Maclanta

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™

AIRPORT 2 ARRIVES

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

The surprise announcement of Apple's portable MP3 player, iPod, drew most of the attention away from the announcement of the release of upgraded Airport hardware and software.

Every aspect of the Airport wireless networking system has been updated. While the basestation's appearance has changed from its previous silver to a new iBook-like white, it's internally a much improved device. It still retains its previous 11Mbps speed, but now supports up to 50 simultaneous users. This is due partly to a new antenna design built into the basestation. An additional benefit of this new antenna design is an increase in signal strength at the same distances as before.

From silver to white – but the insides are really improved!

Image courtesy Apple Computer, Inc.

On the back of the basestation Apple has added a second Ethernet port. The first port is still 10 Base-T, but the additional port supports both 10 Base-T and 100 Base-T. This additional port will help the basestation find itself more at home in large corporate or educational network settings.

Also of interest to owners of large networks is the inclusion of 128-bit encryption, making it harder for hackers to read your data as it flies through the air. And the new built-in firewall

MICROSOFT OFFICE V.X SHIPS

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

Long ago, in a place far away, a large corporate behemoth created a separate business unit. This separate business unit was created to operate as a separate entity than the corporate behemoth, and had a simple mission in life. Create software for the Macintosh, that had similar, as well as unique, features, and was at least compatible with the original company's key software.

Thus was born Microsoft's Macintosh Business Unit (Mac BU). This satellite entity has impressed most users since their first software release, Internet Explorer 4. Comprised of Mac programers from such prestigious Mac software developers as Adobe, Claris, and Apple itself, the Mac BU has strived to undo some of the wrongs of the past decade.

Their first effort at rectifying histories horrors was Microsoft Office 98. Where previous versions of Microsoft's office suite were ported from the original Windows programming code, The Mac BU decided to write Office 98 from the ground up as a Mac program. And in the opinion of many of their staunchest critics they succeeded. Office 98 did indeed feel like a Mac program

in how it operated and looked. But it wasn't necessarily perfect.

Office 2001 followed, and included many more features (some would argue that it already had more than enough). But more critics loosened their ties and complimented the release. And many Windows users and critics began to take notice. Some stories have it that Bill gates himself chastised the Office for Windows development group for not matching the features found in the Mac version.

With the release of Mac OS X, Microsoft's Mac BU had a major challenge. How to bring their extremely important office suite to the new operating system before some upstart got there first.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Michael Henigan, President (michael_henigan@atlmug.org)

What a year it has been! The past 12 months have certainly flown right by. When I became President last November, there were times I thought that I'd never get through some of the meetings and events we had undertaken.

We really have had a good year. At the general meeting in November I gave a mini-version of the Annual Report and I'd like to touch on those comments so everyone can hear what I talked about.

Programming/Education

Stan Allen did a great job in making sure we had speakers at every meeting and overseeing the 2 major AMUG events, Maclanta Xpo 1.0 and 1.5. The Xpos were the best we have had in years and we had visitors from other Mac User Groups from North and South Carolina, as well as Alabama. There was even our first visit from a member of the UGAB (Apple User Group Advisory Board), Del Messier. We made an impact with other User Groups that will see us bringing in visitors for future events.

Publicity

David Whitehead has gotten us more publicity in spaces we never knew possible. We produced the first AMUG brochure we have had in several years, and which is bringing in new members every month. There were the numerous links we received on web sites and the live interview I did with UGAB Chairman Chuck Joiner on The MacShow Live, all producing great PR for the Xpo and AMUG.

Online Community/BBS

Sheryl McDonald and her able-bodied sysops have done a really great job with

Maclanta Staff

Editor-in-Chief........................ Chris Waldrip
Contributing Editor.......... David Whitehead
Contributing Writer........... Michael Henigan

AMUG Board Of Directors

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AMUG Contact Info

BBS Non-Members Number ... 770-386-7971
BBS Members Number 770-386-7970
General Information Line 404-327-9002
Web Site .... http://www.amugonline.org

Atlanta Macintosh Users Group
PO Box 15130
Atlanta, Georgia 30333-0130

overhauling and upgrading our First Class BBS software and moving us into the 21st Century. Yes, we had a 'few problems.' OK, so I am the one who crashed the BBS – not once, but twice, in two months. So I have that to live down, but at least we know that won't happen again (grinning). If you have not had a chance to get onto the BBS, there is a great community that exists there.

Newsletter

Who would have thought that instead of having bi-monthly news, the Newsletter Director, Chris Waldrip, would expand our communications to include digital editions of Maclanta. There were postings of the newsletter on the BBS and the AMUG Website as well. We have had great communications in Maclanta as well as our new and improved Web site that Chris and Stan were both responsible for. And while Maclanta didn't win a place in July's user group newsletter awards at MacWorld, we did receive special mention for our work this year.

Financials

Three months into this year we found out, quite rudely, that our financial situation was in trouble due to the fact we had not filed taxes in the last few years. Through some hard detective work and meetings with our new CPA, Kelly Hilliard, our Treasurer got us into a better position with the IRS. Due

MESSAGE FROM THE ~~EDITOR~~ (FORMER EDITOR)

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

I'd like to feel that the Newsletter has been a success this year. Yes, there have been the occasional problems - missed issues, download problems, etc. But besides those disasters it hasn't been that bad. At least everyone keeps telling me that they enjoyed it. But that may just be courtesy, I'm not sure.

This year saw the reintroduction of a monthly newsletter. It also saw the addition of more articles and a return to an 8.5 x 11 format. We've really pushed the electronic version of the newsletter, and discovered some problems along the way that we're working on.

Special Notice

Recently the old dialup number for the BBS (404-727-2400) was finally discontinued. This number simply redirected callers to the current number. Members should make a note to change their dialup number to the current number, 770-386-7970.

Member's with questions, concerns, or needing help should contact our system operators (ops@atlmug.org).

to our low income, and rollover into the next fiscal year, we aren't required to file with the IRS. He is also just now finishing up the transfer of our funds into new, low fee, accounts as well as a new credit card processing system. This has improved our financial situation for the foreseeable future.

All in all, we have had many successes that I am proud of and feel that we are ready to address some of the other needs of AMUG and our membership. I leave the reigns in the capable hands of our new President, Chris Waldrip. My best to AMUG, and to Chris, for the year 2002. As for me, no need to worry that I am fading into the sunset, I am the new Membership Director, in addition to holding the position as Past-President, and will improve the processing and maintaining of the membership database.

Thanks to ALL of our outgoing board members who have given unselfishly of their time and energies for the benefit of AMUG: Bruce Barrett, Phillip Byrd, Jay Cann, Doug Franks, Kathy Grawe, Kelly Hilliard, Sheryl McDonald, Chris Waldrip and David Whitehead.

In Service to AMUG,
Michael Henigan
AMUG President – 2001

But with a few exceptions this has been a one man show. There have been offers of help, and some submitted articles, but we need more.

At one time our newsletter had a real staff - people responsible for different aspects of its regular publication. And we were blessed with more submissions from members.

As Robert Cameron takes over I'd like to ask each of you to take a moment and review the software you use, the hardware you're familiar with, and the experience you rely on daily. Chances are that some members would be interested in reading about any of these. Maybe it's a program, or a peripheral, or some series of steps you take that simplify your work day. Feel free to write about any of these things and submit them to maclanta@atlmug.org.

Please feel free to let us know what things you'd like to see Maclanta do in the future too. We're planning on including more group business: quarterly budget reports (it is your money after all), board notes (not official minutes, but simple notes from the latest board meeting), and more.

AMUG is of and for our membership, and the community we live in. Without member participation we can't help you, or our community.

IN THE NEWS

Potential Settlement In Microsoft Case

Recently the Department of Justice and several State's announced a proposed settlement in the current Microsoft Anti-competition case.

The agreed upon proposal has Microsoft giving software and hardware to a number of the poorest school systems in the country. But many have criticized the compromise, including some of the school districts thought to be beneficiaries, some of the States involved in the case with the Department of Justice, and Steve Jobs of Apple.

At issue is how rewarding Microsoft with increased market share in a market segment they traditionally have not had a strong presence in will fulfill the requirements of punishing the mammoth corporation.

In recent interviews, Steve Jobs is quoted as suggesting that Microsoft be forced to contribute up to $1 billion towards an independent foundation. This foundation will then oversee the distribution of funds to worthy educational institutions and districts.

Apple has even gone so far as to file a supplemental legal brief outlining their proposal.

iPod Suffers From Sleep Disorder

A recent posting on Apple's web site indicates that Apple has become aware of a potential bug with their iPod MP3 player.

The bug keeps the iPod from awakening if the battery becomes too discharged.

Apple has posted a firmware update for the iPod. In addition to fixing the sleep issue, the update adds several interface enhancements as well as additional languages (Spanish, Dutch, and Italian).

Connectix Virtual PC 5.0 Released

Mac users forced to use Windows compatible software and who would like to upgrade to Mac OS X can rejoice! Connectix has released the latest rendition of their emulation program, Virtual PC.

This latest edition offers multiprocessor support for Mac OS X users with appropriate hardware, and a feature called Virtual Switch. This last feature lets multiple virtual PC's running on a user's Mac OS X system to communicate together.

Users can also undo changes made to a hard drive image. So installation of that buggy windows program doesn't mean hours of work lost. And users wanting to use Windows XP now have full support for it in Virtual PC 5.

Connectix also claims that users will experience a "snappier" interface with faster menus and faster text scrolling.

Final Cut Pro 3 Announced

As part of the recent stream of product announcements to come out of Cupertino, Apple announced the upcoming release of Final Cut Pro 3.

This latest release finally brings the video editing software to Mac OS X, as well as new color correction tools, multiple timed backups, and real-time effects powered simply by your own G4 processor (no third party hardware required).

Final Cut Pro 3 is expected to ship at the end of the year, with upgrades running $299 from Apple.

Mac OS 9.2.2 Released

Users of Mac OS X compatible systems will be interested in knowing that the latest update to Mac OS 9 has become available.

Apple says that this latest update includes increased carbon compatibility as well as minor bug fixes for G3's and G4's.

Users can download the update from Software Update if they're running Mac OS 9.2.1, or can download the update directly from Apple's web site if using Mac OS X.

The Mac BU managed to review the hundreds of thousands of lines of code in Office 2001, change the many pieces needed to get the suite to work on Mac OS X, and even managed to take advantage of many of the new operating systems new features, and add a few new features of their own.

As one of the first major third party applications to be released for Mac OS X, Microsoft's Office v.X (that's their abbreviation for "version 10") is a shining example of what Mac OS X offers to both users and developers.

All the pieces of previous Mac Office suites are here. Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and the latecomer Entourage. All have been updated to make use of the Aqua user interface. The applications themselves have been carbonized, but due to the integrated use of Mac OS X features this latest update to the Office line will only run under Mac OS X. Owners of older machines should stick with Office 98 or 2001, or look at investing in an affordable iMac or G4. More and more software will be released only for Mac OS X, so now's as good a time to upgrade as any.

Unlike the horror that was Office 4.2.1, this latest incarnation rarely crashes. Part of this is most likely due to Mac OS X's protected memory and multi-threaded multitasking, but a good portion is due more to the skill of the developers. Each new version of Office has been more and more stable. Of course compared to 4.2.1 the Leaning Tower of Pisa is stable.

Office v.X makes good use of Mac OS X's new technology. From the look of Aqua, to the use of sheets. Sheets, for the uninitiated, are dialog boxes for such things as open/save, print, and other features. Where before you had to interface with the dialog box, either complete it or cancel it, now the dialog box, or sheet, is tied to the header of the document window it's related to. Jump to another document window and put off working with the previous dialog. Office v.X handles sheets the way Apple intended, where some ported applications still give you a floating dialog box that's inescapable.

Quartz, the graphics layer of the operating system, allows Office v.X advanced image controls in Word. Now you can import photo's from your digital camera directly into Word or PowerPoint (or even Excel), remove the dreaded "Red Eye" effect from your subjects, adjust the transparency of the image, put a drop shadow under it, and even edit out that one person you don't like anymore.

Quartz also gives new visualization capabilities. A multi-row chart might have obscured a row that was behind another row. But with Quartz capabilities each row can be transparent, allowing you to see bars that dip behind other rows.

Quartz also allows you to create PDF (aka Adobe Acrobat) files from any Office application. No more need for less than capable third party utilities, or over-priced

NOVEMBER MEETING SUMMARY

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

AMUG's November general meeting featured a presentation by Apple Solutions Consultant Robbie Fernandez. He has the unique position of working as an Apple employee inside the CompUSA at Lenox Square. Stop by and say hi the next time you are in the area!

Robbie did a terrific job of showing us the latest Apple products for the holiday season, including the fabulous new iPod digital music player. If you haven't checked out the iPod yet, then be sure to stop by CompUSA or any other Apple authorized outlet and check it out. It's so light, it has extremely elegant user controls, and it's just plain cool!

Robbie brought a lot of great stuff and we got to see some Apple products demonstrated that we don't normally see a lot of. At the end of his presentation he demonstrated the Harman-Kardon sound system and it blew me away! It was the first time I had heard them live and they sound great. I'm thinking of chucking the 10 year old amplifier and stereo speakers I currently have connected to my Mac and replacing them with this beautifully designed speaker set with sub woofer. If you like to play games or listen to music on your Mac, then you really need the HK sound system. It's only around $200.

Speaking of games, we got a look at the new Xbox game console from Microsoft. Jay Cann, who gets ALL the latest stuff before everyone else, had his new Xbox set up on the big screen before the start of the meeting,

and Chris Waldrip, the 2002 AMUG President, couldn't stop playing with it. Just how does Jay get all the latest stuff before everyone else? There's a rumor going around that he's made a deal with the devil (or Bill Gates), but we all know that isn't true, isn't it?

In addition to Robbie's great presentation, there was a terrific Mac Q&A session at the start of the meeting. The experts from AMUG's membership were answering questions and giving advice to the group. Have a question or have a hard to solve Mac problem? Come to the next meeting and see if you can stump the vast collection of AMUG Mac gurus. The meeting concluded with a raffle for a nice selection of door prizes.

Next Month is our Annual AMUG Holiday party where everyone gets together to enjoy the spirit of the season and just spend some time getting to know each other. No intentionally intimidating Mac discussions or geek talk, just everyone wishing each other a wonderful Holiday season. Come on by and bring a covered dish of you favorite holiday goodies. It's a chance to have some fun and get to know some of your fellow AMUG members. See you there!

PROPOSED BYLAW CHANGE
By Bruce Barrett, Special Proj. Dir. (bruce_barrett@atlmug.org)

For many years the AMUG BoD has been considering having someone to manage our assets. For more than one reason this has not been successful.

Therefore I would like to propose the following change to the bylaws so that this responsibility falls into the scope of the Treasurer, as it is the treasurer who has all the invoices that have all the required information.

As the bylaw presently reads.
SECTION 5. Treasurer
e. The Treasurer performs such other duties as may be designated by the President or Board of Directors, and may, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors, appoint one or more assistants
Proposed change
e. The Treasurer is to maintain a register of all AMUG assets. Items to be included in said register but not limited to, will be: Asset description and serial number were applicable, purchase price, location were asset is kept, who's custody the asset is in.
f. The Treasurer performs such other duties as may be designated by the President or Board of Directors, and may, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors, appoint one or more assistants

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December Raffle Winners

Dennis Carphey .. Office v.X T-shirt
Robert Coleman.............................
           Zork: Grand Inquisitor
Bill Jarett .... Office v.X T-shirt
Bill Jarett ....Giants: Citizen Kabuto
Henry Milsen....... Office v.X T-shirt
Henry Milsen........Baulder's Gate 2
Patricia Schiffman ....
     Macromedia Xtraveganza Book
Harmen Steele .... Office v.X T-shirt
Chris Waldrip...... Office v.X T-shirt

Thanks For Joining AMUG
Emilio Biasucci, Denis Curphey, David Day, Doug Hayden, Gwendowlyn Hayes, Richard Holloway, Charles Johnson, Robert Lazarra, Karin Minshull, Eindy Ramsey, Tammy Rowley, Nick Shuster

And For Renewing Your Membership
Cheryl Bollinger, Jay Cann, David Johnson, Dewey Norton, Doris Norton, James Oliver, Robin Sherman

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PROPOSED 2002 AMUG MEETING SCHEDULE

General Meetings
(Generally held on the third Tuesday of the month)

01/15/02 - Apple	07/16/02 - TBA
02/19/02 - TBA	08/20/02 - TBA
03/19/02 - TBA	09/17/02 - TBA
04/16/02 - TBA	10/15/02 - TBA
05/21/02 - TBA	11/19/02 - TBA
06/18/02 - TBA	12/17/02 - TBA

Board of Directors Meetings
(Generally held on the first Wednesday of the month)

January 2nd	July 3rd
February 6th	August 7th
March 6th	September 4th
April 3rd	October 2nd
May 1st	November 6th
June 5th	December 4th

Note: Remember, all dates and topics are subject to change. Please check the web site and online community for updates. All general meetings, except for the Maclanta Xpo, are at Macquarium, and all board meetings are held at Saint Joseph's Hospital's Education Center unless otherwise noted.

AMUG 2002 Budget

Department:	Expo	Chair	Edu	Membership	Newsletter	Program	Publicity	Secretary	Telecom	Treasurer	TOTAL
Membership Dues				$12,000							$12,000
Interest Income										$400	$400
Merchandise Sales										$500	$500
Advertising					$300						
Sales/Events	$3,600			$50							$3,650
Total Income	$3,600	$0	$0	$12,050	$300	$0	$0	$0	$0	$900	$16,850
Software			$150								$150
Printing	$200		$125	$375	$700		$800				$2,200
Meeting											$0
Rentals	$350							$1,014			$1,364
Stamps/Mailing				$800	$1,000		$130				$1,930
Office Supplies	$200	$65	$50	$500	$100	$50	$60			$100	$1,125
Telephone				$420							$420
Legal								$200			$200
Accounting										$475	$475
Hardware									$150		
BBS Services									$2,400		$2,400
Venue expense		$300				$900					$1,200
Advertising							$500				$500
Bank Fees										$950	$950
Insurance								$475			$475
Public Relations											
Food	$200	$140				$400			$100		
Conf & Travel							$1,500				
Merchandise									$50	$200	$250
Total Expense	$950	$205	$625	$2,095	$1,800	$1,350	$2,990	$1,689	$2,700	$1,725	$16,129
Net Income	$2,650	($205)	($625)	$9,955	($1,500)	($1,350)	($2,990)	($1,689)	($2,700)	($825)	$721

2002 PROPOSED BUDGET

It's that time of year again. The budget shown above has been reviewed by the Board of Directors, and is provided here in advance of the December meeting where the membership will vote to approve, or disapprove.

2002 ELECTION RESULTS

The results are in, and luckily there weren't any hanging chads or dimpled ballots.

The only vote required this year was for Treasurer. Normally this is a hard position to find candidates for, so a vote to fill the position was unexpected.

Both candidates were highly qualified for the position, but the membership it seems wanted the incumbent to remain in the position.

There remain to be some positions unfilled though. If you, or someone you know, might be interested in filling one of these positions please feel free to contact Michael Henigan (michael_henigan@atlmug.org) with your interest or questions. We'd like to fill the remaining positions by the January General Meeting.

Election Results for 2002 AMUG Officers And Board of Directors

President
Chris Waldrip

Vice President
Vacant

Secretary
Vacant

Treasurer
Bruce Barrett – (40%)
Kelly Hilliard – (60%)

Programming Director
Doug Franks

Membership Director
Michael Henigan

Education Director
Stan Allen

Newsletter Director
Robert Cameron

Publicity Director
David Whitehead

Communications Director
Vacant

Past President
Michael Henigan

will help to keep the aforementioned hackers out of your network.

Many users had an indication that a change was coming to the AirPort family lineup when weeks earlier Apple started shipping a new revision to the AirPort card. Used in all Mac's capable of using AirPort, this new AirPort card offers support for 128-bit encryption used now by Apple's own basestation, as well as many higher end model 802.11b wireless networking basestations. Owners of older AirPort cards will be pleased to know that the newly released AirPort 2 software will update your card to support 128-bit encryption, without losing compatibility with your current basestation. Unfortunately the same cannot be said for older basestations. It seems that the older basestations can't be upgraded to 128-bit capabilities, at least at this time.

Also new in the software update is support for America Online. The internet service provider uses unique methods for users to connect to their system, methods that were incompatible with the previous AirPort software. Owners of older basestations will

have support for AOL once they've upgraded.

Now, not only can AOL uses surf from their couch, but system administrators can also use LEAP security software developed by networking hardware and software developer Cisco. With LEAP, as well as the RADIUS software, system administrators in large corporate or educational environments can control access to the network.

With the combination of the new basestations and software now have additional capabilities. Among these are support for 128-bit web browsers, networks closed off from larger, surrounding, networks, and support for Virtual Private Networks.

Where may AirPort go in the future though? Expect more software updates for additional features for Mac OS X. And with the increasing popularity of the faster 802.11a protocol, many are guessing that it won't be much longer before Apple offers at least combined support for the competing systems.

applications, to create PDF's. Now you can 'print' your file to a PDF file compatible with Adobe's Acrobat format.

Each portion of Office v.X has had new features added, in addition to those available through Mac OS X.

Word:Mac

Users wanting to copy or cut multiple items in non-contiguous paragraphs, lists, or various table cells now have the capability of selecting those items at one time. Select a word here, hold down the command key, and then freely select additional items. Now you can cut, copy, paste, or even reformat the selected items.

Users of Entourage can now access address entries in Word. Insert contact information from your address book directly into your Word document, or even do a data merge. Have a form letter you'd like to send to all your friends and family for the Holidays? Write up that letter, and then print out a copy, with addressed envelopes, to everyone in your address book in one fell swoop.

And with the new graphics capabilities built into Word, you can place your family photo into your document, edit out the red eye, and juniors bunny ears over his sister.

Excel:Mac

Excel more than any other Office component, has always suffered from feature bloat. Few users can agree on every feature that's

unnecessary, but all of them can relate to the inability to remember all of the potential keyboard shortcuts. Here is one of the few apps the average user will use, where a keyboard chart is almost a requirement.

Now users can customize keyboard shortcuts. Don't like the ones that Microsoft has pre-set? Feel free to reassign them. Maybe you liked Excel 2.0's keyboard layout – now you can return to those glory days. You should be warned that changing layouts will completely alienate guests though. Maybe that's a good thing.

Lost spreadsheets are now further from likely hood as well. Previous version of Excel offered an auto-recovery feature, but it was off by default. Now this feature is turned on from day one. Did the power just go out? Well, when it comes back on just open the document you were working on and you'll be able to pick up almost where you left off. It's not perfect... yet.

And for lazy users out there, Excel offers a host of automatic utilities. Creating a list? Let Excel help you format your list. Excel will also help you apply formatting and formulas to your list based on previous, similar entries. You can even let Excel help filter out Rows you don't need for your current investigation. And of course there are improvements to Excel's AutoComplete feature.

For users not familiar with the dark side of the operating system world, the ability to add VisualBasic scripts to Excel documents allows for some impressive capabilities in documents. Mac users now have access to similar scripting abilities using the popular third party programming tool REALBasic. A popular introductory to advanced programing application, REALBasic programs are already familiar to many Mac users. MacAddict's monthly CD, The Disc, uses an audio-visual application interface created with REALBasic. And many new shareware programs use REALBasic. Now you can use the Basic programing language to add features similar to what Windows users have been familiar with. Except with even more capabilities.

PowerPoint:Mac

Many have felt that PowerPoint has long been the bastard step-child in feature catch-up to it's Windows cousin. This latest version of PowerPoint helps close the gap.

New features in PowerPoint include the ability to package your linked images, fonts, and files used in a presentation into one file, the previously stated transparency abilities, and improvements to the ability to save a presentation as a QuickTime file.

Entourage:Mac

The latest addition to the Office suite, Entourage, has seen some improvements as well. Support for rich content (i.e. graphics) embedded in your messages, cut or copied formatted text from another Office document comes through unchanged, as do charts, tables or other rich content items.

Entourage will remember recently used addresses you've used, even if they're not in your address book, and the calendar has been redesigned. If yo work across multiple time zones Entourage will help you keep things straight, and Office Notifications will help you remember upcoming events, and even let you postpone the reminder.

Users with large volumes of email, contacts, or other items will all appreciate the performance enhancements also found in Entourage.

Final Notes

As great as Office v.X is, there are some things that users should be aware of. First, and foremost, is that it will only work with Mac OS X. If you haven't upgraded yet, you're best to stick with older versions of Office.

While a $149 upgrade for owners of Office 2001 is only available from Microsoft, there have been delays and problems in users receiving their software. Those that have received their copy have had problems with the serial number needed to use Office.

Speaking of the serial number; Office now uses a similar verification method as Adobe and Macromedia. Office will scan your network to ensure that no one else currently has a copy of Office running with the same serial number.

And lastly, expect Microsoft to post minor updates regularly. A program of this magnitude will always have issues that creep up. An Entourage update for Hotmail support is already available.

Atlanta Macintosh Users Group
PO Box 15130
Atlanta, Georgia 30333-0130