

MugShots

Volume XVIII • Issue #1 • February, 2010

January Topic: Cool Products Featured at the 2010 Computer Electronic Show (CES) and Apple Announcement January 27 **PLUS** Favorite Apps.

Fresh from the show floor of the 2010 Computer Electronics Show (CES) in Las Vegas, Bill Achuff will bring a long list of what's new and exciting in the techno world. The show featured 2500



exhibiting companies and 20,000 new products. He will tell us how some of the newest electronic items are likely to transform our lives. Many are available now or announced and forthcoming. He will tell us how some of the newest electronic items available now or announced and forthcoming, are likely to transform our lives.

Then, breaking away from talking about the dazzling new hardware in the pipeline, Bill will demo a few of his favorite Mac apps — apps he feels most of us will find very useful in our day-to-day lives.

Bill Achuff, co-founder of the User Group Alliance, has long been a supporter of the user group community.

He is a photographer, presenter, writer, and reviewer.

Members On Line

World Wide Web Sites of Interest

If you find any of these to be inactive, please advise the editor:

Macintosh News

- Macintosh News Network <www.macnn.com>
- MacSurfer Headline News <www.macsurfer.com>
- MacInTouch <www.macintouch.com>
- AAPL Investors <www.appleinvestors.com>
- As The Apple Turns <www.infoXczar.com/atat>
- MacOSRumors <www.macosrumors.com>
- **Dave Marra's website <www.marathon.com>**
- **MUGSNJ (that's us) <www.mugsnj.org>**

Help

- MacCentral/Forums <www.maccentral.com>
- MacNN/Forums <www.macnn.com>
- AppleInsider/Chat <ww.appleinsider.com>
- **MacSolutions <www.macsolutions.com>**
- MacTips <www.themacintoshguy.com>
- MacFixIt <www.macfixit.com>
- PC Talk <rblevin.net/TOC.htm>

Macintosh Books

- Macbookshop.com <www.macbookshop.com>
- Peachpit Books <www.peachpit.com>
- Barnes and Noble <www.barnesandnoble.com>
- Amazon <www.amazon.com>

Buy & Sell

- Mac4Sale.com <www.mac4sale.com>
- DealMac <www.deal-mac.com>
- MacTreasures <www.mactreasures.com>
- Ebay <www.ebay.com>

USB

- MacInTouch USB Guide <www.macintouch.com/imacusb.html>
- USBStuff <www.usbstuff.com>

Escrow service

- TradeSafe <tradesafe.com>

Software

- VersionTracker <www.versiontracker.com>
- Download.Com <www.download.com>
- Mac Downloads <ww.zdnet.com/mac>
- Antique Mac Software <www.macintouch.com/earlymac.html>

Appearance

- Font Diner <www.fontdiner.com>
- ClixSounds <www.clixsounds.com>
- The Icon Factory <www.iconfactory.com>
- DeskStop <members.aol.com/deskstop>
- Steve's Free Desktop Pictures <www.steveweb.com/FreeDTP>

Resources

- Encyclopedia Britannica <www.brittanica.com>
- Language Translations
<babelfish.altavista.digital.com/cgi-bin/translate?>

Just for the Fun of It

- The Apple Museum
<www.applemuseum.seastar.net/sections/home.html>
- Driveways of the Rich and Famous
<www.driveways.com/>
- EarthCam <www.earthcam.com>
- The Magic 8 Ball <www.themagic8ball.com>
- Doonesbury <www.doonesbury.com/dailydose>
- Northern Sun <www.northernsun.com>
- Mr. Showbiz <mrshowbiz.go.com>

FEBRUARY 2010 CALENDAR						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	Regular Meeting Rm.500 Health Sciences 25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

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Freshly Squeezed Reviews: The App and The Book

The Best Camera (?)

By Frank Petrie

Product: The Best Camera
Author: Chase Jarvis
Worldwide <www.thebest-camera.com/>
Requirements: iPhone™
App Price: \$2.99
Book Price: \$13.59 paperback; \$9.99 Kindle
Test Rig: iPhone 3Gs



THE AXIOM: “The Best Camera Is The One That’s With You™.”

Pragmatic and true. The best shots are accomplished through your creativity, not through the bells and whistles of any device. Oh, you can clean things up in post-production but you still need to start with a photo that’s evocative.

“The Best Camera Is The One That’s With You™, but it’s also an inspirational 3-part “ecosystem” created by world-renowned photographer, Chase Jarvis. Introducing an iPhone app that allows you to shoot, edit and share your images; a book that celebrates photography with any camera; AND a thriving, online community made of iPhone images from around the world.”

Today we are looking at an app, a book and a community. In short, an aesthetic movement, or as Mr. Jarvis puts it - “an ecosystem.”

THE JUICE

APP — With Best Camera you can utilize a single filter or layer several filters to create a unique, more advanced effect for your pictures. This app makes it simple and easy. With a palette of 14 filters from which to choose, you can change your image to black and white, saturate your colors, create a cine-

matic look, brighten, darken, or crop your picture on the fly. “There are four “signature” filters that can be identified by the flags - they offer the slickest one-touch option for a filter. Further to the right on the dock, you’ll find an assortment of 10 additional filters that can act as one-touch filters, or are great “tools” to correct images that were poorly captured originally.”

COMMUNITY — With the simplicity that we’ve come to expect with instant messengers, Best Camera shares your photos with the same services that help you stay in touch with your friends at Facebook, Twitter, email, or www.thebestcamera.com. With the simple check of a box, you can decide where you want share your image(s). It’s that simple.

BOOK — If you’re looking for visual inspiration or just want to see what’s possible with mobile phone photography, pickup a copy of The Best Camera Is The One That’s With You™. It’s the world’s first photo book featuring exclusively images from a mobile phone, although you wouldn’t know their origins from the results.

THE PULP

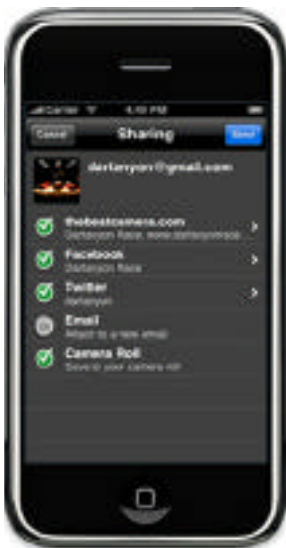
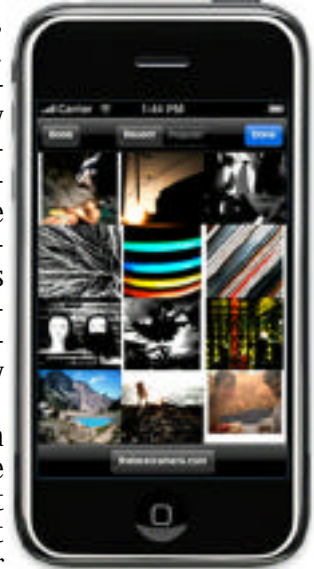
Best Camera delivers as promised. I sat for over one hour trying a multitude of settings on a single portrait. And when I was finished, I had three different versions that I found hard to choose from.

The Book is worth buying on its own, even without the app. Mr. Jarvis has a tremendous eye for composition. And the pictures in his book will most definitely get you to pick up your iPhone and start looking at your surrounding environs with a different eye.

THE RIND

I would like to see a single slider with each filter to give me a smidgen more control. But it’s not a deal breaker by any means.

Continued on next page



Freshly Squeezed Game Review

BubbleFly – A Game of Skill, Finess of Balance and Breath

By Frank Petrie

Product: BubbleFly
Author: Treemo Labs
Requirements: iPhone, iPod Touch
Price: \$0.99
Test Rig: iPhone 3G/16GB



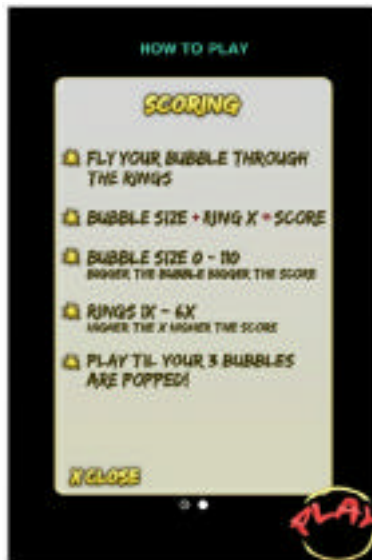
BLOWING BUBBLES. How many hours did you pass doing that as a kid or while sipping on some herbal tea? As all things must, it has now been transformed into a virtual experience named “Bubblefly.”

“BubbleFly is a game of skill and finesse of balance and breath. With skills you never knew you had, challenge yourself and other to see who can bubble fly the best.”

So, is it the same as you remember it back when?

THE JUICE

Basically, BubbleFly consists of a bubble wand which you dip into bubble solution. You then hold your finger down on the solution filled wand and try to blow the biggest bubble that you can without exploding it. The object is then to guide the bubble into various hoops with different multipliers to increase your score.



You can choose to turn on/off vibration and music, plus whether you want to keep only the high scores on your device or enter the global scoreboard.

THE PULP

Even though BubbleFly is somewhat challenging, it utilizes the same skill set required for, say, Labyrinth. And I find Labyrinth much more challenging do to its complexity.

That said, I

could see this as a great way to keep the kids occupied on a car trip.



THE RIND

Lost interest in it after about three plays.

SUMMARY

For the price, you've nothing to lose. And like I said, it could be something to toss on the Touch to keep the kids occupied during a trip or errands. Then again, maybe this game could be your cup of tea.

RATING : 5 of 10

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The Best Camera *Continued from previous page*

SUMMARY

Even at such low prices, there are few apps that I consider a no-brainer, a must have. This is one of those rare exceptions. If you have an iPhone, you HAVE to have this app in your arsenal.

Now, turn off the computer, get off your butt and surprise yourself.

RATING : 10 of 10

©2010 Frank Petrie

Freshly Squeezed Reviews: Fashion

Fashionable Laptop Carrying Cases

By Frank Petrie

Product: LAgarde robe
Author: be.ez <www.be-ez.com>

Requirements: Laptop

Price: N/A

Test Rig: MacBook Pro 13"

be.ez JUST AS SKINS POPPED UP for mobile devices and laptops, fashion has now made its way to laptop carrying

cases. Surprise, surprise.

"If beautiful has become the dictum for contemporary design, it is unfortunately too often used to the detriment of practicality. For us the object should be functional before being beautiful.

"Our conception is both contemporary and rational, a design well thought out, simple and above all functional."

You've already made a statement by purchasing a laptop or netback. Why stop with the machine? Why not add some flare along with your functionality?

THE JUICE

LAgarde robe is a hybrid between a sleeve and a regular laptop bag. With a choice of several colors, it is equipped with three large pockets for carrying peripherals, paperwork, what-have-you (aside from the main laptop compartment). A standard shoulder strap is also included.

THE PULP

Nothing groundbreaking. It is somewhat stylish and is made from quality materials. And I am surprised at just how much stuff you can pack into it, considering it's smaller size.

THE RIND

Nada.

SUMMARY

As I said, LAgarde robe brings nothing new to the table. My guess is that your decision will be based on style, more than anything else, so let your taste be the judge.

Still, it serves its purpose and afterall, isn't that what you're paying for?

RATING : 8 of 10

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Membership Application

- Regular (\$20)
- Student/Collegiate (\$10)
- Family (\$25)
- GCC Student (Free)
- Senior (\$15)
- Renewal (\$___)

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____ Fax _____

Employer _____ Position _____

Employer Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____ Fax _____

Send mailings to: Home Address Employer Address

How did you learn about MUGSNJ? _____

At which user level would you classify yourself? Beginner Intermediate Advanced

Computers owned _____ Computers used _____

Current OS _____ Other software experience _____

Special interests: Photography/Graphics Video Communications Beginner Mtgs.

Other _____

I'll help with these positions: Membership Newsletter Program Hospitality

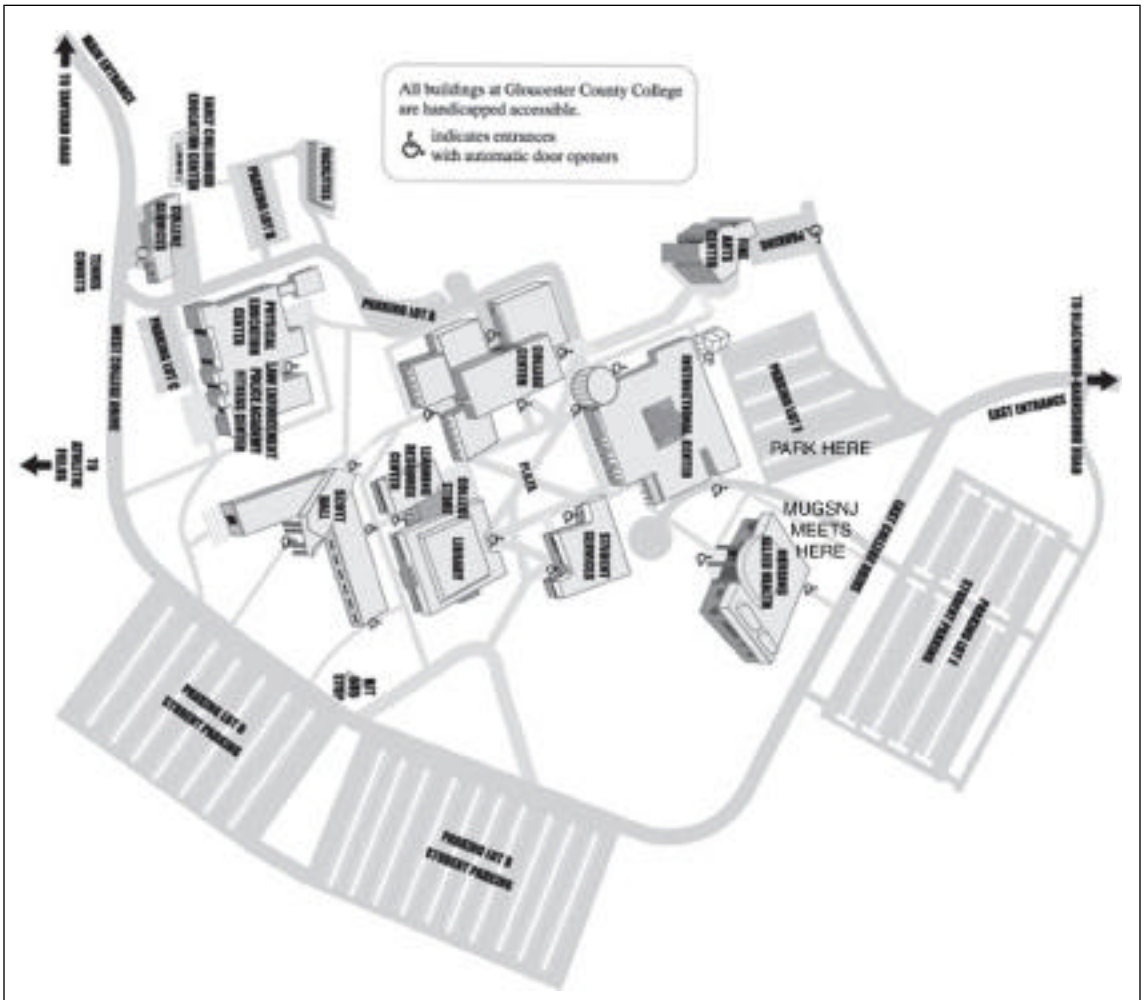
MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- Hardware and software assistance
- Info on the latest software and upgrades
- "MUGSHOTS" newsletter available at meetings
- Notices of Macintosh events
- Special interest groups (SIGs)
- Meet great people!

***NOTE:** Corporate/Institutional memberships are granted by approval of the Executive Committee of MUGSNJ, and are based on the number of memberships requested by the corporation/institution as well as its non-profit status.

Gloucester County College Campus Map

MUG General Meetings
are held in the
Auditorium, Room 500,
of the **Health Sciences**
Building at 7:30 pm on
the last Wednesday of
each month. In the
event the last
Wednesday precedes a
holiday, the meeting is
held a week earlier.
Executive Committee
Meetings are held on
the first Wednesday at
7:30 pm in the
Lounge adjacent to
Room 502.



Mug Shots

FEBRUARY, 2010

Macintosh Users Group of Southern New Jersey
Gloucester County College
Liberal Arts Department
1400 Tanyard Road
Sewell, NJ 08080-9518
Phone: 856-468-5000 ext. 6445

NEXT GENERAL MEETING:
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 24
Frank Petrie:
THE HISTORY OF PODCASTING
HEALTH SCIENCES, RM. 500
BE THERE OR MISS OUT!