
CHIP

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Venez voir la version HTML du CHIP sur
la page d'accueil Internet du Club  :

[http://www.sapience.ca/compclub/
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Come and see the HTML version of the
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Book Review

by Don Druce

Fractal Design Painter - Creative Techniques by Jeremy Sutton.

A visual Guide to Mastering Painter.

Fractal Design Painter is an amazingly powerful program. See the article on Painter in this issue. How about a book showing you some of the results obtained by the best Painter artists in the world. Each piece of artwork highlighting a particular Painter technique.

The book has two goals and I quote.

"1. To be an inspiring and diverse showcase of what has been achieved by a wide variety of artists who were using Fractal Design Painter."

"2. To be a practical guide to learning and applying the techniques utilized by these experienced artists."

The book is as much an idea book as it is a methods manual. The techniques are applicable to the Macintosh and Intel platforms; differences are explained where required. Along with the explanation of a technique you will find a reproduction of artwork that was created using the technique.

There is a Quick Tips section to get you started on the right track. You get into the work sections of the book with Quick Sketches. Here you will find five methods or techniques discussed. Using a Sketch as a Template - Watercolor and Pastel - Emphasizing an Outline - Quick Sketch from Scratch and Etched in Metal Look.

We then get into Applying Paint - Frames and Borders - Transforming Photographs - Collage and Montage - Variations on a Theme - Fabrics and Wallpaper - Typography and Calligraphy - Media Graphics - Cartoons and Comics - Video and Animation and Web Page Design. Each of these sections are divided into many samples; the samples are subdivided into Comments - Studio Usage - Related Techniques and Step-by-Step descriptions.

The Related Techniques will take you to the page covering a particular aspect of creating the final result; a technique cross-reference if you wish. This is part of the method used by the authors to cover the myriad of possibilities that Fractal Design Painter provides. It overcomes the difficulty of pigeonholing a technique in one category or another. There are no clear cut boundaries on any technique, so relating techniques ties the methods together in a usable fashion.

A great way to become familiar with the capabilities of Painter 4.0. The book has me constantly going to the program to learn more, and the program has me constantly going to the book for more ideas.

Le Club informatique Mont-Bruno The Mont Bruno Computer Club

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Le Club informatique Mont Bruno a été fondé en mai 1983 en tant qu'organisme à but non-lucratif, autorisé par le conseil municipal de Saint-Bruno-de-Montarville.

The Mont Bruno Computer Club was founded in May 1983 as a non-profit organization authorized by the City Council of Saint-Bruno-de-Montarville.

CHIP is the newsletter of the Mont Bruno Computer Club. The opinions presented in CHIP are those of the authors and not the club. Articles submitted for publication must be signed and should not be longer than 1000 words. Please proof read your articles before submitting them. The last date for submission is the 12th of the month.

CHIP est le bulletin du club informatique Mont-Bruno. Les articles présentés dans CHIP ne reflètent pas forcément l'opinion du club. Ils n'engagent que la responsabilité de leurs auteurs. Les articles doivent être signés et ne pas dépasser 1 000 mots. Les articles sont sous la responsabilité de leurs auteurs quant aux fautes. La date limite pour soumettre vos articles est le 12 du mois.

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President message

Par Bill Petrie

Message du président



How quickly the goblins and ghouls of Halloween have replaced the decorations of Christmas. As we come into this festive season your executive would like to wish every member of the club and their families a very happy Christmas and New Year.

We are now ready to start our Internet trial. By the time you read this the first group of members should be on line for their part in the trial. Others will be notified when their turn comes up.

We would also like to discuss briefly the club's name, in order to dispel any possible misunderstandings. As you all know, the club was founded as the Mount Bruno Computer Club in 1983 by English-speaking people in St. Bruno. At a date unknown to me the French name Club d'Ordinateurs Mont-Bruno was added. Recently, when the club applied for incorporation under the laws of Quebec, we had to choose a French official name, and some members asked that the name be changed to Club Informatique Mont-Bruno, because it was more appropriate for our activities. This was agreed to, and that is now the official and legal name of the club.

At the same time, the executive feels that the original English name, even though it has no legal standing, should be retained as a second name out of respect for the English speaking members who started the club, who have served on the executive for many years and who continue to play an important part in the direction and activities of the club. In this context it should be noted that there are many precedents for the use of Mount Bruno in an organization name, including the Mount Bruno Country Club, the Mount Bruno Curling

Club, Mount Bruno Elementary School and Mount Bruno United Church.

Les décorations de Noël ont rapidement remplacé les citrouilles et les fantômes de l'Halloween. À l'approche de la saison des fêtes, votre conseil exécutif désire souhaiter à tous les membres du club, ainsi qu'à leurs familles, un très Joyeux Noël et une Bonne Année.

Nous sommes maintenant prêts à débiter l'essai sur Internet. Lorsque vous lirez ces lignes, le premier groupe de membres devrait déjà être branché. Les autres groupes seront avisés lorsque leur tour viendra.

Par ailleurs, nous aimerions apporter ici quelques précisions sur le nom du club, afin de dissiper tout malentendu. Comme vous le savez tous, le club a été fondé en 1983 par un groupe d'anglophones de Saint-Bruno, et il s'appelait alors "Mount Bruno Computer Club". Le nom de "Club d'Ordinateur Mont-Bruno" s'est ajouté par la suite. Récemment, lorsque le club a fait une demande d'incorporation conformément aux lois en vigueur au Québec, il a fallu choisir un nom français officiel. À ce moment-là, certains membres ont demandé que le nom français soit changé pour "Club informatique Mont-Bruno", car cela reflète mieux nos activités. Cette appellation a été acceptée et constitue maintenant le nom officiel et légal du club.

D'autre part, le comité exécutif croit que le nom original anglais, même s'il n'a pas de valeur légale, devrait continuer d'exister comme deuxième nom, par respect pour les membres anglophones qui ont fondé le club, ont fait partie du comité exécutif durant de nombreuses années et continuent de jouer un rôle important à la direction et à l'organisation des activités du club. Au sujet du nom anglais du club, mentionnons que "Mount Bruno" est déjà employé dans le nom de plusieurs organisations, telles que le "Mount Bruno Country Club", le "Mount Bruno Curling Club", le "Mount Bruno Elementary School" et la "Mount Bruno United Church".

Nouveau SIG au Club !

par Robert Paradis

Tel qu'annoncé le mois dernier, il me fait plaisir de vous annoncer qu'un nouveau SIG (Séance d'Informations Générales ?) débutera ses opérations mardi le 7 Janvier 1997. L'ancien SIG Novices fait peau neuve et devient le SIG QUESTIONS.

Le SIG QUESTIONS s'applique donc principalement aux débutants qui veulent apprendre la base de l'informatique. Mais il s'applique aussi aux utilisateurs intermédiaires qui veulent revoir certaines notions de l'informatique et aux utilisateurs avancés qui veulent se rafraîchir la mémoire sur quelques trucs qu'ils ont oubliés.

Notez bien que les réponses données, que ce soit à ce moment là ou plus tard, seront dans des termes très simples rien de plus. « no moss, no fuss ».

Une réunion typique se fera en deux temps avec une pause-discussion entre les deux parties. Il y aura un sujet à développer (Les titres seront indiqués dans le calendrier habituel) et ensuite les questions des personnes présentes. Roland Babin et moi-même seront les animateurs de ces soirées.

C'est donc un rendez-vous pour le début de Janvier 97. Il y aura deux réunions par mois (aussi montrées sur le calendrier)

New SIG at the MBCC !

by Robert Paradis

As promised last month, I am pleased to announce the beginning of a new SIG starting January 7, 1997. The old SIG Novices will change its formula to become the SIG Questions.

The SIG Questions will be structured to show basic notions in computing to the beginners. Of course, it will also apply to intermediate members who want to review certain aspects of the technology and we will welcome the experts who come refresh their memory on tips and tricks they forgot.

One has to remember however that any answers given will be at the level of the beginners (no moss, no fuss). It is also possible that certain questions will receive an answer at a later date.

Regular meetings will have two parts with a break half-way for discussions. We will have a different subject each time (the titles will be shown on the calendar of activities) and after that, discussions on other questions and answers that will have been put forward. Roland Babin and myself will take care of business during these meetings.

You are therefore all invited to come to see us on January 7 97. There will be two meetings each month (the calendar will show the dates and the subjects discussed).



386: No, 486: No, Pentium: Ooops, Pentium Pro: The only chip to consider if you're thinking of buying a PC. Until Intel ramps up the 786.

640K: The salary the average Wall Street PC analyst

pulls in each year.

Algorithm: A catchy 1930 song by George and Ira Gershwin.

Availability: Date when a dozen copies of the beta version will be hurriedly shrink-wrapped for the benefit of the press and the investment community.

Backup: The chore you were really, honestly, going to do the very next thing before you switched drive letters and accidentally copied older, out-of-date versions of your files over all your newer ones at 3 a.m.

Buffer: The only other job - involving a chamois at the car wash - for which most computer store salespeople are qualified.

Gratitude is ... attitude**La gratitude...une question d'attitude.**
by / par Claire Lapierre

This Club is blessed with great people who show their commitment to the this club's objective which is dedicated to "the promotion of computers for home use".ref. #Special: amenez un ami. I am referring here to people like Denis Dubreuil, Michel Paul , Don Druce, and others who work as a team. Members have he opportunity to learn different aspects of intricate programs in a relaxed informal way.

It is only fair to give credit where credit is due. Gratitude is an attitude and gratitude our you have.

Le Club informatique du Mont-Bruno est choyé de compter parmi ses membres des Denis Dubreuil, Michel Paul, Don Druce et toute l'équipe des bénévoles qui se dévouent sans compter pour transmettre leurs connaissances aux autres membres. Dans une atmosphère de détente, ils les aident à comprendre des logiciels parfois compliqués et à mieux s'en servir. De toute évidence, ils ont bien compris la mission du Club qui consiste à travailler à l'avancement de l'informatique auprès des particuliers. Ils méritent bien qu'on souligne leur générosité. Et la gratitude étant une bonne attitude... nous leur exprimons ici toute notre reconnaissance.

MBCC Mac SIG 1997 Sessions

by Don Druce

January (Mac specific)**Utilities**

Your Desktop your way
Now Utilities

Your Personal Computer Technicians
Micromat

TechTool
MacEKG

Managing Fonts
Alsoft

Master Juggler

February (Mac)

This Agenda is obviously overloaded, so we will cover those items of most interest to the members present.

Communications & Printing:

What is new in Modems
Caller ID

YoYo

Distinctive Ring Detection

Travelling Software - LapLink Wireless
Infrared Communications - Farallon AirDock
Faxing

File Transfers**Internet**

Managing those URLs.
A Personal Web Page.

Using a PC printer with a Mac
PostScript Rasterizers (Mac)
Working WaterMarks - Toner Tuner - Print Logger (Mac)

March (Mac and PC)**Graphics:****Formats**

Mac & PC conversions
Bit Mapped vs Vector Graphics
Proprietary formats
Scanners / Cameras
Photographs
PhotoWorks, Kodak CDs.

MetaTools

Kai's Power GOO.
Other MetaTools Graphic Creation an

Production Tools**Adobe**

PhotoDeluxe.

YoYo for Macintosh A Single Line Telephone Manager

big island by Don Druce

welcome to the island



I hate it when the phone rings during supper. If I knew who was calling, without going to the phone to look at the Caller ID display, I could enjoy my supper without fear of losing an important call. Computers are supposed to make our life easier, so why doesn't my Macintosh tell me who is calling. The information is there; between the first and second ring, the telephone company sends a burst of data containing the caller ID. All I have to do is send this information to my Mac, activate a bit of software and the trick is done.

In comes YoYo, the first simple, powerful, screen-based telephone manager that anyone can use. Available for the Macintosh at the moment, a PC version will be released shortly. Connect the YoYo hardware to any spare ADB port on the Mac. A standard telephone cable from your wall jack (RJ11) brings the telephone line to the YoYo. Your telephone then connects to the telephone jack on the YoYo. During an incoming call, the hardware picks up the caller ID information and sends it to your computer via the ADB connection. Software takes over from there.

The software installation places an icon on your menubar and an Extension in your System Folder. The YoYo Menu can be moved out of the menu bar and placed anywhere on your screen to create a Utility Window. You can access the YoYoLand application from the finder, from the menu bar icon, or from the Utility Window. The main features of YoYo software are Calling, Paging and Logging.

YoYo's software determines what action to take based on the Caller ID information it receives. Some of the options include:

The software installation places an icon on your menubar and an Extension in your System Folder. The YoYo Menu can be moved out of the menu bar and placed anywhere on your screen to create a Utility Window. You can access the YoYoLand application from the finder, from the menu bar icon, or from the Utility Window. The main features of YoYo software are Calling, Paging and Logging.

- Post the caller information on the Macintosh screen.
- Play a custom ring sound to identify the caller.
- Block the call and prevent the telephone from ringing.
- Page you with the name and caller phone number.
- Log the caller's information to a file.
- Trigger another application via AppleScript.

YoYo also has a dialing feature. You can dial directly from the YoYo Phonebook window. In short, YoYo is a complete telephone manager for a single line telephone. The software provides most if not all of the features you would normally want.

Installation of the Software and Hardware is simplicity in itself. One of my first tests was linking YoYoLand to FileMaker Pro. Incoming calls automatically created a new entry in my database with the callers name and phone number. The price is reasonable, the manual is complete. I expect we will be hearing much more from Big Island with both cross platform and multi-line units. In the meantime, if you want to manage your home or small business telephone calls, have a very serious look at YoYo. I think you will find it to be a valuable addition among your computing peripherals.

For more information have a visit to Big Island Communications Inc. at www.big-island.com, or give them a call at 408 342 0525 Monday to Friday 7:00 AM to 6:00 PM Pacific Standard Time. To see a unit up close, come to the MacSIG meeting in December.





RACTAL PAINTER 4.0 DESIGN by Don Druce

Painter 4.0, runs under Macintosh "Power Macintosh", Windows 3.1^a and Windows 95^a.

Fractal Design Painter is the leading paint program for graphic designers. I am not a graphic designer, I can't even draw. When in need, tracing paper is my usual answer. Trace it out, scan it in and go to work from there. So what am I doing with Painter? Painter allows me to maximise the few artistic talents that I do have. It is even easier to use tracing paper with Painter 4.0. Electronic tracing paper of course. So, I can now "draw away" to my hearts content.

The tracing paper feature acts as an on-screen light box, allowing me to sketch or paint over an original image. I scan the original image into my computer, or extract a photo from a CD or from any other art source. Using the tracing ability of Painter, places a ghost of the original image on screen, allowing me to trace the image with painter's tools making an exact or abstract copy according to my whims.

Fig 1 . Traced Image



For those endowed with more artistic talent than I (which is just about anyone), Painter will allow you to create art with electronic tools that simulate traditional media. You can select pencils, brushes, or charcoal. You can work with crayons, pastels, watercolor or oils. You even select the textured paper that you plan to use. You can add

distortions, warping, smearing and other effects that are impossible to produce by any other means.

Perhaps your interests lean more towards working with or touching up photographs. With Painter 4.0, you can combine multiple images into your final design. Painters powerful cloning capabilities make it easy to turn photographs into custom artwork.

If you are an illustrator, Painter gives you the power of a draw program in an environment resembling that of a paint program. You can create rectangles, ovals or thanks to the Pen Tool and QuickCurve Tool, straight-lines and Bezier curves or freehand shapes. Painting in Painter resembles working with traditional art supplies. You can change brushes, pencils, mix colors, thin paint, erase errors, smear edges and so on. Of course you can create effects, undo errors and work using methods that are impossible in real life.

Painter also works with images created in other programs. It works with TIFF, PICT, GIF, JPEG, PCX, BMP, and Targa formats. Painter's native format is RIFF. With Painter you can import files from Photoshop 3.0, converting layers into painter's floaters*. Painter can also write files in Illustrator 5 format, you can access third-party raster plug-ins, such as Kai's Power Tools^a.

* *Floaters* are Painter bitmapped image elements that can be moved around and edited independent of the background image.

Painter is the only professional desktop image-editing program that allows you edit digital video. You can open and apply the special effects of the program to QuickTime and Video for Windows movies.

You can also create Internet graphics using Painter. It supports interleaved and transparent Internet GIF and JPEG file formats. You can even create Image Maps - graphics that contain hyperlinks to other pages or objects on the web.

Some other features.

If your input device is a pressure sensitive tablet, you can customise how Painter responds to stylus pressure and speed in the Brush Tracking Preferences. Your stylus pressure works with the selected brush to determine the appearance of your strokes.

Your scanner can be accessed by Painter through the Acquire submenu.

You can set up to 32 levels of Undo if you have enough disk space available. The whole image

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7)

must be saved for each undo step, so use only the number of steps you can afford and need. It is, however, nice to know that you can allow yourself lots of experimentation without worrying about being committed to the change or addition.

Summary

An extremely powerful paint program; so be prepared to give it the RAM it deserves. Painter has received rave reviews over and over again. A true workhorse for the graphic artist. It's price moves it out of the range of most non professionals, but then you can have a look at Dabblers 2 from the same source.

Painter will not replace artistic talent, but if the talent is there, this is the tool. For me, it is back to the Tracing feature to get my outlines and then on from there. Again, I am no artist, but Painter lets me produce works as if I were.

See the Book Review of Painter Creative Techniques in this issue. Ideas from the book give me some of the inspiration I need to become creative with my work.

Painter 4.0 is brought to you by Fractal Design. Fractal Design Corporation and Ray Dream Inc. merged recently.

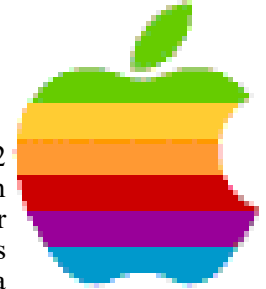
For more information visit the cool Fractal Web Site at:
<http://www.fractal.com>.

You can download a demo copy of Painter for a hands on trial.



Vive le SIG Mac !

par Wilfrid Sauv 



La r union SIG Mac du 12 novembre dernier s'est d roul e en trois parties: elle a commenc e par une discussion sur les indiscretions en public de certains membres et la qualit  du fran ais dans le CHIP, s'est poursuivie avec une pr sentation sur les sites Mac et s'est termin e avec le d pannage d'un membre novice en informatique. Ces trois sujets illustrent bien la raison d' tre d'un club comme le n tre, qui est de "promouvoir l'utilisation des ordinateurs   la maison".

Une vive discussion entre les membres pr sents sur le caract re priv  de nos discussions et le souhait que nos propos restent entre nous et ne deviennent pas des sujets d'int r t public ont stimul  l'assistance. Cette constatation ainsi que des pr occupations quant   la qualit  de la langue (fran aise) dans les articles du CHIP inqui tent les membres. Une d l gation du SIG Mac assistera   la prochaine r union du conseil d'administration pour signaler ce probl me.

  l'aide de disquettes et de documents imprim s, Bill Agnew, un "knowledgeable and friendly computer user" nous a fait part de ses recherches sur les sites Mac d'Internet, o  l'on peut trouver des renseignements tr s utiles sur le syst me et les logiciels Mac (extensions, tableaux de bord, etc.). En terminant son expos , Bill a distribu  des feuillets sur lesquels il donne les adresses de quatre sites : The Ambrosia Caf , Mac Pruning Pages, The Informinit et The Complete Conflict Compendium.

Apr s la pause caf , un membre qui  prouvait des difficult s   envoyer et imprimer des textes avec son nouveau Fax Modem a obtenu de l'aide pour entreprendre le "m nage" de son ordinateur. Cela a permis d'aborder quelques probl mes touchant l'essentiel du fonctionnement du Mac, tels le Dossier Syst me, l'organisation des documents, etc.

La participation active des membres a contribu    faire de cette soir e une rencontre constructive et enrichissante. L'animation  tait assur e, comme d'habitude, par l'infatigable "WebMaster" Don Druce, sous l' il vigilant de Claire Lapierre.