

A Publication of the Atlanta Macintosh Users Group, Inc. • July 2001

PROPOSED BY-LAWS CHANGES

by Michael Henigan, Chairman (michael benigan@atlmug.org)

otion to change all references of chairperson to President. In an endeavor to ease the filling out of various forms etc, it is proposed to change the office of Chairperson. to President.

Currently reads

ARTICLE IV OFFICES

The address of the principal office of the User Group is 1955 Cliff Valley Way, Suite 110-A Atlanta, Georgia 30329. The User Group may maintain additional offices at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

To Read

The address of the principal office of the User Group is Lawyers Address still to be advised. The User Group may maintain additional offices at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Currently Reads

ARTICLE VII - BOARD OF DIRECTORS SECTION 2. Composition

a. The Board of Directors of Directors consists of ten (10) natural persons elected by the membership, and an eleventh member who is the Immediate Past Chairperson.

To Read

a. The Board of Directors consists of ten (10) natural persons elected by the membership, and in the event that a new President has been elected, an appointed eleventh member who is the Immediate Past President. The Position of Past President is for one term only.

Currently Reads

c. The Board of Directors is responsible for filling the posts of Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer from among themselves, except that the Immediate Past Chairperson may not hold one of these offices.

To read

c. The posts of Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer are to be elected by the

membership, except that the Immediate Past Chairperson may not hold one of these offices. To ensure stability, the term of office of the directors shall be staggered as described below; 1. Tier 1 Officers - President, Sec-

retary, and the Directors of Newsletter, Programming & Telecom will all be elected in the odd years (2001, 2003 etc)

2. Tier 2 Officers - Vice-President, Treasurer, and the Directors of Education, Publicity, and Membership will be elected in the even years (2002, 2004 etc.)

3. The election of 2001 will see Tier 2 Officers elected for a 1-year term only, with the following election in 2002 where the regular terms of these positions can then be elected.

Currently Reads

SECTION 3. Term

a. The term of office for elected Directors is one year, beginning with the Board of Directors meeting in November.

To read

a. The term of office for elected Directors is *two* years, beginning with the Board of Directors meeting in December.

Currently Reads

b. Elected Directors may serve for not more than three consecutive terms.

To read

b. Elected Directors may serve for not two (2) consecutive - 2 year terms (for a total of 4 years) in any one position.

Message From The Chair By Michael Henigan, AMUG Chair (michael benigan@atlmug.org)

Summer has arrived and with it my vacation. This summer we will once again be representing AMUG at the one and only Macworld in New York City. This MacWorld, as others have been, has been rife with numerous rumors. From a redesigned-iMac, flavored iBooks, or even the Almighty breakthrough... 1 Ghz!

I find it all so amusing and of course HAVE to read all these rumors to keep my interest in the latest info as sharp as possible, keening that Apple Lust that just so many of us have and enjoy.

Kelly Hilliard, Phillip W. Byrd, and I will be at the User Group University where we will get the latest and brightest training and sessions on User Group operations and how to improve upon what we already have. We hope to bring back that information to share with our Board of Directors and bring about the next hottest topics for programming and the newest products that AMUG will WANT to see and hear. The convention itself we will be joined by David Whitehead and Jay Cann, so there will be enough of us there to get everything we can gather and bring it back to share with you. Remember, the August meeting is where we have our Apple Presentation and the Macworld giveaway... DO NOT MISS IT!

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AMUG Board Of Directors

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR by Cbris Waldrip, Newsletter Director (cbris waldrip@atlmug.org)

MacWorld New York is right around the corner, and I feel like a kid right before Christmas. MacWorld's almost always include some amazing announcement from Apple. A new computer, new operating system release, or some combination of both.

New York offers us the first Mac World after the release of Mac OS X. This is the coming out part for Mac OS X. Developers who have been slaving away in dark rooms for months will be out in force to demonstrate their key products running on Mac OS X. That is with one notable exception: Adobe.

For whatever reason - lack of funds, lack of product, lack of guts to face angry hordes asking for a carbonized version of Photoshop - Adobe has decided not to attend Mac World. I won't worry until they miss Mac World in San Francisco.

But back to Apple. The rumor mills, like they always are this close to a Mac World, are spinning vast fantasies of what is to come.

My predictions, not backed by any

CONTINUED FROM "MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR", PAGE 1

In this issue you will find some proposed changes to the By-laws that the Board has worked long and hard on. These are both cosmetic changes and changes that need to be made to bring about a streamlined and efficient organization. I back these changes 100% and hope that we can count on the membership to approve them at the July Meeting.

One last reminder... Have you been on the Online Community lately? There are changes afoot and they are good ones. Have you been by the Members Special Offers Folder in the last week or so? Well, we have added several new offers for our members and I hope to see more members take advantage of them. This includes the First MUG eStore ever designed for a user group by Pearson Technologies Group. We would like to thank them and the rest of our vendors for their continued support. Without them, raffles and giveaways might not happen! Think about it and then go support them!

Till next month,

solid facts or reputable bookie, are as follows:

• New iMac: G3 processor, CD-RW/ DVD combo like the iBook, new design featuring an integrated flat-panel.

• iBook in colors: In addition to White maybe only one or two additional colors. Three would be nice though.

• TiBook in Colors: I have a metal clipboard that is a very nice shade of a pastel blue. I can easily see one or two colors being available for the TiBook.

• Multi-processor TiBook: I keep reading technical articles on how, with processor cycling and such, a multi-processor TiBook could be done. I can dream can't I?

• PowerMac G4 Upgrades: Rumors persist that Motorola has figured out how to make faster processors. I don't think we'll see 1 Ghz at Mac World, but we'll get a lot closer than 733.

• Portable Reality Distortion Field: Steve will include a mini-RDF with each new Mac so users can have that constant Blissful Apple karma from a Steve Jobs keynote all the time.

MEMBERSHIP BONANZA WE WANT MEMBERS!

To show that we do and to give you a "little" incentive, we have re-worked our recruiting incentives for those members who bring in new members to the AMUG family.

- This Membership Bonanza is in effect for this quarter, July 1 September 30.
- Bring a Guest to a Meeting Gets you an extra raffle ticket
- **Recruit a member -** OLD/Get a 1 month extension on your dues PLUS receive an AMUG Name Tag
- **Recruit a Family membership** Receive a 2 month extension to your dues.
- **Recruit a Corporate member** Receive a 3 month extension to your dues.
- Recruit 3 members AMUG T-Shirt or \$10 AMUG Auction Bucks
- Recruit 5 members Brand NEW AMUG Golf Cap PLUS \$10 in AMUG Auction Bucks
- Recruit 10 members AMUG Polo Shirt
- Volunteerism Any member that volunteers or helps at any function/event gets their name placed in a Quarterly Raffle for each time they volunteer. Winner gets their choice of an AMUG T-Shirt or \$10 in AMUG Auction Bucks

IN THE NEWS Adobe Not Expected To Show For MacWorld

While PC Expo in New York looms, word came that Adobe would not be attending MacWorld, also in New York.

Cheryl Edwards, Public Relations Director for Adobe Systems Inc. told MacCentral that "for economic reasons, Adobe will not be exhibiting at Macworld New York this summer."

Curiously Adobe recently announced a profitable second fiscal quarter, with revenue of \$334.1 million. Up \$34 million from the year before.

Some speculation has spread that Adobe is unwilling to face an onslought of attendee's asking when Carbonized versions of their most popular applications will be forthcoming. Or that the no-show is the result of bad blood between Apple and Adobe over Apple's release of FinalCut Pro which is competing against Adobe's Premier.

Other speculation seems to go that since Adobe does not have any major new products to promote, that they will return to MacWorld San Francisco in January when more of their products are Carbonized.

Mac Family Reunion at MacHack 2001

The annual, unofficial, Macintosh programmer festival recently hosted a unique set of speakers. A mostly complete collection of the original development team of the Macintosh met and spoke of their recollections of developing the Mac, and their thoughts on other aspects.

CONTINUED FROM "PROPOSED BY-LAW REVISIONS", PAGE 1 Currently Reads

c. A period of one year must elapse before an elected Director who has served three full and consecutive terms is again eligible for nomination.

To read

c. A period of one year must elapse

When Might You Attend MacWorld?

- New York July 2001
- San Francisco January 2002
- Not sure, but I'd like to attend
- Don't think I'll ever make it (http://www.atlmug.org/maclanta)

AMUG's May On-line Poll: How fast is your internet connection?

- Less than 56k (slow modem) 20%
- 56k or ISDN (fast modem) 20%
- Office Connection (T1 or faster) 20%
- No internet connection 20%

In attendance were Bill Atkinson, Donn Denman, Andy Hertzfeld, Daniel Kottke, Jef Raskin, Caroline Rose and Randy Wigginton. At attendance at MacHack, but not participating in the reunion, was Steve Wozniak.

The group spoke about how they became involved in the development, and even gave their thoughts on Steve Jobs.

Apple Sued By Pitney Bowes

Claiming that Apple, and several other manufacturers of laser printers like Xerox, Lexmark, NEC and others, have been sued by Pitney Bowes.

The suit claims that the technique of using different sized dots to create images on a page.

Hewlett-Packard recently settled out of court with Pitney Bowes for \$400 million. *Iomega Names New CEO, Issues Warning*

In an effort to turn things around at the leading removable storage maker, Iomega named Werner T. Heid, a member of the company's board of directors, as their new chief executive officer. Heid formerly worked with Proxima, InFocus Corp., and Hewlett-Packard.

Iomega also announced that their second quarter earnings will be less than \$200 million, down from \$304 million the year before. The reason for the lower profits are due to lower demand for Zip and Jaz drives and media. *GIMP Comes To The Mac*

Where the Mac OS has had Adobe Photoshop, and Windows has has... whatever they have, Unix users have had GIMP. The open-source application is expected to ship June 25. GIMP offers a standard suite of graphic edit-

before an elected Director who has served *two* full and consecutive terms is again eligible for nomination.

Currently Reads

SECTION 7. Special Meetings A Special Meeting of the Board of Directors may be called by the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson or two or more Directors, where:

a. Seven (7) days notice is provided to each Director, if such notice is delivered personally, or by telegram, telephone, facsimile, or notice in the Executive Conference on the AMUG[®]. Bulletin Board System.

To read

a. *Three (3)* days notice is provided to each Director, if such notice is delivered personally, or by *E-Mail*, telephone, facsimile, or notice in the *BoD* Conference on the AMUG[®]. Bulletin Board System.

Currently Reads

b. Fourteen (14) days notice is provided to each Director, if sent by mail or published in the AMUG[®]. newsletter.

ing tools, more than 100 filters, and some TIFF-specific features. While GIMP handles RGB graphics, CMYK support is planned for the near future.

The development team behind GIMP has even invited members of the National Association of Photoshop Professionals to give GIMP a try, since Photoshop has yet to be rewritten to run natively in MacOS X.

Buy A TiBook - Get A FireWire CD-RW

Buy a Titanium PowerBook before September 3rd and you'll get CD-RW via mail-in rebate.

The VST drive is a bus-powered external FireWire CD-RW with 4x write speed, 4x rewrite speed, and 20x read speed.

Apple Hires Leading BSD Developer/ Evangelist

It would seem that in an effort to legitimize Mac OS X in the eyes of the Unix community, and for other reasons too, Apple has hired the co-founder of the FreeBSD movement. Jordan Hubbard will begin working with Apple in their Engineering Department as a Manager.

In a statement, Jordan wrote "Those who've been following my writings about and general enthusiasm for Apple's OS X lately also won't be surprised by the news that I'm going to work for Apple Computer."

Cube is Shelved

Apple has announced that it will suspend production of the G4 Cube, indefinitely. Apple also stated that their is a small chance that they may reintroduce an upgraded model in the future, but that there aren't any plans to do so currently.

To read

b. *Seven* (7) days notice is provided to each Director, if sent by mail or published in the AMUG®. newsletter.

Currently Reads

SECTION 9. Action by Telephone or Electronic Media

a. Any action required or permitted to be taken at any meeting of the Board of Directors may be taken without a physical meeting.

To read

a. Any Board meeting can be conducted either via the Internet (E-mail, Online Community or any other method approved by a majority of the board) or by telephone.

Currently Reads **b.** The Board of

b. The Board of Directors may participate in a meeting by means of a conference telephone call, electronic communications or similar arrangement, as long as all Directors participating in the meeting can communicate simultaneously.

b. *Members of the Board need not be physically present in one loca-*

JUNE MEETING SUMMARY

David Whitehead, Public Relations Director

(david_wbitebead@atlmug.org)

Continuing the Great Web Shootout, David Weisman, Sales Engineer from Macromedia, presented Macromedia's suite of Web authoring applications, including Flash, Dreamweaver and Dreamweaver UltraDev.

David highlighted the ease with which one can create web sites using the Dreamweaver application, demonstrating the tools and features that allow both professional and amateur web designers to create and maintain dynamic Web sites. He also illustrated the powerful capabilities of a web site design that incorporates Macromedia's SWF file format (otherwise know as "Flash"), a vector-based specification that offers the ability to create low-bandwidth animations, presentations, and Web sites.

David also illustrated the powerful scaling ability of Flash by demonstrating a Flash movie playing on a Windows CE

BE A VIDEO REVOLUTIONARY

Due to Macworld scheduling conflicts, the July AMUG general meeting will be held on a different day from our usual third Tuesday of the month. The date is Wednesday, July 25th at Macquarium.

Mark Underwood with KAUi Software will be doing a special 2 hour session on digital video basics as well as a complete iMovie demonstration. KAUi is a software training and consulting firm based here in Atlanta. Mark has presented this topic at the Apple Market Center and has agreed to do a special session just for AMUG.

The meeting will begin early at 6:30p.m. with the Question and Answer session. Bring your Mac problems and/or questions and try to stump our panel of experts! Compaq iPaq. All in all, it was a very impressive display of the versatility of Flash and the Macromedia Web Suite.

There was also a first-hand report on the new Apple iBook (Dual USB). Summarized in only one word, the owner said, "Excellent."



JUNE DOOR PRIZES

Thomas Baumgarten Dreamweaver
Chuck Briggs Fireworks Book
Sandy Bowles Dreamweaver 4 Book
Phillip W. Byrd UltraDev Stopwatch
Robert Flack
Kathy Grawe Dreamweaver 4 Book
Chris HarveyDreamweaver 4 Book
Brian Jordan
Topher Kohan UltraDev Stopwatch
Beverly Mattox Playing Cards
Richard Michell Dreamweaver 4 Book
Ramzan Orhan Dreamweaver 4 Book
Ramzan Orhan Macromedia Cards
Patricia Schiffman UltraDev
Charles SmithDreamweaver 4 Book
Lawrence TutenPlaying Cards
Joe Webb Dreamweaver 4 Book

Mark will begin his in-depth demo at 7:00p.m. We'll take a short 10 minute break at 8:00p.m. for some group business, then Mark will continue until around 9:00p.m.

We will have the usual GREAT DOOR PRIZE drawing at the conclusion. So bring your DV cameras and your questions to find out how to get the most out of iMovie, the revolutionary video editing software from Apple.



Thanks For Joining AMUG Willena Moye and Rashid Igbal

And For Renewing Your Membership

Nancy Albertson, Kenneth Brockway, Nina Bugg, Thomas Burns, Poppy T. Cantrell, Cornelia Cho, Shari Coxford, Steven D'Andrea, Doug Franks, Richard Gordon, Rob Hall, Carolyn Hancock, Randall Highs, Daniel Klenbort, Jere Langford, Gene Meade, John Mills, Gary Mullet, Paul W. Rainey, Buddy Starke, and Kay Wilson

CONTINUED FROM "PROPOSED BY-LAW REVISIONS", PAGE 3

tion to discuss, debate, or vote upon action or issue requiring the Attention of the Board of Directors. A quorum is still required when needed by other provisions of these by-laws. Members may participate using any digital (E-mail, chat, etc) or analog (telephone) means to communicate agreed to by a majority of the board.

Currently Reads

ARTICLE VIII - OFFICERS

SECTION 1. Designation The officers of the User Group are the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, and Treasurer, and are assigned annually by the Board of Directors from among their elected or appointed membership.

To read

The officers of the User Group are the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, and 6 Standing Committee Directors to be elected by a direct vote of the membership at the Annual Meeting pursuant to Article VII, Section 2; and Article IX. Currently Reads

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 onehalf 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 onehalf 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

SECTION 6. Vacancies

a. If the office of Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, or Treasurer becomes vacant for any reason, the vacancy will be filled by an elected member or appointed and ratified member of the Board of Directors. *To read*

a. If the office of *President, Vice-President,* Secretary, or Treasurer becomes vacant for any reason, the vacancy will be filled by an elected member of the Board of Directors. *This will be ratified by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. If no member steps forward, then a special election will be held to fill this position. A 30-day written notice must be provided to all members for said special election.*

Item b to be deleted.

b. A simple majority vote of the Directors present at a Director meeting constitutes the election. *Currently Reads*

ARTICLE IX STANDING COMMITTEE DIRECTORS

SECTION 1. Designation, Operation and Vacancies

a. The Board of Directors appoints Directors to specific Standing Committee positions. Such positions may include Newsletter Director, Telecommunications Director, Membership Director, Program Director, Volunteer Director, Publicity Director, Education Director, and any other Committee Directorship which the Board of Directors decides would be in the best interests of AMUG[®].

To read

a. Such positions may include Newsletter Director, Telecommunications Director, Membership Direc-

AMUG MEETING SCHEDULE

7/25/01 - iMovie and the Video Revolution
(NOTE: Special Day!!!)
8/21/01 - Apple Computer's Macworld: New
York Update
9/15/01 - Maclanta Xpo 1.5 – Guest pre-
senter Microsoft
10/16/01 - TBA
11/20/01 - Mac Holiday Gift Ideas
12/18/01 - TBA (Christmas Party)
Note: Remember, all dates and topics are sub-
iect to change. Please check back periodi-
cally for updates All meetings except for the

ject to change. Please check back periodically for updates. All meetings except for the Maclanta Xpo are at Macquarium unless otherwise noted. tor, Program Director, Volunteer Director, Publicity Director, Education Director, and any other Committee Directorship which the Board of Directors decides would be in the best interests of AMUG®. To be deleted

SECTION 6. Volunteer Director

The Volunteer Director is responsible for managing the recruitment, retention, training, and recognition of volunteers.

Currently Reads

ARTICLÉ XVIII - AMENDMENT

a. Unless otherwise specified in any Article, the membership may amend these Bylaws at any General Meeting if the text of proposed amendments to, or changes in, these Bylaws have been published in the AMUG® newsletter prior to the General Meeting at which the vote on the amendments or changes is taken.

To read

a. Unless otherwise specified in any Article, the membership may amend these Bylaws at any General Meeting if the text of proposed amendments to, or changes in, these Bylaws have been published in the AMUG® newsletter, or in a separate mailing, - prior to the General Meeting at which the vote on the amendments or changes is taken.

Currently Reads

b. Notice of all Bylaw amendments or changes shall be published in the next issue of the AMUG® newsletter following the General Meeting at which the amendments or changes are adopted.

To read

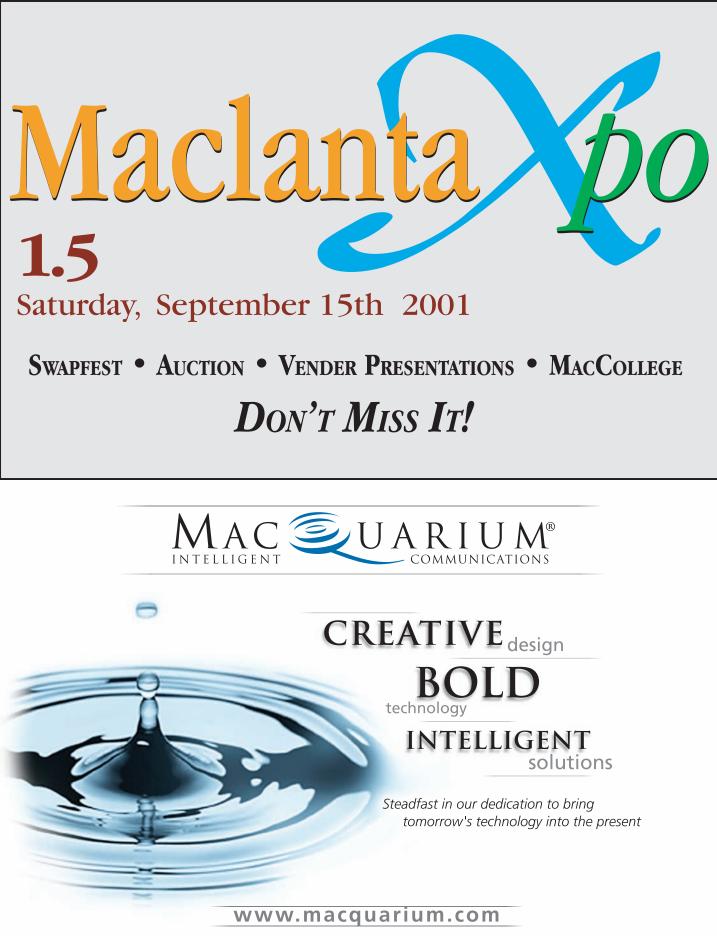
c. Notice of all Bylaw amendments or changes shall be published in the next issue of the AMUG® newsletter following the General Meeting at which the amendments or changes are adopted.

New Section to be added

ARTICLE XVIV - POLICIES

a. Policies are guidelines and procedures that help define the by-laws that govern AMUG. Policies are to be appended to the By-laws in this article for future reference.

b. Policies must be brought before the Board of Directors for discussion and majority approval. As policies are not By-laws they do not need ratifying by the general membership.



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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.

- 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; 20GB capacity; 7200rpm; 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)

- FS: Power Computing Ram. 168 pin, EDO, 8 meg, 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 Ill Emulation, Standard parallel, serial & AppleTalk ports, 2 font cartridge slots. Pagecount 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)

MICROSOFT OFFICE: MAC 2001

By Kelly Hilliard, Treasurer (kelly billiard@atlmug.org)

This is my first review thanks to the kind people at Microsoft who sent AMUG an evaluation copy of this software. First I'd like to set the foundation of my viewpoint. Many of us have vilified Microsoft for many years, myself included. Awhile back if you had asked me if I would use Microsoft software I would have something about a cold day in... well, let's just say we had a VERY cold winter this year. As recent as last July Microsoft had rejoined the Mac community with software written *for* the Mac, not just ported over from the PC version. And the results show.

Microsoft Office: Mac 2001 comes with four packages: PowerPoint, Excel, Word and Entourage. Surprisingly missing, though, is a database program. Access is the database program included with the Windows version. But we Mac users are lucky enough to have Entourage, while Microsoft Office 2000 for Windows still lacks this useful program. Hopefully, Microsoft will see the light and mend their ways on the next revision and include a useful database program. Well, in any case on with the review.

• PowerPoint is a presentation program and it is a incredibly easy to use. I made up a slide presentation in minutes having never used the program before! Great for the average users who needs to make a presentation for work, school or perhaps a neighborhood association.

• Excel is a spreadsheet program that, while simple, can be incredibly complex. But for the average user, what do you do with it? Well, I've used it for home inventory, cataloging keys at work for used, unused and haven't got a clue lists. While it can be useful, at least for me, it is one of the programs in the suite I use least.

• Word is the premier word processing application. It has come along way since its bloated days. Its look and feel is definitely Mac and it's not so complicated you can't figure out how to use it anymore. The most common functions are organized, in a logical manner, and are easy to access. The formatting tools are conveniently to the side on a floating palette that you can dismiss if you desire.

But entourage is the definite jewel of this package.

• Entourage is the email/organizer/ calendar program of the suite and one of the primary reasons I purchased my own copy of the software. It syncs with Palm Pilots with ease. The calendar can keep track of appointments, events, holidays and anything else you can think of as well as link emails to contacts or events in your calendar. With Entourage, I have no use for Now 's programs. This does it all.

All parts of Microsoft Office: Mac 2001 work seamlessly together. While they can be run as a separate program, they work better together which is unusual for a suite. As a Microsoft neophyte I have to say that this is one incredible suite Microsoft has put together. My only complaint is that we will have to wait till fall to get the OS X upgrade.

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