

SMUG NEWS

August Presenters



WE-FIX MACS PRESENTATION

By Art Fallon

We-Fix macs in the Palo Alto area is located at 3159 El Camino Real (at the corner of Portage Ave.) The main offices and similar We-Fix Macs Mac computer sales and repair facility is located at in Santa Clara at 1245 Laurelwood Road (just off US 101 Bayshore on the left side going towards San Jose). We have been in the business of fixing Macs for ages now and always strive to do the best for your Mac.

During this presentation at SMUG we will be talking about Internet providers; the best deals; and the best DSL service. With Websites getting bigger and bigger—Broadband access now seems to be the most logical solution. Many customers have visited our stores commenting on their inability to get their DSL line up and running smoothly as soon as they receive their equipment.

We will address this issue and provide you with the correct information (so it seems) that PacBell doesn't want you to know about. We will also have a good question and answer session so don't forget to bring in your pet peeves and trouble areas to challenge us.

MicroMat's TechTool Pro 4

From MicroMat's Web Site



Introducing TechTool Pro 4, the next generation of the best-selling problem-solving utility for Macintosh.

The best utility for Macintosh just became better. TechTool Pro 4 is a completely new program, built from the ground up for Mac OS X. The program was completely created in Cocoa, ensuring maximum performance and sta-

bility in Mac OS X. The program also features a new, easy-to-use aqua interface and streamlined window for easy navigation.

SmarTest

TechTool Pro 4 now features a suite of S.M.A.R.T tests (Self Monitoring Analysis And Reporting Technology). Most modern hard drives now support this industry standard that employs predictive diagnostics and analysis to help foresee a drive failure BEFORE it happens. TTP 4's SmarTest allows you to automatically monitor this vital data and be forewarned of impending danger to your data, allowing you to back up critical information before disaster strikes.

eDrive

The eDrive feature allows you to create an invisible emergency volume from your existing drive. This new partition is created WITHOUT the need to reformat your current drive and allows you to store a copy of your system, a copy of TechTool Pro and even allows you to make room for other utilities.

If you ever have trouble with your main drive, simply restart your computer holding the E key on your keyboard

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SMUG august 4 Meeting Schedule 6:30 - 9:30

6:30 - 7:00	Intro and Shareware Bill Maxwell /Shareware Team
7:00 - 7:15	Burning questions Dell bleiler and Fred Balin
7:15 - 8:00	We Fix Macs Art Fallon
8:00 - 8:10	Break
8:10 - 8:15	Search Committee Update
8:15 - 9:00	Micromat Tech Tool Pro
9:00 - 9:15	Raffle

PROSOFT PRODUCTS—JULY MEETING REPORT



CEOGreg Brewer and Partnership Manager Sherri Jessen told us about the company's background and demonstrated the technical capabilities of their *Data Backup*, *Data Recycler* and *Data Rescue* applications.

Data Backup has all the bells and whistles anyone could hope for and Data Recycler allows for several levels of "undo" as well as monitoring your hard drive to alert you to upcoming potential problems. But the gem application the three, to my way of thinking at least, is the Data Recovery package. Greg used this to attempt to recover "lost" files on two Zips that had previously been wrecked by "the Click of Death" (See that article in the April '03 newsletter).

Data Rescue operates by scanning the disk to recover lost data and then writes that data to another hard drive or other media. It does not attempt to "Fix the Disk". There are both a fast scan method as well as a more comprehensive slow scan option. In the limited time available some data was retrieved from one Zip while the other Zip needed the slow scan method. The real interesting thing however is that Data Rescue was able to read these Zips even though they would not "mount" in the drives by themselves. I have eleven more Zips to go through that were wrecked and will report back at a later time on my luck. I must say that having only a CD without a hard copy of the manual is giving me fits; and it takes a while to get to learn to "interface" with this puppy.

Prosoft is located in Pleasanton CA. Tel 925-426-6100 x 2322 (Greg) and x 2233 (Sherri); Fax 925-426-6101. (www.prosofteng.com) or (greg@prosofteng.com)

Screen Shots/Tips

Mac OS X 10.2 introduces features for taking screen captures (also known as screen shots). As in earlier versions of Mac OS X the Command/Shift/4 key combination allows you to capture a selection of your screen using a cross-hair mouse pointer. To cancel the capture press the Esc key.

Additional features for version 10.2 include:

Press the Space bar to switch between cross-hair selection and Window capture modes. Control/click to capture to the clipboard instead of to a file.

(from *Printout, Ethers PA* www.mac-hints-tips.com)

SMUG CD-ROM Summer Quarter 2003

NEW CONTENTS

Audio & Music

401(ok) 0.1 (OSX)
AquaGnome 1.6 (OSX)
SndSampler 4.6.3 (ClS)

Comm

AmazonShopper 1.2 (OSX)
Crystal Fire Wormhole 1.0.2 (Cbn)
Hogwasher 3.1 (Cbn)
iScooper 1.1 (OSX)
iStorm 2.5 (OSX)
MacHTTP 2.6 (ClS)
MacResponder 1.0b2 (OSX)
NewsMac 2.2 (OSX)
osXigen 2.1 (OSX)
Romeo 0.9.0 (OSX)
Spy 1.1b2 (ClS)
Spy 1.1b2 (OSX)

Design & Graphics

EasyPhoto 1.2.5 (Cbn)
PICStation 1.3 (Cbn)
PICStation 1.3 (OSX)
SpirographX 1.2 (OSX)
StereoGrabber 1.2 (ClS)
StereoGrabber 1.2 (OSX)
WebPics X 2.6.1 (OSX)

Fun and Games

Asteroid Storm 1.2.1 (Cbn)
Enigmo 1.3.1 (Cbn)
MacXword 1.1.0 (OSX)
Mike's Cards Lite 1.8.2 (OSX)
Mike's Marbles 1.1.1 (OSX)

Interface

AliasMenu X 3.0.2 (OSX)
Classic Dockling 1.1 (OSX)
Classic Spy 2.1.2 (OSX)
Clipboard Sharing 1.1.2 (OSX)
Dock Hide 1.2.8 (OSX)
Duality 3.1 (OSX)
Federation Screen Saver 0.1 (OSX)
iClip 2.1 (OSX)
Klingon Screen Saver 0.1 (OSX)
Menu Extra Enabler 1.0 (OSX)
Mighty Mouse 1.1 (OSX)
MUMenu 1.2 (OSX)
www.freemacfonts.com (OSX & ClS)

Kitchen Sink

Computer Cuisine Deluxe 3.5 (OSX & ClS)
FinKit 1.2.4 (ClS)
FinKit X 1.5.1 (OSX)
iCash X 1.4 (OSX)
Idea Knot 0.3 (OSX)
MConvert 4.5 (ClS)

MConvert X 4.5 (OSX)

Multimedia

Slick Transitions & Effects Sampler 1.0 (OSX)
Xinema 1.0.3 (OSX)

Productivity

AlarmClock Pro 6.2.6 (Cbn)
Fob 1.0.1 (OSX)
Hog Bay Notebook 2.0b2 (OSX)
iCalViewer 1.0.4 (OSX)
iOrganize 4.4.6 (OSX)
MP3 Alarm Clock X 2.2 (OSX)
SBook5 5.05 (OSX)
ScrapX 1.1.6 (OSX)

Utilities

Bookmarksman 2.1 (Cbn)
CD Session Burner 1.0.2 (OSX)
Cee Pee You 1.1.1 (OSX)
Cool Tools 1.0.1 (ClS)
MacStumbler 0.6b (OSX)
MacWasher 2.1 (ClS)
PGPFreeware 8.0.2 (OSX)
Platypus 1.0 (OSX)
Print Window 2.1.1 (OSX)
Security Services 1.04 (OSX)
TextSpresso 2.2 (Cbn)
UpdateRadar 4.0.5 (OSX)
VideoCalc X 2.0 (OSX)
Web Validator 1.4.1 (Cbn)
Xbench 1.0 (OSX)
XLoad 1.4.3 (OSX)
XMonitor 1.9.3 (OSX)

STOCK CONTENTS

Graphics

GifBuilder 1.0 (ClS)
Goldberg 2.3 (Cbn)
Goldberg X 2.3 (OSX)
GraphicConverter 4.1 (68K)
GraphicConverter 4.7.1 (ClS) *
GraphicConverter X 4.7.1 (OSX) *
Jade 1.2 (ClS)

Internet

AOL Instant Messenger 4.6.1131 (Cbn) *
Better Telnet 2.0b4 (ClS)
Camino 0.7.0 (OSX)
Eudora 6.0b24 (ClS) *
Eudora X 6.0b24 (OSX) *
Fetch 4.0.3
iCab 2.9.1 (ClS)
iCab X 2.9.1 (OSX)
Interarchy 6.2 (Cbn) *
Internet Explorer 5.1.6 (ClS)
Internet Explorer 5.2.3 (OSX) *
MacSSH 2.1fc3 (68K)

MacSSH 2.1fc3 (ClS)

Mozilla 1.2.1 (ClS)

Mozilla X 1.4rc3 (Cbn) *

MT-NewsWatcher 3.1 (ClS)

MT-NewsWatcher X 3.3b1 (OSX)

Netscape Communicator? 7.0.2 (ClS)

Netscape Communicator? 7.0.2 (OSX)

Netscape MRJ Plugin 1.0b5 (ClS)

Netscape MRJ Plugin X 1.0.1 (OSX)

Niftytelnet SSH 1.1r3 (ClS)

NiftyTelnet 1.1 FAT (ClS)

OmniWeb 4.5b1 (OSX) *

Opera 6.02 (Cbn) *

Outlook Express 5.0.3 (ClS)

RealOne Player 9.0 (OSX)

RealPlayer 8 6.0 (ClS)

Windows Media Player 7.1.2 (ClS)

Windows Media Player X 7.1.3 (OSX)

Others

BEdit Lite 6.1.2 (ClS & Cbn)
BBTidy 1.0b9
DarkSide of the Mac 5.0.6 (ClS)
Extension Overload 5.9.9 (ClS)
MacTracker 2.0.3 (ClS) *
MacTracker X 2.0.3 (OSX) *
Mariner LE 3.1.4 (ClS)
MP3 Rage 5.7 (Cbn) *
SoundApp 2.7.3 (68K)
SoundApp 2.7.3 (ClS)
SoundJam MP Free 2.5.3 (ClS)
Tex-Edit Plus 4.1.3 (ClS)
Tex-Edit Plus X 4.5.1b1 (OSX) *
textSOAP 3.2.2 (Cbn)

Utilities

Adobe Reader 6.0 (OSX) *
Acrobat Reader 5.1 (Cbn)
ADBProbe 1.0.3 (ClS)
Aladdin DropStuff 6.0.1
Aladdin Expander? 6.0.1
Andrew's Disk Copy Scripts 2.1.1
AntiWordService 1.0.1 (OSX)
Default Folder 3.1.5 (ClS) *
Default Folder X 1.7.1 (OSX) *
FinderPop 1.9.2 (ClS)
PopChar Lite 2.7.2 (ClS)
PrintToPDF 2.4.4 (ClS)
SCSIProbe 5.2 (ClS)
ShrinkWrap? 2.1 (ClS)
Sleeper 3.5 (ClS)
Snitch 2.6.7b2 (ClS) *
TechTool Lite 3.0.4 (ClS)
TinkerTool 2.32 (OSX)

* New or updated since the previous CDOQ



Shareware News August Demo ITEMS

Demo by Bill Maxwell



Asteroid Storm 1.2.1 (Cbn)

Asteroids-like 2D shooter game. Asteroid Storm is an Asteroids-like game with 32-bit 3d graphics and nasty enemy AI. The game contains an infinite amount of computer-generated levels as well as several levels with written introductions that tell you the story of your voyage into the storm. Requires OS 8.1+, or OS X 10.1+. Free.



Enigmo 1.3.1 (Cbn)

Enigmo is the most unique game that Pangea Software has ever created, and it is a departure from our action-adventure games which we are known for. Enigmo is a 3D puzzle game where you move various streams of flowing liquid so that the droplets get to their destination. Liquids (water, oil, and lava) fall from “droppers” and will bounce around the walls of a mechanism. You move and rotate into position various types of bumpers, sliders, accelerators, and sponges in order to divert the flow of the falling droplets. The faster you complete each level, the more bonus you will receive. In addition to the 70 levels that come with Enigmo, there is also a built-in level editor which allows you to create your own entire games. You can then email these games to your friends to try playing, or even post them to your web site. We expect that as users create their own games and we link to them, there will eventually be thousands of levels for you to download and play with Enigmo! Requires OS 9.2+, or OS X 10.1+. \$20.



Slick Transitions & Effects Sampler 1.0 (OSX)

iMovie plugins. The Slick Sampler is a collection of 9 fully-functional plug-ins for Apple’s iMovie 2. The Sampler includes Barn Door open/close, Burst, Drip, Heart open/close, Radiator, Sweep, Film Noise, Solarize and X-Ray. Requires OS X 10.1+ and iMovie 2.1.1+. Free.



SpirographX 1.2 (OSX)

Generates cool, radial imagery. SpirographX is used to generate cool, radial images. It works like a spirograph, but with limitless possibilities. Add more loops, tweak loop diameters, and set colors to create endless visuals. The animate feature will even let you animate them in real-time.

SpirographX also includes a screen saver module which allows you to watch the visuals hands free! The module generates imagery randomly, but has detail and interval options. Requires OS X 10.1+. Free.



VideoCalc X 2.0 (OSX)

Calculate how much video can be stored on a hard drive. VideoCalc X is a quick calculator to tell you how much digital video you can capture to your hard drive. VCX calculates how much free hard drive space you have and will allow you to figure out how many minutes or hours of digital video you can capture and how much space you are going to need. It doesn’t get any easier than VCX and it’s a great utility for iMovie users. Requires OS X 10.2+. Donation.



www.freemacfonts.com (OSX & Cls)

This web site contains an extensive library of free fonts for the Mac. Free.

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*continued from page 1
MicroMat’s TechTool Pro 4*

and your system will start from your Emergency Drive giving you immediate access to the utilities you’ll need to resurrect your main drive. Now there’s no more need for a bootable CD or ancillary hard drive for system drive repair or maintenance.

MultiTesting

With the power of Mac OS X, TechTool Pro 4 is now the fastest version of the program we’ve ever made. With Mac OS X’s native multitasking capability TechTool Pro 4 can now run its full battery of tests simultaneously. The means that repair and maintenance chores that once took minutes will only take seconds.

Optimization

TechTool Pro 4 now offers a new optimization feature for your Mac OS X drive. The Mac OS X system contains thousands of files that fragment quickly. TTP 4 lets you quickly and safely unfragment these and other files so your system runs reliably at its peak.

Besides the new features, TechTool Pro 4 also contains updated versions of its time-tested repair and diagnostic features. Like volume repair and data recovery, which can save the most important element of your computer: your data. Like it’s predecessor, TTP 4 can also tests all of the critical hardware on your system like the CPU,

memory, controllers and even the power supply that feeds all of these devices. The program can also check other important aspects of your system like internet connections, network, modem and even some third-party external peripherals.

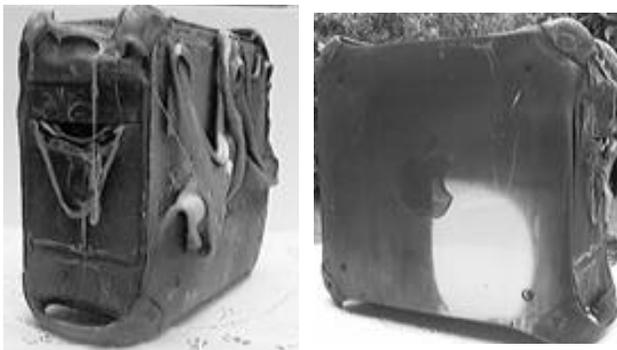
TechTool Pro 4 is constantly on guard and protecting your Mac OS X Macintosh. It's Protection feature will regularly check your system's health at intervals you select.

It can even automatically notify an administrator by email if any problems are found. The program also features password administrative options that will prevent unauthorized users from using the program.

But with all of its power, TechTool Pro 4 is still the easiest system utility to use. You can run a complete system check of your computer with just one mouse click. Or if you prefer, you can control all tests individually. This makes TechTool Pro 4 the utility of choice for both beginners and experts alike.

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Some Burning Questions ? ? ? ? ? ? ?



Do you recognize these pictures???. Well if you do, congratulations. If you don't—then they could be pictures of your computer and hard drives AFTER YOUR HOUSE BURNS DOWN TO THE GROUND. Well! you say, it couldn't happen to me. Oh yeh! Well this really did happen to a very good friend of ours recently and we were luckier than hell to recover not only the Mac G4, the internal hard drives, but also the data on those drives.

A lot of this is due to some excellent and timely work by several fire departments and by the very rugged plastic skin over metal insides of this type of Apple computer. By the way, the basically all plastic big monitor next to the computer just melted away. I'll give you the moral of this story shortly, in case you haven't guessed it by now.

The next morning, after the ashes had cooled down a bit, I took my flashlight and upon entering what used to be the blackened office, I cut the cords on the back of the computer and pried it away from what remained of the desk.

It had a layer of black carbon soot outside as well as inside. Carefully applying pressure on the partially melted case opener I was able to pry open the case. Hmm! I thought to myself—wouldn't it be a gas if we could get into those hard drives and see if they still worked. I'm not sure any of the internal circuit board would be functional again but I held out some hope for the drives.



Removing the drive assembly I lightly cleaned the surfaces with a mild solution of detergent and water and then dried it with clean cloths. After air drying I disassembled each drive from the case assembly and repeated the cleaning process on each drive—being careful only to remove the conductive carbon soot and not let it get further into the drives or circuit boards. I did this several times, wiping and air drying after each cleaning. Finally, when the drives looked pretty good, considering, I let them air out for a week or two to let the “burnt smell” sort of dissipate into the air.

Then came the call to friends who could take the next step of getting the drives operational. Several good folks volunteered but in the end Fred Balin happened to be at the right place at the right time, and he put each drive into a firwire external drive; hitched them up and applied power. The next call I got was from Fred. He was elated. They worked—and he recovered all needed data from those hard drives and transferred it to a new Apple 17” titanium power book. Well, as the saying goes, sometimes you get lucky.

MORAL OF THE STORY

Do you always feel lucky? Are you always lucky? This can't happen to you? Well, my friends, the Boy Scout motto is “Be Prepared”. If, by chance your luck just happens to run out someday and you loose all, or perhaps just your computer, and you haven't backed up your applications, data, and hard drives AND THEN REMOVED THAT BACKUP DATA TO ANOTHER OFFSITE LOCATION you are not prepared, AND YOU WILL SUFFER SEVERELY FOR IT.

So, once burned, twice smart. Now is not too late to get on the ball and be prepared, just like Gerry Brown told us to do at his previous SMUG presentation. The house and most everything else is gone now but we were lucky that Apple makes a computer built like a battleship.

/// Dell Bleiler SMUG member

MACHO MAC:

THE NEW G5 UNVEILED (*Part 1*)

by Fred Balin © July 6, 2003 MacResolutions

With a combination of reverential awe and in-your-face bravado, Steve Jobs introduced Apple's new PowerMac G5 tower systems two weeks ago at Apple's Worldwide Developers Conference at Moscone Center and staked bragging rights to the world's fastest personal computer.

Despite it's unmatched position as the technology company of simplicity and elegance, of design and sophistication, of usability and functionality, of hip and cool, Cupertino has a complex.

For years no-nothing technology analysts and PC bigots have kicked sand at the Mac. "A toy." "It runs too slow." "Not suitable for the enterprise." Rubbish of course, and yet it has had a corrosive impact. Externally, on confused customers and internally, on the Apple core. No matter each extraordinary Apple design feat, the issue in certain circles always returned to raw processing speed.

In recent years, Apple countered with the G4's Velocity Engine, a special high-speed processing unit on the chip, and again with dual processor G4 PowerMacs. They also educated the public that blindly using processor cycles as speed equivalents was like comparing Apples to, well, oranges; it was a Megahertz Myth. But not everybody listened or understood. And it hurt.

Despite the endorsements of the creative and the learned, the soulful and the expressive, the visionary and the thoughtful, we now know deep down inside what the whiz kids at Cupertino really thought. And now they may have it, and, boy, are they feisty.

All that pent up energy.....so bad that despite Apple's fanaticism about controlling new product-information, someone within the company accidentally posted the G5 product news on the Apple Retail Store website days before the unveiling. There it resided for a few hours before, presumably, the Apple SWAT Team restored order and carted the culprit off to pump iron at an undisclosed landfill. But Steve Jobs was in a forgiving and joking mode at Moscone referring to the miscue as an act of mere "premature specification."

The official G5 announcement from the CEO followed, "We are delivering today, the world's fastest

personal computer." After that, the specifications and speed tests conveyed the kind of information only a deeply committed cross-platform geek could love and meaningfully decipher.

64 bit processing—2 GHz frontside bus—12 unit core—215 simultaneous in-flight instructions— Pairs of symmetric-integer, double-precision floating-point and load/store units.

What's it all about, Stevie?

Even he didn't know completely, stalling after "it has massive branch prediction logic." Then, a half-beat later: "I don't know what it does... it predicts branches....it's a good thing." The audience laughed. But seriously folks, how does the lay crowd know just how good all these features are and what they amount to?

The Apple-hired testing outfit, Veritest, documented that a prototype top-of-the line G5s closely matches or surpasses the best Dell systems in integer calculations and kicks butt in floating point. Hot dog.

Apple's internal tests of key hi-performance applications, show more dramatic whippings with Photoshop, pro audio applications, scientific analysis tools, and gaming. Sounds good...But the new machines don't ship until August so we won't hear from end users like you for many weeks.

In the meantime, this article is my attempt to more clearly and simply explain what the new G5 seems to be all about via the best sources I have on hand. Thanks for coming along for the ride, and let me know if you have input to add.

THE MAKING OF THE G5

In case you missed it, Apple's flower power days together with its 6-colored logo are long over. And despite its iconoclastic rhetoric, Cupertino has now been hanging out at the gym big time with IBM for 10 years.

The fruits of this collaboration, which also included Motorola, has been the Power PC Alliance and four major generations of chips that drive Apple's PowerMacs. At the Developer's Conference, we learned of Generation 5, the G5 processor, Apple's trademark for IBM's PowerPC 970microprocessor.

The G5 chip is based on one that IBM uses to run its highest performing supercomputers. Describing the chip's fabrication and physical specifications moved Steve Jobs to tones of reverential awe.

August 2003

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Monday, August 4

General Meeting:

Panofsky Auditorium, Stanford Linear Accelerator Center (SLAC),
2575 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park.

Meeting:

Begins at 6:30pm. See page 2 for details

Shareware Team meeting at Owen Saxton's house,
1442 San Marcos Circle, Mt. View.

Meeting starts at 7:15 pm.

(Ask a team member for the correct date for this month).

Tuesday, August 12

Board of Directors meets at 7:00 pm
Cafe La Dolce Vita, 299 California Ave. Palo Alto.

Friday, August 22

DEADLINE for Newsletter articles and Calendar items to be submitted by email to bleiler@pa-smug.com

Contributions:

Contributions to SMUG News are always welcome, preferably on disk or via e-mail in a file format readable by QuarkXPress. Files can also be uploaded to the Newsletter Coordinator Lorrie Bleiler at bleiler@pa-smug.com

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september 2003

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october 2003

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We thought the above calendars would be helpful for those people who don't have E-mail. This is the projection for the upcoming meeting dates.

Note: The September meeting is on 8th because of Labor day

--- IMPORTANT READ-ME ---

Security and You

To pass through the security gate on **August 4** you will need:

- **To be on our list of members**
If your membership has lapsed, send me an email by Saturday, **August 2**
- aquaman47@mac.com, to tell me you plan to attend
- **(Of course, err, um, don't forget to pay your dues at the meeting)**

AND !!!

Be prepared to show a photo ID at the gate.

All guests are welcome as always, but you or they must email me by **August 2** so they can be on the list of attendees to be submitted to SLAC security.

Thanks for your cooperation.

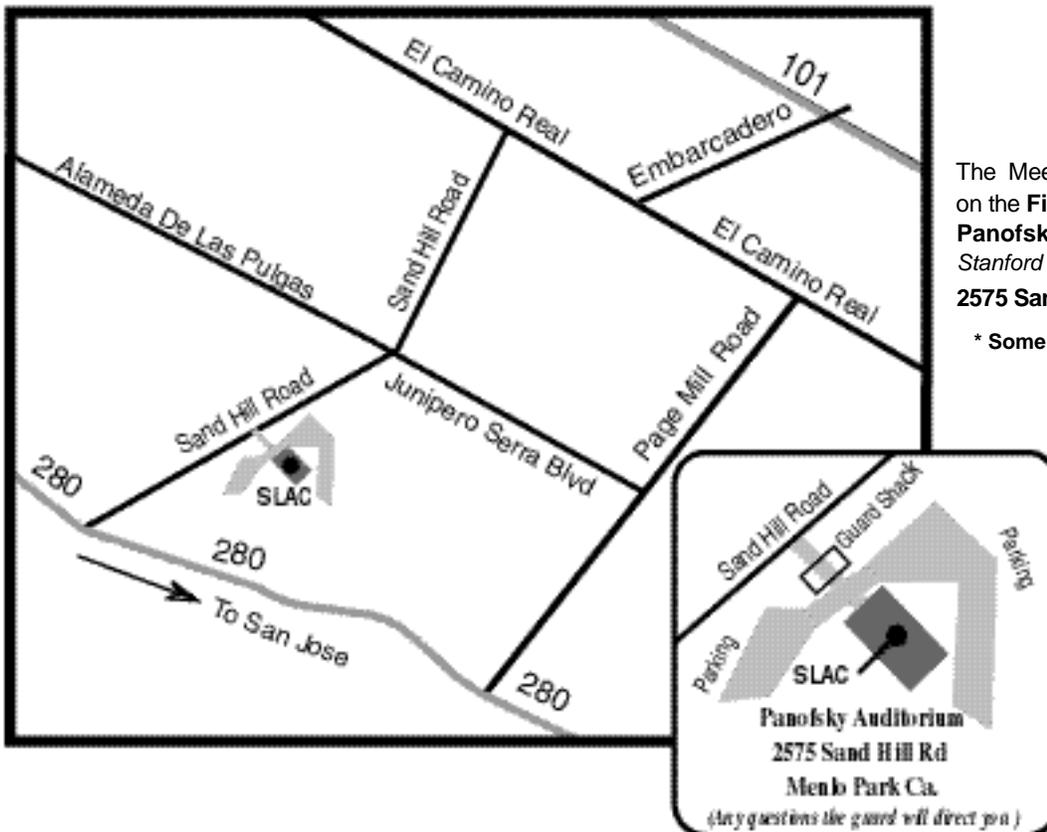
-Frank Smith

SMUG

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<http://www.pa-smug.org>

Next Meeting **Monday August 4, 2003**
in Panofsky Auditorium
We Fix Macs—Art Fallon
Micromat Tech Tool Pro



The Meetings are generally held on the **First Monday*** of the Month **Panofsky Auditorium, Stanford Linear Accelerator (SLAC) 2575 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park**

* Some exceptions on holidays