

# RAKscraps

www.rakscraps.com



Issue v.4

April 1, 2008

## Contents

- 1. [In the News at RAKScraps](#)
- 2. [What's Happening at RAK](#)
- 3. [Designer Highlight](#)
- 4. [RAK File Challenge](#)
- 5. [Featured Tutorial](#)
- 6. [Spotlight Interview - Barbara Eastwick](#)
- 7. [Spotlight Interview - Nick Romer](#)
- 8. [Sneak Preview of Next Month](#)

### 1. In the News At RAKScraps

**Please Join Us!!!**

**RAK N Roll Block Party { April 05, 2008 }**

**There will be tons of Games, Prizes, Challenges, a Super Digi Craft, a Scavenger Hunt, a RAKstacle Course, Chats and More! 24 Hours Long (Starting at Midnight Eastern Standard Time April 5th)!**

**Please Mark Your Calendars and Come Join In!**

~ Our **Newsletter** will now be released on the 1st of every month. This way we can give a special focus to our Designer Highlight Sponsors, and to the Challenges that are so popular at RAKScraps.

~ The **Mega Kit** will still be available from the 15th of every month until the end of that month.

~ **Creative Team Open Call:** RAKScraps is GROWING - and we're looking for people who would like to join the RAKScraps Creative Team. If you have a wish to be a part of the Newsletter, Event, Sponsor, or Element Team, or wish to be a moderator for the Forum and Gallery, please PM RAKScrapsBarbara at RAKScraps or email: RAKScrapsBarbara@comcast.net

**ScrapWow.com**  
A Playground for Scrapbookers

**Members Get**

- ✓ Digital Scrapbook Kits
- ✓ Scrapbook Website

Sponsor



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## 2. What's Happening at RAK

- Shelly brings us a great [Mega Kit Challenge](#). Here you'll use the Mega Kits from RAKScraps to create your own layouts. We love seeing what you create!
- Candace filled in with a wonderful [Sketch Challenge](#) this month!
- Find creative ways to label the people in your photos - this month in Angela's [Journaling Challenge](#).
- This month our own Candace has a great [Elements Challenge](#) for you. This is a great way to experiment and try something you may not have before. This month's elements are "Office Supplies".
- Lady Jane brings us a musical way to enjoy scrapbooking - with the [Lyrics Challenge](#).
- Irene has a great idea for her [Ad Challenge](#).
- Candace is creating a new calendar page every month in the [Calendar Challenge](#).
- And there are so many more [Challenges at RAKScraps](#) - please join in the fun!

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## 3. Designer Highlight

# tangiebaxterdesigns.com

[Tangie Baxter](#) has a special treat for our readers. Click on this link to download a [Mini Kit](#) just for you.

The Designer Highlight will now Feature a Special Challenge. Use this [Mini Kit](#) in a layout and upload to the [Tangie Baxter Gallery](#)! There will be a Prize awarded to one lucky participant at the end of the month.

RAKScraps Creative Team Members say:

"I had never seen Tangie Baxter's designs before - and now I'm glad I have! Her kits are a combination of hip, funky, grungy, different, hip, edgy - and colours perfect for so many things." - **Dara**

"Tangie Baxter's Timeless Masters kit has something to work with nearly any type of layout. There are glitzy elements and papers included with things that have a vintage feel to them. Gems, flowers, glitter, lace, journal tags – you will find what you need in this kit." - **Connie**

"I had a very hard time choosing just one or two kits from Tangie. I loved the entire "Forest Floor" line, but decided to use Afternoon Wildflowers. This is a unique kit with stylized flowers soft colors and a bit of sparkle and fun added in. I loved the stitched designs." - **Olive**

Come read more about [Tangie Baxter Designs in this Forum](#), and see layouts created with [Tangie Baxter kits in her Gallery](#)!



[Jill D~Zines](#) has given our readers a Special Treat! Click on this link to download a [Mini Kit](#) just for you.

The Designer Highlight will now Feature a Special Challenge. Use this [Mini Kit](#) in a layout and upload to the [Jill D~Zines Gallery](#)! There will be a Prize awarded to one lucky participant at the end of the month.

RAKScraps Creative Team Members say:

"Her "My Favorite Boy" kit is one of my favourites. Jill has very clean designs - her templates are well flowing and her kit colours go well together." - **Dara**

"I love JillDzine's rounded square templates. Her Whisper Soft kit has so many papers and elements that you could make an entire album with it." **Connie** said, "I love the soft colors, swirls and flowers."

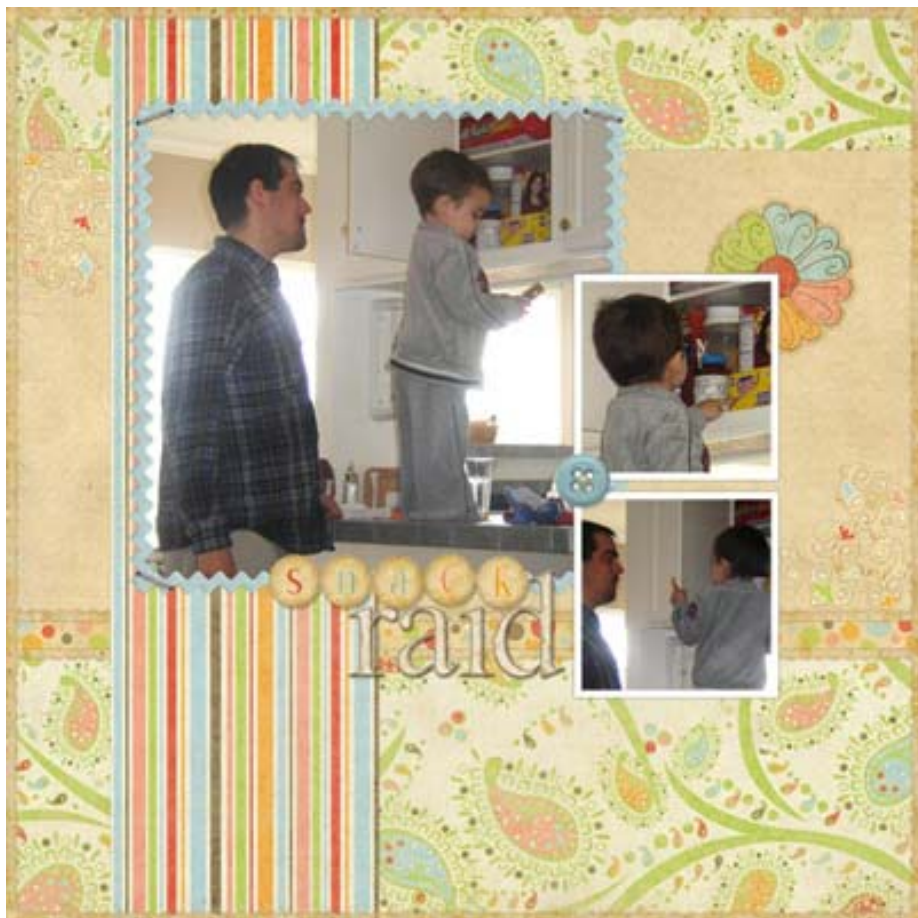
Of "Dotty Doodle", **Olive** said, "These are bright, cheerful and a great addition to any casual layout. They add just enough funky to brighten up your layout."

Read more over at the [Jill D~Zines Forum!](#)

#### 4. RAK File Challenge

##### Your Challenge, if you choose to accept it:

Using this featured layout below, create your own layout inspired by one of the many interesting aspects. Do the colors appeal to you? The format? The theme? The journaling? Create your own layout and post it in the RAKFile Challenge Gallery. Don't forget to post on the [RAKFile Challenge Forum](#) and link to your layout! Due to the change in the RAKFile Newsletter release date - this RAKFile Challenge will be extended to April 30th.



This layout was made by Candace! [Click on the photo to see it in the Gallery.](#)

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Advertisements



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## 5. Featured Tutorial

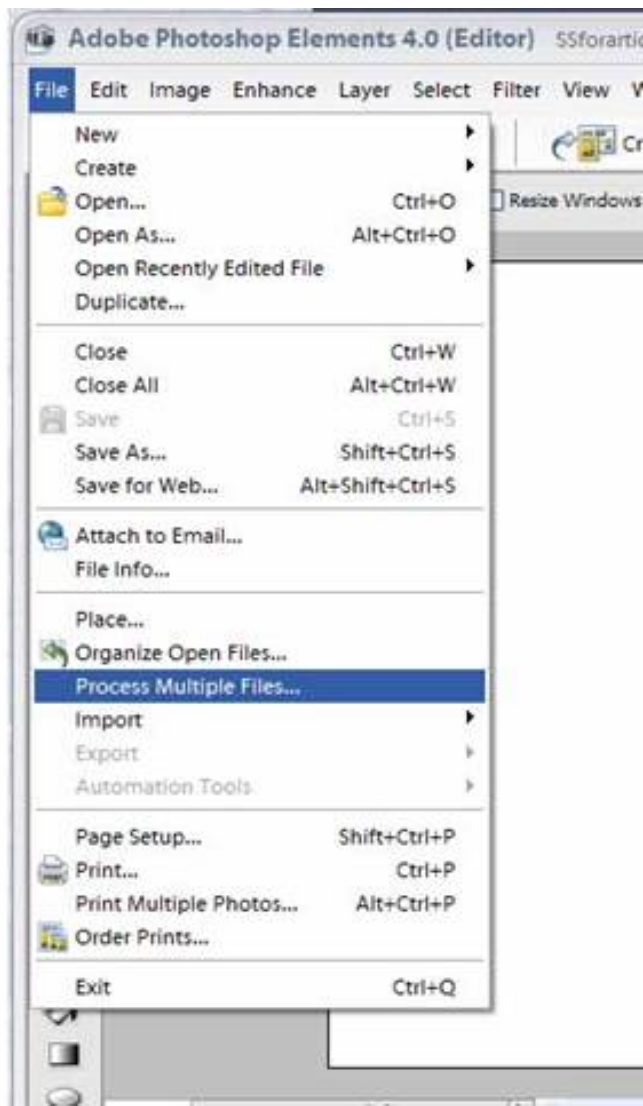
### Resizing an Entire File of Photos for the Web Using Adobe Photoshop PSE 4.0

By Jessica Wittenaur

It takes a long time to upload a large picture (one that has a lot of pixels). I know those new digital cameras are great, and they produce outstanding photos, but getting those huge files on the web is going to take a long time. It's going to take a long time for your family and friends to view them, also. One way to avoid this problem is to reduce the dpi of your photos before you upload them. Don't worry, we'll be making a copy of them in their smaller size, the originals will remain on your hard drive untouched.

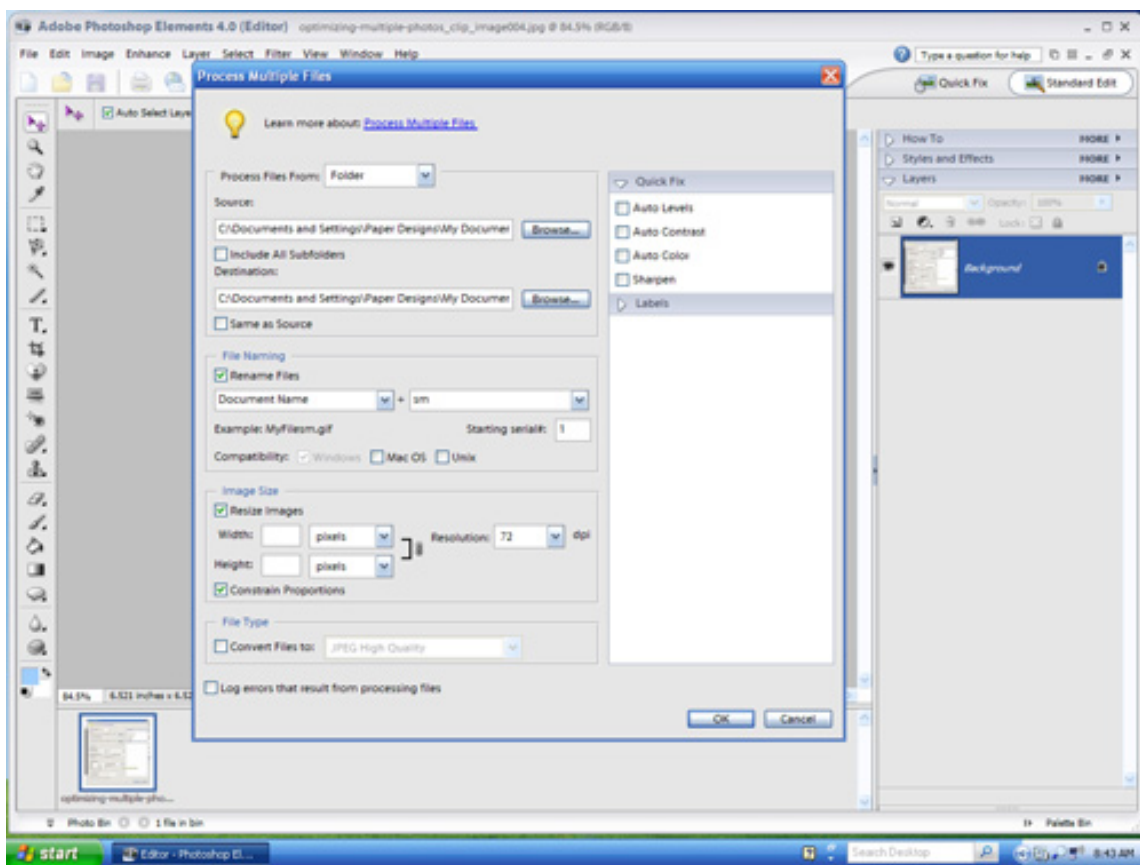
First, we're going to open Adobe PSE and go to the Photo Editor. Now, choose File and Process Multiple Files.

. [Figure 1]



Our next screen looks like this:

[Figure 2]



Starting from the top. I keep my photos in their folder, so I have Process files from “folders”. Now, where it says “Source”, click on “Browse” and find your folder with your photos in it. And where it says “Destination” – click on “Browse” and find a folder to insert the new smaller sized photos into.

**\*\*\*IMPORTANT\*\*\*** If you do not choose a different Destination folder or if you check the “Same as Source” box, and do not choose to rename the smaller photos – the original photos will be deleted and replaced by the smaller sized photos. Please remember to choose a different Destination folder!

File Naming – allow it to keep the same “Document Name” and add an identifier to the end of the photo name – I chose 72dpi, to keep track of which photos are web ready.

Image size – I have both the box for “Resize Images” and “Constrain Proportions” checked. I have chosen Resolution 72 DPI. Click “OK”!

Now you will see all of your photos from that file flash before your eyes. The originals of these photos are untouched and in the same file folder that they were before. The new smaller sized ones are in the destination file folder you had chosen from the “browse” option. These smaller images are now web ready. Your upload times will be shorter, and your family and friends will still see your great pictures – they’ll just see them much faster!

## 6. Spotlight Interview



1. Your name and the reason you chose your RAKScraps screen name? (OK, so some of them are obvious)

**Real name is Barbara Eastwick. Yes, I did seem to choose an obvious screen name- it's RAKScrapsBarbara. I'm using my Avatar photo here, so when you see me on the boards you'll recognize me.**

2. What brought you to RAKScraps?

**I've worked for Nick Romer for a few years now, and he has mentioned his connection with RAKScraps before. So I've been visiting (okay lurking, which is visiting without registering) for a couple of years.**

3. What is your position at RAKScraps?

**My title is "Site Coordinator" - and that seems to sum it up. I organize the activities, and try to get the Creative Team and the Members what they are looking for when they come to RAKScraps.**

4. Do you "digi scrap"?

**Yes, although I will admit I'm a paper person and can't imagine ever giving it up - but ever since Jessica (ScrapWow blog designer) introduced me to digi scrapping I've been hooked. Now I use my paper supplies for card making!**

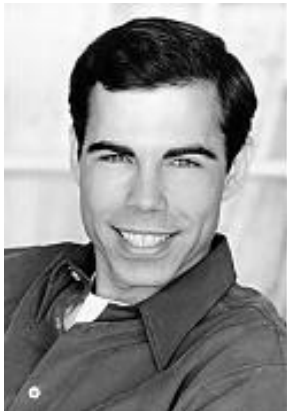
5. Tell us about your family and some of your other interests.

**I've been married for 21 years, my husband recently retired from Special Forces. We have two children ages 18, and 12. A big thing for us was to buy a house where we plan to stay (and not move every few years!) - so we're settling in to civilian life, and in the house I was able to build an office and a craft room, and am making the most of both!**

Little Miss Muffet, Sat on a Tuffet... GO HERE: <http://www.scrapwow.com/littlemissmuffet>

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## 7. Spotlight Interview - Nick Romer, Owner RAKScraps.com



1. What is your real name and why did you pick your screen name?

**My real name is Nick Romer and RAKwow is my screen name. I picked RAKwow because it's a combination of RAKScraps and Scrapwow - my two favorite sites for digital scrapbooking.**

2. How did you get started in crafting??

**Around 14 years ago I invented a template for making envelopes that does not require scissors or tracing and I got it on QVC. It's called the Kreate-a-lope Envelope Maker (GreenSneakers.com) and you can make an envelope in about 15 seconds with a little practice. I didn't know anything about crafting when I came up with it, but once I landed on QVC I started developing other craft products as well and naturally entered scrapbooking when it became popular.**

3. How did you get into digital scrapbooking?

**In the middle of 2004 I created a website for my newborn daughter that had a scrapbook-look. When I sent it to family and friends they went wild and many asked if I would create one for them and their children. So I organized a bunch of programmers and digital designers and set out to make it easy for my family and friends to create their own websites that looked like scrapbooks. Shortly after, we launched Scrapwow.com and opened the doors to the public..**

4. Do you actually scrap digitally?

**Yes I do, when I have the time. My wife and kids love to see themselves in the pages. We have a private family website at Scrapwow and I often make pages to post over there and share them with my family and friends. Much**

**like the first ones I made in 2004 when my daughter was born.**

5. Tell us about your family and some of your other interests.

**I met my wife in an acting class and she has been my leading lady ever since. We have been married for 7 years and have two small children that we spend every possible moment with. I also find time to play sports, play guitar, piano, and I'm a published author. I've directed a small list of independent projects and also have a screenplay being shopped in Hollywood.**

6. What plans do you have for RAKScraps?

**My hope is to continue the tradition of Random Acts of Kindness. I was drawn to this phrase when I first began promoting the Kreate-a-lope Envelope Template at Rubber Stamping shows in the late 90's and I always loved what it stood for. With RAKScraps, we have the perfect name and the perfect community to keep this tradition alive and growing. I envision RAKScraps as being THE destination for anyone on any level of scrapbooking that wants a kind and friendly place to enjoy themselves and grow.**

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### **8. Sneak Preview of Next Month**

Please come back and check out April's Mega Kit. It will be released on the 15th of April, and will be available until the 30th.

Our May Designer Highlight Sponsors are:

**Betsy Tuma**

**Scrappin Free Style**