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MESSAGE FROM THE PREZ

By Michael Henigan
(michael_henigan@atlmug.org)

A.MUG and Branding... what a concept. One of my goals this year as President was to get more exposure for AMUG and its members. It is a work in progress and the efforts continue with great results.

I continue my work as the Apple User Group Regional Liaison and that is getting us into places we have never been before and getting us just a "little" more exposure on the National Scene with Apple Computer and our fellow MUGs here in the Southeast.

I took charge of lining up volunteers as Macworld guides and Kelly Henigan and I both volunteered as guides for several shifts as well. Serving as Faculty for the recent User Group University at this year's MWNY was quite the honor for Kelly and I. Phillip Byrd along with the two of us attended UGU and interacted with over 150 other MUG leaders from around the world. We picked up ideas and suggestions that will help us as MUG leaders and we hope to attend it again in the future.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

By Chris Waldrip, Newsletter Director
(chris_waldrip@atlmug.org)

Last month I gave some guesses as to what Apple was going to announce at Macworld. I wasn't much closer than any other industry pundit or rumor mongers.

The weeks leading up to Macworld area always filled with wild guesses, sprinkled with some logical speculation. Faked mock-ups are common, and debunking them is almost a game.

What makes this period fun is the same thing that makes playing the lottery fun, or the weeks leading up to Christmas as a kid. What are we going to get? What could you do with it?

Then the fateful day comes and few of your hopes and dreams have come to fruition. That's not to say that what you get isn't nice, it's just not what you'd been hoping for. Regardless of how illogical it would have been.

That's what happened at Macworld this Summer.

Flat panel iMac's were so anticipated that even the mainstream press was predicting them. But the price for flat panels is still somewhat high, too high to offer an iMac model near the \$1,000 mark.

Gigahertz PowerMac's? Not officially, and few should have expected them. Motorola

Kelly and I (along with 2 other MUG faculty) presented a panel on Small Event Planning. We talked about AMUG's events, like the Swapfest and its successor, Maclanta Xpo. Amongst the discussion we had several people inquire into the event and what we get from it, etc. A most rewarding experience.

Later that week, all of us attended the UG Breakfasts that were given by first Corel, then Adobe, and finally, Apple. It was a chance to see upcoming products and see that there is still a huge amount of support for the User Group Community amongst the vendors.

The ultimate highlight for me during the week was when Garr Reynolds, Apple's Worldwide UG Program Manager, was presenting a program on Branding, (organizations can control their 'brand' to varying degrees by controlling how the image and philosophy of their organization appears to the public) and during the PowerPoint presentation, showed a picture of AMUG's T-Shirt (the picture of a MUG, with the word A.MUG underneath it with our name) and stated that this was

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has gotten better at producing high quantities, but until Motorola and IBM can work out their differences it'll still take longer to come to market with volume. Unofficially rumors have circulated that you can over clock an 867Mhz G4 to 1 GHz. This voids your warranty, may not work on every system, and is not advised for the weak of heart.

New TiBook configurations? Doubtful. They're still too new, but this has been done before. It wouldn't have been too unexpected.

New iBook colors? Having been just released it was still likely that at least colored cases would have been introduced, without much else new for them.

What we did get is nice. I myself am looking at the 867Mhz G4 with SuperDrive. Oh the joy!

And then there's the question of what did Steve want to tell us about?

Most who watched the Keynote got the impression that what we got wasn't what was planned. What was missing? New iMac's, 1GHz G4's, colored laptops?

Seybold, a major publishing tradeshow, is coming up, and Apple Expo Paris starts before Seybold ends. Could the missing announcements be made at one of these two events? The rumor mongers have already begun.

JULY MEETING SUMMARY

By Chris Waldrip
Newsletter Director

(chris_waldrip@atlmug.org)

The first order of business was a vote on changes to the AMUG bylaws. The changes, listed in last month's newsletter, were mainly to update the bylaws to reflect changes that needed to be made as well as to bring AMUG more in line with the standard titles used for officers in other User Groups.

Additionally, changes were suggested for the term of office for board members and other minor changes.

Of the members present, a clear majority approved the changes. The new bylaws should be posted on the BBS by the time Maclanta goes to press.

Our guest speaker for the evening was Mark Underwood from KAU Software. The digital video revolution has finally made it our desktop. But how do you really make a digital movie?

Mark began by detailing the equipment you need to make your work easier. He also gave several good tips

for novice and experienced camcorder users alike.

With your video recorded, then what? iMovie 2 was the software Mark spent the rest of the evening demonstrating. Importing video from your camcorder, editing it, combining pieces of video, adding audio, transitions, and effects were all covered. And many in the audience would agree that making a digital video is easier than you'd think.

iMovie 2 offers a simple interface, and many extras. A number of transitions are available for use when going from one scene to another. Adding special effects to your movie is also simple with the large number of effects included. Editing the audio was also covered, and while not feature-rich, it was simple to do.

Mark also gave some technical background on how iMovie works (it doesn't actually touch your original video on your computer), and gave several good suggestions of sources for additional plug-ins to iMovie (<http://geethree.com>), books on learning how

to use iMovie (David Pogue's iMovie book), and on which digital video cameras to use (he prefers Cannon).

Those interested in learning more can attend several classes that Mark will be giving. August 8th will feature a class on QuickTime 5 and it's features, September 18th is a half-day class on using iMovie. Two additional classes will be offered at Apple's Market Center in Buckhead. The first on August 2nd is a free class on Digital Video Authoring Basics, and the second on August 28th is a hands-on course on editing digital video.

JULY DOOR PRIZES

Steve Alperin	AMUG Coffee Mug
Ken Brockway	Making iMovies Book
Topher Kohan.....	How To Use Digital Video Book
Mike Lambert	Idiot's Guide to iMovie 2 Book
Marion McCroskey	Microsoft T-shirt
Marion McCroskey	Peachpit Publishing Bag
Rhonda Menson	Peachpit Publishing Bag
John Trent	Peachpit Publishing Bag
Lawrence Tuten.....	Microsoft T-shirt

APPLE TO SUMMARIZE MACWORLD

The August General Meeting will again host Jack Quattlebaum from Apple Computer. Jack will recap the announcements made at Macworld this summer. Likely to be covered are reconfigured iMacs, reconfigured PowerMac G4s with refined cases, a preview of Mac OS X.1, and the release of iDVD 2.0.

In addition, Mike Kozee from the Apple Solutions Expert program will be there to talk to about partnering your Mac-based business with Apple. If you own or are considering starting a Mac-based business, come talk with Mike about the Apple Solutions Experts program.

Before the General Meeting gets started you're invited to attend our Networking Reception at 6:15pm. Snacks and drinks will be served, and conversation is welcomed. Come early and get a chance to talk with your fellow members.

Also at this meeting we'll be beginning the election process for new board members. Due to the changes in the bylaws last month some board positions will be for a special single year, while other positions will be for the new full two year term.

Members for a position should try and attend. More details will be available at the meeting.

Thanks For Joining AMUG

Poppy Cantrell
Jim Cork
Jane Ann Covington
Gena Gold
Carmelo Infantino
Sheryl Nelson
Eric Paschal
Lawrence Sharp
Harmen Steele
Jeannine Quintana

And For Renewing Your Membership

Stephen Alperin
Geoffrey Baker
Becky Dodd
Jaddie Dodd
Kevin Gnewikow
James Hawkes
James Massara
Henry Milson
Michael Saffran
Charles Smith
Marion Smith
Stuart Truslow
Linda Veldsma-Lillie
Winston Weinmann

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Steve Jobs finished the Mac OS X portion with Apple's contribution. With more than 300,000 downloads of the Mac OS X 10.0.4 update, Apple is preparing the next release of Mac OS X.

Mac OS X 10.1 (or is it X.i) will feature improved performance in noticeable areas such as menus, windows, application launch, and login. Enhancements to the Aqua interface are also coming, including a moveable dock, improved system menus, refinements to the Finder, significant speed increases, and more.

Also coming in Mac OS X is a DVD player, and the ability to burn CD's from the desktop similar to how you'd move files to Zip disks, or floppy disks in the old days. Improved printer support, including LaserWriter 8 compatibility that many Mac users enjoy.

Improved support for connecting to digital cameras will also make an appearance. In demonstrating this new feature, though, Steve was victim to poor planning. The camera he was to use suffered from dead batteries, which flew out of the device when Steve tossed

it to an assistant off stage. The demonstration was later made with success.

New to Mac OS X will be pre-installed SMB (aka SAMBA) support allowing Mac users to see and access PC networks out of the box. And support for the Web DAV, a browser-based network protocol standard.

And all of this for free in September. At least that's what Steve said on stage. Many Apple representatives clarified after the keynote that there will be a \$20 fee for the multi-CD package. It won't be available for download, only by mail.

When Steve finally turned to hardware the crowd became very attentive. This was the portion of the keynote that weeks of speculation had been leading up to.

Steve announced that since their release, over 182,000 new iBooks have been shipped. This beats Apple's record for any laptop in a single quarter, a testament to the popularity. Brief mention was made of the PowerBook G4, leading many to wonder if something was skipped over.

A nervous hush fell over the crowd as the iMac was next up for discussion. Speculation, even by major media sources, had circulated that a flat-panel revision was due to be announced. The iMac line is aging and sales have been slowly, but steadily, declining.

Alas, all that was announced were less than exciting re-configurations. Three models are now available: 500Mhz, 600Mhz, and 700Mhz systems, with 128 - 256MB of RAM, and hard drives between 20 and 60 GB. All will include CD-RW drives and pricing will be \$999, \$1299, and \$1499 respectfully. Color choices, once the hallmark of the iMac line, are now limited to Indigo, Graphite, and Snow.

The PowerMac G4 was next on the list. The second generation PowerMac

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The new G4 enclosure, which is named QuickSilver, was nice and sleek. It looks almost identical with previous towers, except the color is silver, the front is completely smooth, there is a new speaker in the front of the enclosure (the small silver spot you see on the front of the CPU) and there were a few other cosmetic changes. The G4's all had speed bumps, and the top of the line is a dual processor 800Mhz system. Still, where were the 1 GHz processors that everyone has been waiting on the edge of their seat for? It was AGAIN a no-show. Still waiting...

We weren't only waiting for more Mac news these last few days, we were waiting on other things as well.

Connection speeds were little or non-existent if you wanted to get online. At the hotel, the best we could manage was 28.8, if the hotel connection was working at all. Then we had the problem of being charged 75 cents for the first 10 minutes, 20 cents every minute thereafter. WOW! Then, over at the Javits convention center, the airport hubs were everywhere, but it seemed that everyone at the convention was tapping into the connections, making them slow. Those of us at the Macworld Guide booth, could not even look up user group information on Apple's site, as we just waited and waited for pages to load. We finally resorted to giving business cards with the URL written on it for people to locate the user groups on their own.

The show floor was quite large and there seemed to be vendors everywhere. There were some notable absences, Adobe and Casady & Greene among them. As it was explained to us, they could not justify spending the funds to have a show booth, when they had no Mac OS X compatible software to demonstrate. That appeared to be the point, but Adobe did give the User Groups a sneak peak at a few products being upgraded to run native in Mac OS X. Adobe mentioned that when they do release Mac OS X compatible products, they WILL be upgrades. And not just Mac OS X native, but with new features as well. They said that was the reason they were not ready to show off their products, as they were not quite ready to fully demonstrate their products.

Microsoft was showing off tidbits of Office X for the Mac. It is being completely re-written and re-designed to run on Mac OS 10.1. It looks really great and the announced upgrade price is \$149 for previous Office 2001 owners. The new

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DIRECTIONS TO MACQUARIUM:

From I-85 South:

Take Peachtree Street exit 28. This exit becomes GA-13 S. Take Peachtree Street exit ramp towards Buckhead. Merge onto Peachtree Rd. NE. Travel approximately one-half mile, MacQuarium building is on your left. Parking entrance is on far side of MacQuarium sign next to R. Thomas.

From GA 400 South:

Take the Sidney Marcus Blvd. exit, towards Piedmont Rd. Turn Left onto Sidney Marcus Blvd. Take the US-19 North/ Peachtree St. ramp North, towards Buckhead. Merge onto Peachtree Rd. NE. Travel approximately one-half mile, MacQuarium building is on your left. Parking entrance is on far side of MacQuarium sign next to R. Thomas.

From I-75 South:

Take the 14th/10th Street exit. Turn left onto 14th Street go 1/2 mile. Turn left onto Peachtree St. Go 2 miles and the road will fork; bear to your right. Pass behind the Equifax building, approximately one mile. MacQuarium building is on your left. Parking entrance is on far side of the MacQuarium sign next to R. Thomas.

From I-20:

Head towards 75/85 connector. Go north on 75/85. Take the 14th/10th Street exit. Pass over 10th street. Turn right onto 14th Street. Turn left onto Peachtree. MacQuarium building is on your left, approximately one mile. Parking entrance is on far side of MacQuarium sign next to R. THOMAS

AMUG MEETING SCHEDULE

8/21/01 - Apple Computer's Macworld: New York Update

9/15/01 - Maclanta Xpo 1.5

10/16/01 - Aladdin Systems

11/20/01 - Mac Holiday Gift Ideas

12/18/01 - Annual Holiday Party

Note: Remember, all dates and topics are subject to change. Please check back periodically for updates. All meetings except for the Maclanta Xpo are at Macquarium unless otherwise noted.

BOOK REVIEW: VISUAL QUICKSTART GUIDE - MACROMEDIA DREAMWEAVER VERSION 4

By Stan Allen, Program Director (stan_allen@atlmug.org)

Most of the Mac users I know really hate to read manuals. That is why they have Macs! Even though I'm not averse to reading a manual myself, I find most of the manuals provided with the product to be very dry and nearly unusable. When setting out to learn a major software application, I usually seek out a companion guide from a third party publisher to use.

In many cases, I choose a Peachpit Press Visual Quickstart Guide. They are usually very comprehensive, easy to read and use as a reference. You can find a Visual Quickstart Guide for most mainstream applications on the Mac. In this case, I'm teaching myself Dreamweaver version 4, the graphical interface web design tool from Macromedia. This is the third Quickstart Guide I have used, Director and Final Cut Pro being the first two.

I've found the best way for me to learn a new software application is to just jump in to the program without reading the manual and try to get familiar with the interface. After I get to the point where I'm just getting nowhere and need help, I then pick up a third party book and use it as a guide. At this point, I try to really spend the time going over all the material contained in the book. I can refer back to anything I forget later, knowing that the information is covered the book.

Interestingly, I find that the book was published in association with Macromedia. The book seems so much better than the manual that comes with Dreamweaver. I have used the book extensively to learn the program, hardly touching the manual. Why not just include this book with the program and put the manual on PDF form on the CD? I mean, the book is reasonably priced, at only \$21.99. Since the book does not include a CD-ROM with a demo version of the software, it would make a perfect companion with the software package.

Now, on to the book itself. One of the most important things to consider before purchase is how complete the information contained in the book is in regards to my level of knowledge on the subject. Often there is a label on the cover that tells you if the book is for beginning, intermediate or advanced users. This one is labeled for interme-

mediate users, which is what I'm looking for. I'm upgrading from a previous version of Dreamweaver, so I'm not starting from scratch. I'm also not an expert by any means. I know almost no HTML code. That's why I want to learn Dreamweaver, to get around all that stuff. Intermediate user seems like a good description of me!

The book is well laid out, with screen shots alongside virtually every instruction. This works well for me, but I do have one complaint about the screen shots is this particular book. The Dreamweaver interface is a tad cluttered, so it made the small printed screen shots in the book a little hard to read because they were so detailed. If there was any way to increase the size of these just a little, it would be a great help to my bifocal-using eyes.

The sequence of topics is excellent. Most chapters contained easy to follow and comprehensive information. When I finished this book, I really felt like I had the knowledge to use all the features of the application. There were only two chapters that I thought could use improvement. The first is the chapter on HTML. I think that a little more detail on HTML would be more helpful to me in using the book as a reference. There is one thing I discovered after learning Dreamweaver; you are going to have to have a basic understanding of HTML even after learning the program.

After using the program to design web pages for a while now, quite often I will have to go in to inspect some code and make some adjustments using the

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an EXCELLENT example of leveraging branding.

That is what it all comes down to for us in AMUG, branding. Our name is that, just a name, but put the name alongside a catchy image and then you have something visual that stands out and that people might be more apt to remember.

When you see the Apple Logo, you KNOW it is APPLE. When you see other company's logos, you instinctively know exactly who and what they are. Therefore, in keeping with the image of A.MUG. We want to work on branding that as a symbol of AMUG and will be showing off the image more and more over the coming months, in the hopes of branding ourselves amongst the Atlanta community and the Mac community at large.

Finally a few reminders... The August meeting, on August 21, will be a wonderful time. We are having a Pre-meeting get together with munchies and drinks (please bring something to share with everyone) and with Apple Engineer, Jack Quattlebaum, will go over the recent MWNY announcements, it promises to be a really fun time.

Maclanta Xpo 1.5 is just around the corner and it is looking to be the best event we have produced in a number of years. We will have MUG members visiting with us from Florida, and North Carolina who will be swapping along with the rest of us. We will have several vendors making presentations and also selling merchandise, and of course we hope to have another great presentation on Mac OS X. And finally, the Annual AMUG Auction, which will be a great chance for you to get rock bottom prices on hardware and software donated by our retail and vendor supporters.

See you next month!

Mike



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G4, code named QuickSilver, was unveiled. QuickSilver offers a new sleeker face, and a change to the overall color. Systems begin at 733Mhz, 867Mhz, and a dual 800Mhz configuration. The mid and high-end systems both feature SuperDrives, allowing owners to burn CD's, as well as video DVD's. The pricing of these systems is impressive. The base 733 is now available for \$1699, more than a thousand dollars less than it sold for the day before. The 867Mhz system, the fastest single processor system Apple has ever sold, is only \$2499, and the dual 800Mhz system carries a \$3499 price tag.

The typical processor shoot out featuring a G4 and an Intel Pentium 4 again showed how Megahertz shouldn't be used to compare processors. But unlike previous demonstrations this one was followed by a technical explanation. The complex topic of processor/system speed was carefully explained by Apple Senior VP of Hardware Jon Rubinstein.

Lastly iDVD 2.0 was revealed. This new revision offers several new features to the DVD authoring software. The

most significant feature though, is the decreased time it takes to write your project to DVD. An hour long project, now only takes an hour write.

Many attendees had been swept up by the high anticipation of amazing new products. Not a totally unrealistic expectation from Apple. But with these great, but less than amazing, announcements many felt let down. And there is some speculation that several items originally planned for the keynote were dropped at the last minute. The developer showcase has the feeling of being hastily put together, the brief mention of the PowerBook G4 and new iBook, and the entire iMac section of the keynote all felt like they were put together at the last minute.

Despite the lack of anticipated announcements several new upgrades were demonstrated, none of which should be under appreciated. And there are several opportunities for Apple to make these missing announcements in the near future. August is home to both the publishing show Seybold and the Paris Apple Expo. We'll just have to wait and see. And enjoy our new PowerMac G4 867s when they arrive...

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product and new features appear to be worth the upgrade price, at least as far as we can tell so far.

We were delighted to see that Centrinity (which only had a tiny booth last year) had a huge booth and was presenting demonstrations on the new version of FirstClass 6.0. We watched the demo and were quite impressed with the added features and look forward to getting our Online Community upgraded and updated with it so that everyone can enjoy it.

You really could tell that there was downsizing in both booths and freebies. The T-shirts and software were not as easily gotten as in past years, and vendors who have big booths in the past, had smaller booths or they were at least less glitzy.

We were not able to secure as many giveaway items as we have in the past, many attributed the Mac OS X hold-up and the downturn in the technology industry.

All in all it was a nice time, we made contact with lots of vendors and hope that it leads to more product demonstrations, review software and giveaways to come our way.

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AMUG CLASSIFIEDS

Submissions can be made to: maclanta@atlmug.org

Please include your name, phone number or email address, description, and asking price. Submissions must be made by the last Saturday of the month for inclusion in the following months issue of Maclanta. Submissions will run for three issues.

Apple LaserWriter Pro 600, less than 30,000 pages. \$150.00. David Johnson 770-979-6364 or (david_r._johnson@atlmug.org) (8/11)

B&W G3 350Mhz, 10 GB HD, 256Mb RAM, internal V90 modem, FireWire and USB ports. This is the last Mac that was built with an ADB port... you can use your legacy Wacom tablets or ADB keyboards and mice. Has lots and lots of software installed worth at least \$1,000+ dollars. Asking \$699. Les Fuchs (les@mindspring.com) or 770-394-6368 (6/7)

Photoshop 6: Brand new, shrink wrapped copy of Photoshop 6 for the Mac. Includes \$200 off coupon for Adobe Go Live. The cheapest price I could find on CNET is \$587.99 from

Computers4Sure.com. I'll sell my package for this price, and you pay no shipping or tax. This is more than a \$200 savings from the local Atlanta retail selling price (e.g. CompUSA and MicroCenter). Les Fuchs (les@mindspring.com) or (770) 394-6368 (6/7)

External Firewire hard drive or Firewire case without drive. External Firewire hard drive; 20 GB capacity; 7200 RPM; 2 FireWire I/O ports; drive is less than 2 years old. Compact design; easy to carry. Only \$279. Willing to sell the Firewire case without the drive installed for \$139. Any ATA (IDE) 3.5" drive will work. Les Fuchs (les@mindspring.com) or (770) 394-6368 (6/7)

AppleCare 3 year warranty for iMac. New, but seal is broken and

Apple won't credit. My iMac is out of 1st year. Asking \$149.00 obo. John Trent (john_b._trent@atlmug.org) or (770) 938-1141 (6/7)

Power Computing RAM. 168 pin, EDO, 8 MB, from a Power Computing system. \$8. Stephen Kramer (Stephen_Kramer@atlmug.org) (6/7)

FUJI film DX-10 digital Camera in A-1 Shape all cables and manuals in bags still. Used about 4 times. Asking \$150. Doug Franks - (770) 592-6501 (5/23)

Apple PowerBook Extras:

- Apple PowerBook VST Auto Adapter. Works with 1400/3400/3500. \$35
- Apple Powerbook 5300/190 or 3400/3500 G3 floppy module \$45
- Apple Powerbook 5300/190 battery charger station. Just plug your power supply in it and you are ready you charge 2 batteries. \$35
- Apple Powerbook 3400/3500 (G3) CD module. Works great. \$75
- Apple PowerBook 3400 96 MB ram module. \$75. Doug Franks - (770) 592-6501 (5/23)

Powerbook 5300cs, \$100.00 as is. This unit did work but I can not get it to boot. It may be a fixer-upper or a parts machine. The power supply brick needs a new end that goes in the PowerBook. Doug Franks - (770) 592-6501 (5/23)

Personal LW 4/600 with low page count, and new toner. \$150 Doug Franks - (770) 592-6501 (5/23)

NEC SilentWriter 95f laser printer works with Windows or Mac. PostScript level 2, HP LaserJet III Emulation, Standard parallel, serial & AppleTalk ports, 2 font cartridge slots. Page count of 49,144. Asking \$100. Doug Franks - (770) 592-6501 (5/23)

Apple Color OneScanner. \$35 Doug Franks - (770) 592-6501 (5/23)

Two Apple 17" displays "very nice picture." \$70/ea. Doug Franks - (770) 592-6501 (5/23)

AppleVision 17" display. \$85. Doug Franks - (770) 592-6501 (5/23)



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