

Title of Session: Midge Frazel Features - FotoTagger

Moderator: Midge Frazel

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BjB: Let's start with introductions, Midge, please

DavidWe: I'm David Weksler. I'm one of the HelpDesk volunteers. I'm in rainy New Jersey, near rainy New York City

BjB: please let Midge know where you are located and what brings you to the discussion.

BjB: I'm a communications teacher in Pennsylvania

MidgeF: I'm Midge Frazel from Bridgewater, MA (and it is raining here)

CourtneyB: I am in Houston, Texas and am a student teacher from U of H

CourtneyB: teaching kindergarten

MidgeF: I was a student until yesterday when I got my last grade.

SusanR: I'm Sue Roseman, I'm one of the Helpdesk volunteers. I'm in sunny Ottawa, Ontario.

DavidWe congratulates Midge on her last grade

BjB cheers for Midge.

MidgeF: It was an A!

CourtneyB: good job

DavidWe cheers

SusanR claps for Midge

CourtneyB smiles

MidgeF: In a great topic..Emerging Technologies

CourtneyB: cool

MidgeF: Well, it's a big crowd so I will pitch right in and tell you about FotoTagger.

MidgeF: FotoTagger is a free downloadable application that you can use to place captions, tags and callouts directly on your digital photographs. This type of software is called image annotation.

CourtneyB: ok

DavidWe . o O (Mac and PC?)

MidgeF: It's easy to use and still in its infancy.

CourtneyB: how do we download the software to do it?

MidgeF: Only for Windows but I am planning to ask them about Macs

DavidWe uses a Mac, mostly

MidgeF: Glad you asked.

SusanR: as does Sue

CourtneyB: sweet, I have windows!

DavidWe chuckles

DavidWe . o O (Just you wait, Courtney...)

MidgeF: http://www.MidgeFrazel.net/using_fototagger.html

BjB: most web 2.0 stuff doesn't require downloads. Do you have to download anything, Midge?

MidgeF: I made a Web page to make it easier to explain

DavidWe: <http://www.fototagger.com/>

MidgeF: They are working on a Web only version but I think that's because schools are blocking a lot of tools

MidgeF projects http://www.MidgeFrazel.net/about_fototagger.html

MidgeF: I must have forgotten the forward slash.

MidgeF: Captions (a term that refers to the text indicating the title of an image) are added to identify the photo, when and where it was taken and who is in the photo.

MidgeF: Tags are text annotations added to an area of a photo and can contain a link to a Web site.

MidgeF: Special tags called callouts can be used to pinpoint specific areas of an image.

MidgeF: Tagging images is great for adding text to photos of your vacations, weddings, holidays, old scanned photos (such as school photos for class reunions, family history) and for teachers to archive and annotate classroom photos.

MidgeF: This is what Fototagger does for photos.

MidgeF: This application is pretty new and they are still taking suggestions for ideas on what people are doing with it.

MidgeF: I am wondering about that, actually, now that the new Macs will all do Windows.

MidgeF: Anyway, this company found me because I am not only a tech person I am also a genealogist.

SusanR: true Midge

CourtneyB: cool!

MidgeF: A funny aside..a friend just bought a new Mac (she was really a Windows person) and discovered she did not own a full copy of Windows and had to buy it.

CourtneyB: that stinks

CourtneyB: are we going to learn more about the foto program...

MidgeF: She says it was expensive. I just discovered I don't own a whole copy either.

MidgeF: Anyway, this application is one you download and then use to add text (and links) to your photos.

MidgeF: Scroll down to the examples I have created. The first one is a merged photo with a caption "Sarcophagus on Cole's Hill, Plymouth, MA" and two tags that are numbered. Underneath that are two questions for students to answer with links on the page.

CourtneyB: ok

MidgeF: Making the merged photos with text is easy

MidgeF: One of the things I like best about this application is that it does simple image resizing.

CourtneyB: wow

CourtneyB: this is so cool

MidgeF: OK?

CourtneyB: yep

CourtneyB: thanks!

MidgeF: Good.

MidgeF: I just took a class where they taught us PhotoShop and I am horrified at how much it costs when everyone just wants to make photos smaller so they can print them or put them on a Web page or email.

BjB agrees

CourtneyB: me too

CourtneyB: it's way overpriced

BjB . o O (although there is a less expensive version of photoshop)

CourtneyB: (in my opinion)

DavidWe: There are other programs for doing less than what Photoshop can, for a LOT less \$\$\$\$

CourtneyB: yea I was told that too

MidgeF: This free application does that easily and I am telling everyone about just that aspect of it.

CourtneyB: I'm gonna spread the word about foto tagger too

BjB: excellent

MidgeF: Yes, I use PhotoShop Elements and Paint Shop Pro but everyone insists on spending all that money.

BjB . o O (not everyone has that money to spend!)

CourtneyB: I was just about to type that

CourtneyB: ha ha

MidgeF: Now, if you scroll down on the page you will come to the next section which is the one with a link that says "Interactive"

DavidWe . o O (LView Pro is a great image processor program and the paid version of the shareware is \$40, I believe)

CourtneyB: I see

MidgeF: Actually, it is hard to teach older people (like me) to resize digital photos.

DavidWe smiles

DavidWe: Why is that, do you think, Midge?

MidgeF: Anyway, click on that to go to the page I made that using this program with links.

MidgeF: I think it is because photos should come in 4x6 all the time!

MidgeF: Notice the tiny blue ellipsis link where it leads to another Web page.

CourtneyB: yes

MidgeF: You can make the text, copy and paste a link and then export it (automatically) to a Web page.

MidgeF: I have my own site to post it to but as long as you keep the photo and the exported page in a folder you can open it in a browser

MidgeF: Now, the nice thing about this application is that that is all it does.

MidgeF: It adds tags and links to photos.

MidgeF: Sounds crazy but that's all that is needed. The rest has to do with how it works with other Web 2.0 applications

SusanR: I like an application that does one thing WELL!

CourtneyB: me too, me too!

MidgeF: A lot of the new Web based tools are being made to work WITH each other.

SusanR: Should work with Flickr

MidgeF: The Fototagger people just added a way to post your tagged images to your Flickr account

MidgeF: (They added this on Monday!)

CourtneyB: cool

MidgeF: Flickr is a Web based hosting site for images (that I adore).

MidgeF: I downloaded the new Fototagger, made an image with merged tags, sent it to Flickr and then put it on my blog.

BjB: http://www.MidgeFrazel.net/using_fototagger.html

CourtneyB: what is the flickr address?

MidgeF: <http://www.flickr.com>

MidgeF: <http://MidgeFrazel.net/blog/>

CourtneyB: have u ever heard of photobucket midge?

CourtneyB: I like that program too

MidgeF: That's one of my blogs URL where I put the gravestone of an ancestor I am working on with a woman writing a book about this woman who came to America in the 1640's

MidgeF: Yes, I have seen photobucket and use snapfish and shutterfly to print prints of my photos.

MidgeF: There are so many new free tools out there I seriously could go crazy trying them all.

MidgeF: I think Courtney will like Tuxpaint

SusanR: similar to KidPIX and FREE

MidgeF: It's an open source application that I love and I think they are developing a math one too.

CourtneyB: I LOVE KidPix!!

CourtneyB: i was just showing my SBTE that program yesterday

MidgeF: I am so old...I had KidPix in black and white and it fit on a Mac floppy disk

MidgeF: Next month I am going to do a session on PhotoStory which is also for Windows

MidgeF: But, I had to show you FotoTagger because the people who work for them were so nice to give me help and show me how to use it.

CourtneyB: Dr. Thompson, my technology teacher, taught me this last year

MidgeF: I am tagging most of my photos of gravestones. I am a gravestone groupie.

CourtneyB: photostory that is

CourtneyB: no kidding

MidgeF: PhotoStory is good because it is very easy and quite Mac-like for a Microsoft product.

SusanR: Older students could tag their own photos and create their own curriculum related quizzes

MidgeF: I have also learned MovieMaker which is harder than iMovie but I love making movies

MidgeF: I do think FotoTagger has a lot of potential. One person suggested visual dictionaries.

BjB: nice idea, Midge

MidgeF: The FotoTagger galleries of photos people have tagged are very interesting and could be used for a lot of art applications. I see photos of science being used too.

BjB: good for ESL or emergent readers

MidgeF: Yes, with so many students learning English "in a hurry" there must be a new way to motivate readers

MidgeF: Does anyone have any questions?

MidgeF: I made the page so people could look at it when they aren't so tired.

BjB: I especially liked the galleries. Thanks, Midge!

SusanR: I like the way you can link to relevant web sites

CourtneyB: Yes, thanks a lot

CourtneyB smiles

BjB . o O (are teachers EVER not so tired?)

MidgeF: I am a Monarch Butterfly lover so I was thinking about tagging images of butterflies just like the real ones are tagged for migration.

SusanR: interesting application, Midge

MidgeF: I used to teach a series I called ..for Tired Teachers....

BjB: what about a flat stanley project with FotoTagger?

CourtneyB: that's hilarious, but very appropriate!

MidgeF: Flat Stanley, I love Flat Stanley.

BjB: yeah, Flat Stanley is fun. A fototagger version might be kind of cool

MidgeF: I still have that book here in the house I should give it to my daughter before there are no bulletin boards in school anymore.

MidgeF: Flat Stanley is flat because a bulletin board fell on him.

BjB: oh, gracious! I forgot about that. We'll have to update that to a computer fell on him

CourtneyB: well thank you for everything you all

CourtneyB: especially you midge!!

BjB: or a whiteboard?

CourtneyB: I need to finish up some planning for tomorrow's lesson

MidgeF: I just want to say thanks for coming. This is my first Tappedin session (keynote is not the same as presenting).

MidgeF: Enjoy your planning Courtney!

BjB: the next Frazel Features is September 26

SusanR: Thanks Midge!

MidgeF: This was fun with just enough time to find my bathrobe and watch some TV,
Thanks for having me.

CourtneyB: thanks bunches everyone

CourtneyB: see u soon

CourtneyB: bye!

MidgeF: OK!

SusanR: You web site makes a handy virtual handout

MidgeF: Some people think I am a virtual handout.

SusanR: LOL

BjB chuckles and gives Midge a warm hug

MidgeF: Thanks for the hug...now, where's my bathrobe?