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The LIMac



OCTOBER 2009

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LIMac was established in 1984, when the Mac was introduced. Annual dues for membership are \$36. (The first meeting is free.)

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## September Meeting *Sam Storch*



### Finding Good Stuff on the Internet Part II

Our September 11 meeting featured a presentation by *Barbara Mehlman*, who demonstrated nine more useful resources to an interested audience.

**Wordle** (rhymes with "turtle") allows you to create "word clouds" where the visual size of a word in a list depends on how often the word is typed into a box. You have probably seen such visuals used as keywords or search terms on web sites, but there are other uses in classrooms, graphic design, and presentations. You can vary colors, fonts, sizes, and layout, then capture your creation to save. ([www.wordle.net](http://www.wordle.net))

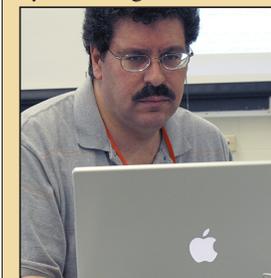
**iTunes University** provides content from colleges and universities on a wide variety of topics and disciplines via iTunes. Download to your computer or iPod anything ranging from 60-second lectures from Penn all the way to full-length lectures from institutions Harvard, Yale, and others. The newest iTunes provides a separate highlighted area for this resource. What will you "major" in at home or in your car?

**Animoto** lets you upload photos and then, adding transitions and music of your choice, lets you e-mail a link so that others can view your creation. In as little as 5 minutes you can create a free 30-second movie! For \$ 30 per year you can create movies as long as an hour. *September Meeting continued from Page 5*

## October Meeting *Bradley Dichter*



Mac OS X version 10.6 Snow Leopard, is it worth it? Bradley will show you what it offers and what it takes away in incompatibilities. If you have to spend hundreds of dollars for a new printer and a new scanner because the old peripherals or software that worked fine in Mac OS X 10.5.8 no longer have a driver for *Snow Leopard* which cost only \$29, is that a fair trade? Lots of folks are reporting problems, like crashes in open and save dialog boxes in Adobe Creative Suite 4 applications notably for large files and elsewhere while others it works fine. This may have something to do with fonts in your home folder. *Snow Leopard* does not seem to like Type 1 Postscript fonts any longer. It could be a nightmare or you may be lucky. *Snow Leopard* may feel faster but it doesn't make your computer process faster and for now, until software is available that takes advantage of the new technologies behind the scenes, it's probably best to not upgrade to *Snow Leopard*. Keep apprised with what works and what doesn't by checking out these web pages: First check here if you



have a compatible printer and scanner: <http://support.apple.com/kb/HT3669> Then check for user reported compatibility at <http://www.macintouch.com/specialreports/snowleopard/slcompat.html> and <http://snowleopard.wikidot.com/>

If you don't do your detailed

*October Meeting continued from Page 4*



### General meeting time schedule:

Meetings are held at The New York Institute of Technology, Building 300 (Anna Rubin Hall), Old Westbury, Long Island.

Meetings start promptly at 7:00 P.M.

**Bradley's Q&A: 7:00 – 7:30 P.M.**

**MacBasics Q&A: 7:00 – 7:30 P.M.**

Beginner Q&A meetings July & August.

**Featured Presentation: 7:30 – 8:20 P.M.**

followed by announcements and raffle drawings.

**SIG Meetings:** (Special Interest Groups)

**DTP/Photoshop SIG: 8:30 – 10:00 P.M.**

- ▶ In bad weather, call (516) 686-7789.
- ▶ The next LIMac board meeting will be at the Plainedge Library, (516) 735-4133, on Wednesday, October 16th, at 7:45 P.M.

## Bradley's Tech Session



**Bradley Dichter**  
Technical Advisor  
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▶ **I'm in the market for a new battery for my 2 year old 15" MacBook Pro. Do I shop for the cheapest price or do I get what I pay for?**

**I see advertised batteries in the range of \$65 where Apple charges \$129.**

■ The NuPower line of batteries from Newer Technology is not for the MacBook Pro, so only Apple brand or no name batteries are available. There won't be much of a range of selling prices of the real thing, so I'd suggest buying from some company you have heard from, ideally one not charging NY State sales tax. Make sure you get the right model battery, as Apple has used more than one kind and different ones for 15 and for 17" models. Basically you have the sort of squarish models for the older generation models that fit into a recess in the underside and the newer models, more rectangular for the uni-body models, that hid under the access panel with the hard drive. The cheaper models are the so-called equivalent models, not made by Apple. I have not seen the newer style from the copycats. The reviews of the copy cats are they don't fit tightly like the original, so the connections could be intermittent and it could fall out. Also they don't seem to cooperate as they have different firmware than Apple uses, so you might have problems with it reporting it's charge status. Also I read reports of bulging after a few months and very poor service from the manufacturers. People have reported better battery life than the original Apple model, but overall it seems risky.

▶ **I'm running Mac OS 10.5 with Parallels Desktop and I'm thinking of switching to Boot Camp as I've got Windows XP for the one or two programs I can't run on the Mac OS X. Do I have to reinstall Windows, I can't find a Windows CD. Isn't it part of the Parallels program? I think it was installed already when I got the computer.**

■ The retail version of *Parallels Desktop for Mac* does not come with a copy of *Windows* and if you bought a Mac with

## President's Message

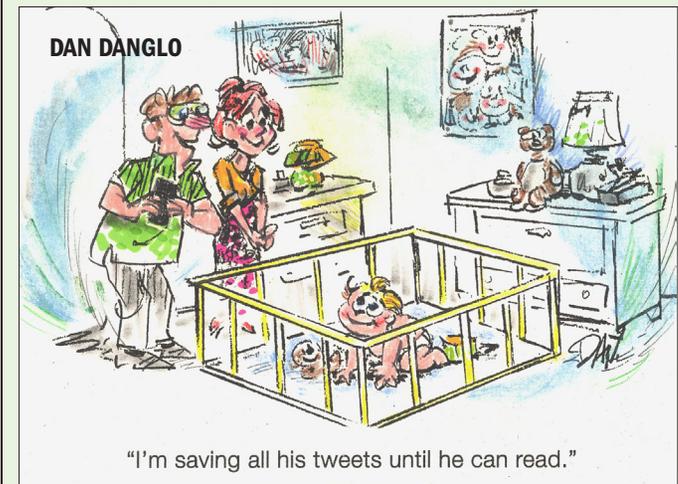


**Bill Medlow**  
President  
archbill@optonline.net

One of the most fun parts of Apple computers is the anticipation of what is coming in the near future. Apple has its own way of doing things and does not fuel any fires. In fact Apple does not participate or encourage any information of any of it's future projects and will go so far as to sending their attorneys to visit anyone, who will publish any rumors. All I can say is to keep your eyes open within the next few months for something that some say, would look like a tablet computer. The LIMac Bulletin Board is available for discussion. If I, without any sources or knowledge knew what I was talking about, I would be dangerous.

Now, doesn't that make for interesting conversation? ▶

*So come down and let us know what you think.*



"I'm saving all his tweets until he can read."



## Directions to Meeting

For more detailed information go to [limac.org](http://limac.org)

## Bradley's Tech Session

Parallels Desktop pre-installed, it also does not come with Windows and thus rather useless by itself. (I checked with MacMall) I don't know, maybe you bought a bundle with Windows. I would have to guess you **did** buy a bundle if you actually were using Parallels Desktop and running a virtual machine. Then of course you would have the bundled Windows CD. Just keep looking, perhaps in the Parallels Desktop box. Anyway I'm afraid you will have to reinstall Windows after setting up the Boot Camp partition. *Parallels Transporter* can migrate from a real PC or *Virtual PC* into Parallels, but not from Parallels into Boot Camp. Then after activation under Boot Camp and installing Microsoft updates and installing your Windows Software all over again, you can access the Boot Camp partition from Parallels if you need to for a quick, whatever, and restart as Windows when you need the full hardware support and speed Boot Camp booting supports. I guess you will want to deactivate the current Windows in Parallels Desktop (with the *regedit* program) first before deleting that environment in favor of the Boot Camp copy.

### ► I see advertisements for mobile hotspots, I think from Verizon. Can I use that with my iPod touch in my car?

■ I don't think so. I've seen T-Mobile's unit which is a USB device for a PC or Mac laptop. I also see the \$99 with a 2 year contract \$\$\$ Verizon Wireless MiFI 2200 Intelligent Mobile Hotspot but it also connects to a computer via USB. Once configured it can run for hours on the internal rechargeable battery. It was tested and the best speed throughput was 680Kbps download and 140Kbps upload speed. There was high latency with a ping time of 542ms. Cradlepoint makes the CTR500 Mobile Broadband Router which needs a activated USB or ExpressCard wireless broadband modem and of course the paid service behind that. At \$200, it's cheaper and more functional to trade in your existing cell phone and iPod and get a iPhone. I suppose if you really wanted to avoid AT&T Mobility for wireless Internet access, you could go this route. It comes with a 12V car power adapter as well as a wall power adapter. Seems well suited for a construction site office and a few laptops and iPod touch/iPhone users. Maybe even a beach

house if it gets a cellular signal but no DSL or cable TV. See <http://www.cradlepoint.com/products/ctr500-mobile-broadband-router> The wireless broadband service plans are expensive for a home user, but a business can justify it.

### ► I have discovered you can't fax from a modern Mac and I have to buy an external USB modem, but Apple is phasing them out. What else can I do?

■ Buy one now before they are phased out. I see them in stock at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) but not at the Apple online store. A quick look at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) showed other Mac compatible USB modems. The US Robotics USR5637 just was a bit tricky to install due to poor instructions. I find that the option I most recommend, unless you need mobile faxing from a laptop, is to get a multi-function printer/scanner/fax, such as those from HP. I anticipated this problem when I was planning on replacing my Power Mac G5 which had a built-in modem for a Mac Pro which lacks it. So after seeing the functionality in action on clients HP all-in-one models, and having my plain paper fax machine starting to misfeed, I replaced it with a compact and inexpensive HP Officejet J3680. I connected it via USB to my Mac and can fax right out without having to print on paper first. It's a convenient sheet-fed scan to PDF unit and can copy and print in color. For \$55 it was well worth it. Of course HP has better units for more money, but this fit the space and the budget and the purpose. I got two other printers and a scanner, so I didn't need a lot of function here as well. On the other hand, for another client setting up a new workstation at home, I had suggested the HP Officejet Pro 8500 which can be had for \$158 to \$199 or more. They were thinking more photo quality and liked the Epson Artisan 800 (currently for \$180) as it offers 6 color printing, with copy/scan/fax and CD printing, via WiFi, Ethernet or USB.

### ► Is there an email to fax solution?

■ I'm sure there are plenty. You could try [faxzero.com](http://faxzero.com) which offers limited free faxes with an ad on the cover page or \$1.99 per fax without and you can fax a .PDF file. Worth a try. Check out [faxaway.com](http://faxaway.com), you just address a fax with the phone number@[faxaway.com](http://faxaway.com) and the body of your email gets imaged and faxed to the number you supplied. They also will

Bradley's Tech Session continued on Page 4



<http://db.tidbits.com/>

## iPod nano Morphs into Video Camera, Pedometer, Radio

by Glenn Fleishman

The inexpensive handheld camcorder market just underwent a major shift with Apple's debut of a major revision to the iPod nano. The new version adds video and audio recording, a pedometer that syncs with Nike+, and an FM tuner. The 8 GB price remains unchanged at \$149; a 16 GB version costs \$179. Both models are available immediately.

Apple's entry into this market isn't strange, given the engineering work it did to add video to the iPhone 3GS, but it's another example of the company's hard-to-anticipate strategies: instead of introducing a new product or adding it to the iPod touch (which seemed more obvious), Apple grafted video onto an existing model line. CEO Steve Jobs said that the iPod nano is one-fifth the thickness and one-tenth the volume of a Flip camcorder, and the 8 GB iPod nano has twice the memory of a \$149 Flip model.

Flip pioneered small but easy-to-use video recorders with decent quality, capturing a double-digit percentage of camcorder sales, and spurring Kodak and other firms to jump in. The Flip cameras also contributed to the growing prevalence of solid-state memory for capturing video. Recording directly to memory enabled the devices to shrink dramatically in size, making the Flip and successive devices truly pocketable. Cisco acquired Flip for \$590 million in March 2009.

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The iPod nano's camera records video in H.264 VGA resolution - 640 by 480 pixels - and at rates up to 30 frames per second; audio uses the AAC format. These are the same specs offered by the iPhone 3GS, which produces acceptable, but not stellar, video output. The iPod nano will let you apply 15 real-time effects, such as sepia or motion blur - but you need to specify the effect before you record, making it a permanent addition to your footage.

Video recorded on an iPod nano can be synced to iPhoto on a Mac, or to a Windows video folder. Apple advertises the notion that the video is just the right size for Facebook, MobileMe, and YouTube, but of those, iPhoto can upload movies only to MobileMe at this time (we expect more video support in the next version of iPhoto, but then again, we've been anticipating that for years). The iPod nano also includes a voice-recording feature, and somehow manages to shoehorn in a speaker for playback.

Oh, yes: it's still an iPod, too.

The inclusion of a pedometer is an extension of Apple's existing efforts to tie in the Nike+ system, but adding an FM tuner at this point in the game seems slightly bizarre. Apple has never included FM tuning in any of its iPods, and has sometimes ridiculed the very notion. More recently, Microsoft replaced its Zune models with the Zune HD, which offers FM tuning for analog FM radio signals and the HD Radio (which doesn't stand for "high definition") digital format used by about 15 percent of radio stations in the United States as a supplement to their main broadcasts.

The iPod nano's FM radio function acts a bit like a TiVo for radio, storing up to 15 minutes of broadcasts and allowing rewind and pause, although you can't save stored audio

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## Bradley's Tech Session

take incoming faxes to a number you setup and send you an email with the image that was received. David Pogue of the New York Times was raving about it years ago. There is a \$10 deposit to start you off and then there is a \$1 a month account maintenance charge. There is a 11 cents per minute rate in the continental US with a 1 minute minimum and 6 second increments beyond that. There is myfax.com which supports attachments faxed and the subject line becomes the fax header and the body of the e-mail becomes the comments on the cover page. PDF attachments work great. Of course the more complex the fax the longer it will take and thus cost you a bit more. I'm sure if you googled you could find plenty more. A member said AOL and Yahoo has this function but I never heard of that. More likely some company advertises on their web sites. ↗

October Meeting continued from Page 1

## October Meeting Bradley Dichter

homework and plan on installing *Snow Leopard*, at least have a complete backup of your drive, not just your files. Either *Time Machine* if you are running Leopard now or *Super Duper!* or *Carbon Copy Cloner*. Download the *Snow Leopard*

compatible updates first so you can clone back if things don't work out well.

You have been warned about this bad kitty. ↗



## User Group Offers



George Canellis

User Group Ambassador &  
Vice President

SEO (Search Engine Optimization)

PowerSuite includes four forceful SEO

tools, making you more productive at each website promotion task: keyword research, building premium high-PR backlinks, content (HTML code) optimization, rank tracking and more. The software also produces flexible reports that let you analyze your SEO strategy and deliver results to partners and clients. SEO PowerSuite includes Rank Tracker - WebSite Auditor & SEO SpyGlass - LinkAssistant. With an original price of \$399, Apple User Group Members qualify for a special price of \$186.75, 53% off! Order with discount: <http://www.link-assistant.com/buy/bundle.html?d=ldtcnb12> Learn more: <http://www.link-assistant.com> Download a free version: <http://www.link-assistant.com/download.html> This offer is valid through October 31, 2009.

Tap the full potential of your Mac with video training from The Mac U. In depth training courses are available on a wide variety of topics. Tons of free Mac video tutorials and software demo videos are also available. Better yet, Apple user group members get 20% off all titles. View a wide selection of free lessons and more: <http://www.TheMacU.com> Discount Code (enter this code on the Esellerate cart page): MUG2009 This offer is valid through October 31, 2009.

With a focus on the Mac platform, Aquafadas was formed to develop and promote high quality software solutions exclusively for the imaging and digital video community. The Apple User Group community can receive a special discount off the entire software range:

- PulpMotion - \$49 reduced to \$36.75
- PulpMotion Advanced - \$129 reduced to \$96.75
- BannerZest - \$49 reduced to \$36.75

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## User Group Offers *George Canellis*

- BannerZest Pro - \$129 reduced to \$96.75
- VideoPier - \$49 reduced to \$36.75
- VideoPier HD - \$79 reduced to \$96.75
- iDive - \$79 reduced to \$59.25

Visit and purchase: <http://www.aquafadas.com> Discount code: MUGMC2009N This offer is valid through October 31, 2009.

Looking for a great place to shop for Mac Memory Upgrades? MacMemoryStore.com specializes in Apple Memory upgrades. The Memory Finder allows you to quickly and easily find guaranteed compatible memory for just about any type of computer system. By selecting your computer manufacturer, family and model, you can be certain the memory you find will work in that system. An exclusive 15% off their already low prices is offered to Apple User Group members on all memory upgrades. Browse over to the MacMemoryStore: <http://www.MacMemoryStore.com> Coupon code: AppleUG15Off This offer is valid through November 30, 2009.

PocketMac makes a variety of productivity tools for PDA and Mac connectivity, including using your Mac to support your iPhone. With RingtoneStudio2 for iPhone, you can easily create iPhone ringtones. By creating and setting ringtones for each of your friends and family, you can get an early heads-up before you look to see who's calling. From the regular \$29.95 price, Apple user group members receive a 30% discount, which reduces your cost to \$20.96. The first 500 ordering will also get their choice of free iPhone case. Enhance your life: <http://www.createiphoneringtones.com> Coupon Code: USERGROUP31 This offer is valid through November 30, 2009.

O'Reilly and No Starch have three upcoming Mac OS X Snow Leopard books. Titles include "Mac OS X Snow Leopard: The Missing Manual" by David Pogue, "My

*User Group News continued on Page 6*

## September Meeting *Sam Storch*

**Wolfram Alpha** ([wolframalpha.com](http://wolframalpha.com)) is a vast computational tool for comparing mathematical, financial, scientific, or statistical data. You will find formulas, graph tools, calculators, date comparisons and more. Watch the useful overview video which shows you good examples of how to use this immense resource.

**Share Tabs** ([sharetabs.com](http://sharetabs.com)) lets you save a set of links to a page created for you or someone else via e-mail. The page shows clickable thumbnail views of each link you input. Here is a useful way to send one URL with many resources at once; you could even export a bookmark list this way.

**Google Earth** ([earth.google.com](http://earth.google.com)) lets you "travel" anywhere on the Earth, even under its oceans. "Travel" along streets to see buildings and structures, and (where old images are available) see what a location looked like in the near or distant past. With Google Moon, Google Mars, and Google Sky, you can spend entire days exploring everywhere from the convenience of your own chair.

**Google Reader** ([reader.google.com](http://reader.google.com)) lets you to easily access your newsletters, blogs, etc. via your G-mail account. Click the orange RSS Feed logo on a web site or browser window and select Google Reader as your preferred way to be notified of changes or additions.

**Google Picasa** ([picasa.google.com](http://picasa.google.com)) is already a well-known photo site but not everybody knows of its ability to share a set of images of a person so that other people can add new images of that person, collaboratively creating an entire album of images for all to see.

**Pasteboard** gives you multiple clipboards in your computer. It is only one such useful resource, of course, but is free if you have Internet access.

for later listening. The iPod nano can read and display information embedded in analog broadcasts by radio stations that reveal artist and song details.

Apple uses this data with iTunes Tagging, a system it designed to work with HD Radio receivers. When you tag a song on an iPod nano (just as you can with supported radio receivers), that song's information is retrieved when you sync the iPod via iTunes. iTunes then displays a Tagged category in the iTunes Store list in the sidebar that shows the song, if it's recognized. (See "Tag Radio Songs for Later Purchase While You Drive," 2009-06-19, for more about iTunes Tagging.)

Apple offers the new iPod nano in nine colors, including black and silver. The company touted a number of environmentally sensitive features, such as the device's highly recyclable nature, and the absence of BFRs, PVC, and mercury, as well as the inclusion of arsenic-free glass.

Apple also released a minor software update for the VoiceOver feature that enables users to control playback on the iPod nano by speaking artist names and songs. The VoiceOver Kit for iPod 1.2 fixes bugs, adds variable playback rates for spoken word media, and includes support for this new iPod nano, the fifth generation. ↵

## Renewal

Membership renewal for 2009 takes place from October onwards. A bonus discount was passed by the Board of Directors a few years ago: Bring in a new dues-paying member and get a **\$12** discount off your membership renewal. Bring in three new members and your renewal is free!

Bringing in a new member also includes getting a past member back into the group.

Make your **\$36** check out to LIMac and bring it to the next meeting, or mail to LIMac, Post Office Box 2048, Seaford NY 11783-0180



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**For a Year's membership  
Send your \$36 check to:**



### SPECIAL NOTICE

This edition is made for viewing on your computer screen. If you want to print this version I have now compensated for some printers that don't print too close to the edge, if however, you wish a more printer friendly edition without all the colors just email me at [azygier@nyc.rr.com](mailto:azygier@nyc.rr.com) and I'll be happy to send you one. (Al Zygier)

*User Group Offers continued from Page 5*

## User Group Offers *George Canellis*

New Mac, Snow Leopard Edition" by Wallace Wang, and "Mac OS X Snow Leopard Pocket Guide" by Chris Seibold. Get up to speed quickly with this new operating system. This user group discount code offer will get you 35% off. To purchase, call 800-998-9938, or go to: <http://bit.ly/OReilysnowleopard> Discount code: DSUG This offer is valid through November 30, 2009.

Voila is a professional creativity tool for Mac OS X Leopard that lets you capture your screen, annotate, organize and share. Voila lets you capture any shape, multiple regions at the same time, menu, webpage or DOM elements, and even from iSight. Pick and add annotations, add effects and share instantly via Mail, Flickr, FTP or iPhoto. Regularly priced at \$39.95, Voila is offered to Apple user group members for only \$24.95, which is 38% off! A full-featured trial version can be downloaded for a 30-day evaluation. For more details, downloading and purchasing: <http://www.globalde-light.com/store> Discount coupon: APPEMUG This offer is valid through December 31, 2009.

MacScan from SecureMac quickly detects, isolates and removes spyware from Macintosh computers using both real-time spyware definition updating and unique detection methods. It also includes Internet clutter cleanup with blacklisted tracking cookie detection and removal. Since 1999, SecureMac.com has been at the forefront of Macintosh system security. The site also operates as a clearinghouse for news, reviews and discussion of Apple computer security issues. Regularly available for \$29.99, this special user group is discount 20% off. Try before you buy with free trial. Review and purchase: <http://macscan.securemac.com/> Coupon Code: MUGMACSCAN This offer is valid through October 31, 2009.

PowerMax.com, the engine behind The Apple MUG Store, is pleased to announce a new process for Apple user group members. Instead of going to [www.apple.com](http://www.apple.com)

to view a limited selection of items, members can now go directly to [www.powermax.com](http://www.powermax.com) to peruse and purchase (rewrap) almost 50,000 products. By identifying the user group you belong to (either on an online order or over the phone), PowerMax will continue to accumulate points for your user group to use. As a special bonus, for one month only, starting February 20, 2009, those points will double to 2% of the total purchase. So if a user group member buys a \$2,000 computer, \$40 will be added to your user group's account, good toward anything PowerMax sells. In addition to great deals, free UPS shipping is offered on any order over \$50! Be sure to take advantage of this win/win deal: [www.powermax.com](http://www.powermax.com)

Freeway gives you all the legendary ease-of-use and features that launched the desktop publishing revolution. You can quickly and effortlessly lay out your website, embed images and content, then publish your work as standards-compliant HTML. Upload to your server, .Mac or to a folder. You supply the creativity, Freeway handles the code. User Group members can buy Freeway Pro, regularly \$249 for \$186.75, and Freeway Express for \$59.25, a 25% discount. Build your website now. <http://www.softpress.com/store> Promo code: LIMac181206G

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Eltima Software is a global software development company, specializing in Flash software development for Mac users. All flashers will see the true value of Flash Decompiler Trillix for Mac, Flash Optimizer for Mac and SWF & FLV Player for Mac. With these products, managing Flash files is easy: decompile, compress or just play them back! Regular prices for Eltima's Flash software range from \$19.95-\$99.95. Using the coupon code gives user group members 20% off. <http://mac.eltima.com/> Coupon code: AL-D-MUGPS