us at [mac@grandcomputers.org](mailto:mac@grandcomputers.org) if you need help registering. We will take you step-by-step to help you complete your registration.

## February 16 Mac SIG Meeting on Photoshop Elements 6.0

Fifty Mac SIG members and their guests attended the February 16 Mac SIG meeting. The program for the evening was given by Sharon Hoobler. Included in the Keynote presentation was information about photo editing, what has been added to Photoshop Elements 6, and how to use them to create collages, books, cards, and fun gift items.



## Mac SIG Bits and Pieces

- *The Grand Computer Club Volunteer Dinner on March 13 honors the many volunteers who help with instructing classes, registering students, monitoring in the Club room, being a SIG facilitator or co-facilitator, etc. Is there any way you would be interested in volunteering? Monitoring, instructing, working during registration? Contact us at [mac@grandcomputers.org](mailto:mac@grandcomputers.org)*
- *This year again the Mac SIG will be doing the decorating for the Volunteer Dinner. If you would like to help us, let us know at the above email address.*
- *The Computer Club has installed video security for the two rooms to provide a protection for the Club's assets.*
- *The March 28 Club Demo Days has been cancelled, due to lack of interest.*

## Welcome New Members



*The Grand Mac SIG welcomes ten new members in February: Sue Montgomery, James Clark, Diane Simm, John Smith, Dennis Faulds, Connie Rosano, Dick Getchell, James Coffran, Karen Manning, and Gerald Schreiber.*

*We are now back up to 135 members in our Mac SIG!*

*Please encourage your fellow Mac users to renew their Grand Computer Club membership, which is \$20 per year and renewable now at the Grand Computer Club for 2009 (or online at [grandcomputers.org](http://grandcomputers.org)).*



## Green Apples Meets Twice a Month

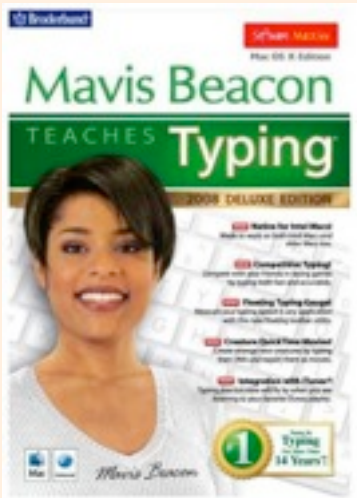
Don't forget our Green Apple sessions which meet the second Tuesday and fourth Wednesday at 3:00 PM. Bring your questions and problems and hopefully your Mac volunteers will solve them for you. Laptops are welcome!



Note: Dear Mac SIG users: Below is the third in our monthly articles from AUG - Apple User Groups. This month we look at a typing tutor program to improve your typing skills.

## Software Review

by Maria O. Arguello



Product: **Mavis Beacon 2008 Deluxe International Edition**

Company: [Software MacKiev](#)

Price: \$69.95

Requirements: Mac OS X 10.2.8 or any later OSX; 350-MHz G3 or Intel Mac; CD-ROM Drive

Test System: Mac Pro Dual-Core Intel, Mac OS X 10.5.5

Rating: 4.5 out of 5 Apples

*Mavis Beacon Teaches Typing* has been my favorite typing tutor program for many, many years. It offers dynamic personal lessons and numerous motivational affirmations throughout the program. With this version you can select British or American keyboard and spelling.

I love the integration with iTunes in this new version of the program. The very first lesson I opened pulled a very happy song in my iTunes library, which enhanced the pleasure of a typing lesson which would have been very boring otherwise. If you prefer to work in quiet, you can turn off the sound.

Besides the integration with iTunes, this new version is native to Intel Macs. It has a floating typing gauge so you can quickly see your typing speed in any word processing program such as Microsoft Word, Mail, or Text Edit. You can create new creatures for QuickTime Movies. It was loads of fun playing the typing races against a friend and a relative, using two Macs in my home. This is a new feature, only in this version. There are three typing races: Pirate Race, Ride the Wave, and Road Race.

I found the familiar, and my favorite, "Chameleon" game. But it slowed me down somewhat, having to wait to type the letter or character until the letters get to the beginning of their block.

This version has gorgeous graphics as you would expect from Software Kiev. If you want to improve your typing speed in a very entertaining way, this program is for you. Students will love learning to type with this program, while others can improve their typing speed.

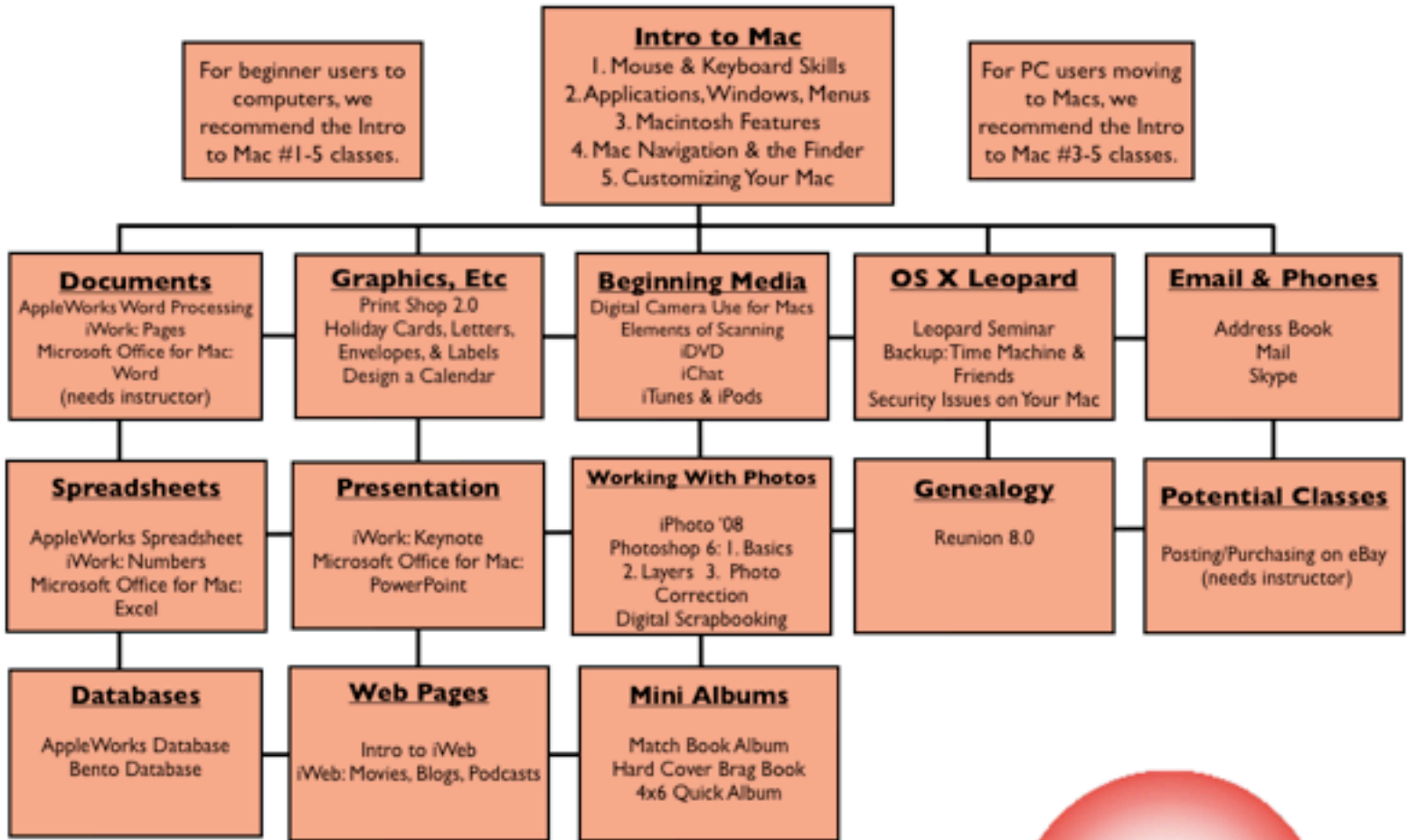


Reviewer: **Maria O. Arguel** Maria is a reviewer for the Macintosh user group community. To see more reviews go to [http://mugsnj.org/member\\_reviews.html](http://mugsnj.org/member_reviews.html) and to <http://mlmug.org/Reviews.html>.

Maria is also a member of NCMUG, PMUG, MLMUG, MUGSNJ, PPUG, and SJAUG. She is the Apple User Group Regional Liaison for the Northeast United States (CT, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, NJ, NY, RI, VT).

## Macintosh Class Flow Chart

Below is a flow chart that shows Mac classes and their progression. Note the new Intro to Mac classes. After having taken the Intro to Mac classes or having basic familiarity with using a Mac, you are then ready to move downward on the flow chart to any of the other classes. We hope this will be helpful for you when deciding which classes to take. You can get full descriptions including class prerequisites by going to [grandcomputers.org](http://grandcomputers.org) > Education > Course Listings or see the Mac binder behind the monitor's desk in the open space room at the Grand Computer Club.



Grand Macs  
Course Sequence

