Maclanta™

Apple Store Atlanta, take two. The facade of the Apple Store in Northpoint Mall, located on the first floor. During grand opening day. Apple fans waited outside for their turn to shop, while others mingled in the hallway outside.

AMUG ATTENDS APPLE STORE NORTHSIDE OPENING

*By Chris Waldrip, President
(cwaldrip@amugonline.org)*

With the opening of Apple's second retail store in Georgia just a few miles north of their first store at Lenox, a lower turn out was to be expected. A line didn't start forming until an hour before the store's opening at 10am, but that line lasted until at least noon.

AMUG showed up early, and with the cooperation of Rich's/Macy's, setup a table right across from the new AppleStore. A special issue of Maclanta was on hand, and passed out to all those standing in line. AMUGer's on hand answered numerous questions regarding the line and activities at the AppleStore.. Many were surprised that people would wait in such a line without the prospect of a massive sale or free giveaways (other than t-shirts and a chance to win a computer system). The typical response from passers by ranged from "Cool!" to the call of the neophyte, "Harumph".

For our work though, at least one former member from years gone by rejoined, several

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Message From The Prez

By Chris Waldrip, President

(cwaldrip@amugonline.org)

The votes have been counted, and the results certified, despite numerous unforeseeable and uncontrollable issues. AMUG has a fully staffed Board of Directors for 2004 and is off to a great start.

One of the first things the Board has started is the formation of an Election Policy committee.

While our Bylaws provide a good foundation for conducting the annual election, they're somewhat vague. Throughout the process suggestions, recommendations and prior methods were all presented to various members of the Board and the Election Committee.

The goal of this committee is to codify a set of policies, pursuant to Article XIX of the Bylaws, in order to ensure the next election runs more smoothly.

Do you have suggestions for running the next election? Well, here's your change to have input on how we should run our elections. Please contact Topher Kohan (topher_ kohan@amugonline.org) or any member of the Board.

In other news, the coming year is special to AMUG and to Macintosh users in general. It was 20 years ago that Apple released the Macintosh personal computer, and that a few Atlanta computer users decided to get together and start a computer club. Today the Mac is enjoying a Renaissance and AMUG is looking towards a bright future.

Please join us in the coming year as we celebrate both achievements in several ways. Members attending the General Meeting will have the opportunity to win some impressive items this year, and there's a big item to win at the 2004 Annual Meeting. I don't want to give away too much of the surprise though.

And there are also our plans to bring a special out-of-town guest speaker to an AMUG general meeting later this year, so you'll want to start keeping your third Tuesday of each month free for AMUG!

Preferred pricing at CompUSA

AMUG members, we have enjoyed preferred pricing at the Duluth location of CompUSA (discounts on almost anything in the store) thanks to general manager David Dowling. and now, we'll have **our very own CompUSA website!**

That's right, now any AMUG member can get the same preferred pricing by ordering through the special website instead of traveling to the store in person. The address will be posted on our Online Community very soon. Watch for details. (Sorry, non-members, this is a benefit of membership. Want to take advantage of it? You'll have to join. See our website at www.amugonline.org/join_amug for more information on how to join.

Summary of the December 2003 AMUG Board of Directors meeting

The Board of Directors of the Atlanta Macintosh Users Group met on December 2, 2003 at MacQuarium. Seven directors attended along with a guest, Topher Kohan, who served on the Elections Committee. Topher briefed the Board on the details of the recent elections and submitted the certified voting results, which were accepted by the Board. The election results will be posted on the Online Community as well as *MacLanta.*

Further details of the elections will be included in the minutes for the meeting of the Board of Directors for December 2003. The ratified minutes will be posted on the Online Community.

This meeting served as a transition between incoming and outgoing members of the Board. Chris Waldrip welcomed the new members, and the new Board began addressing AMUG business, including the status of liability insurance coverage; service awards and a dinner for volunteers; goals for the Board for 2004; events to mark the 20th. Anniversary of AMUG in 2004; the creation of a Board of Directors Handbook; and the creation of an Election Policy Committee to recommend improvements to the election process.

Atlanta Macintosh Users Group, Inc. 2004 Board of Directors	
President	Chris Waldrip
Vice-President	Bob Garst
Secretary	Lee Hoong
Treasurer	Bruce Barrett
Education Director	Mary Frey
Membership Director	David Whitehead
Newsletter Director	Todd Johnson
Program Director	Jay Cann
Publicity Director	Paul Quinnell
Telecom Director	Stan Allen

Mac 911 Help Desk

By Christopher Breen

If you're vexed by menu-bar items that won't go away and the hard-drive space annexed by unnecessary language files, this month's Mac 911 is for you. Join me as I detail handy methods for removing extraneous items.

Ejecting Eject

Rob Griffiths describes how to add an Eject icon to the Mac's menu bar in "Mac OS X Hints" (Secrets, August 2003). But he didn't provide instructions for removing it. Please advise. -- Matt Palomares, Asheville, North Carolina

To remove almost any item from the Finder's menu bar (except commands such as File, Edit, and View, which you can't remove by this method), just 1-click on the item you'd like to eliminate and drag it to the Desktop. The resulting puff of smoke and "whoosh" sound effect indicate that the menu item has hit the road. Note that this procedure doesn't trash the original MenuExtra plug-in, it merely removes its icon.

Lost Languages

The tip for freeing up disk space by deleting language files was helpful ("Mac OS X Hints," Secrets, August 2003). Can I do the same kind of thing by using Find to locate the offending language files (searching for da.lproj, for example) and deleting them all at once? -- Mei Chau Hayes, Bedford, New Hampshire

Although you can find such .lproj files with the Finder's Find command, you can't throw them away because you don't have the proper permissions to do so.

Thankfully, a host of free utilities can strip extraneous language files from OS X volumes. Among them are Mike Bombich's DeLocalizer (http:// software.bombich.com), Joshua Schrier's Monolingual (http:// homepage.mac.com/ jschrier/index.html), and Philippe Hupe's Youpi Optimizer (http://perso.club-internet.fr/phupe/english/YOIndex.html).

Camera Capers

When I connect my digital camera to my Mac via USB, Apple's iPhoto automatically opens. I use Adobe Photoshop to manipulate my photos and would like it to open when I connect the camera. I've explored both iPhoto's preferences and System Preferences to find a way to achieve this, but I've been unsuccessful. Can you help? -- Robert Steven Connett, Mount Washington, California

You're right to look to a preference to direct Photoshop to open when you connect your camera, but you've missed the appropriate application. That application is Image Capture (found inside OS X's Applications folder). Launch Image Capture, choose Preferences from the Image Capture menu, and in the resulting window select Other from the Camera Preferences pop-up menu. In the sheet that appears, navigate to your copy of Photoshop, select it, and click on Open. When you next connect your camera, Photoshop should launch.

Macworld contributing editor Chris Breen is the author of Macworld's tips and troubleshooting column, "Mac 911," as well as Secrets of the iPod: Second Edition and Mac 911 (Peachpit Press). Find Chris' books at www.amazon.com and www.peachpit.com. User Group Special: Get 12 issues of Macworld for $12! Subscribe today at www.macworld.com/ dollarperissue

APPLE STORE
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people asked questions about the group and seemed interested, and many, many more read with interest the Maclanta we passed out. Our new Banner, which will be hung at the next General Meeting, was also an eye catcher, even though it's not in color. It was very affordable, and printed quickly by the fine folks at KwikPrint in Austell.

But what about the store? The NorthPoint store is smaller than the Lenox location. Maybe that was by choice, or maybe that was due to the availability of space. Regardless, Apple made good use of the location. As you walk into the store there are tables lining the path into the store. The Genius Bar resides along the left hand wall, near the middle of the store. Customers can work their way though the store, picking up their goodies as they go, and when you get to the back of the store a wide and spacious counter will great you along with a smiling employee who'll ring up your merchandise.

Noticeably, the store lacks a theater. Despite this though, a full slate of topics and classes are scheduled for this location. Everything else you'd expect of an AppleStore you'll find here. The sleek design, the contemporary feel, and the toys... oh the toys. Tables full of digital camera, video cameras, and more. Several G5's are on display, as are PowerBooks and iBooks.

If you live on the extreme northside of Atlanta, and you haven't been to an AppleStore, you no longer have an excuse.

Standing room only. Lines started forming outside the door an hour before the store opened. Access was limited to the legal capacity as others waited their turn.

Across the hall: Picutred from left, Chris Waldrip, Kelly Hilliard, and Topher Kohan man the AMUG information table.

Guarding the gates: Apple employees poised at the glass doors hand out t-shirts to customers, and control access to the store — And yep, this was as close as we could come to the store with a camera. (center)

Outside, looking in. Another shot from outside the Apple Store through the windows, showing the interior of the store. (bottom)

Summary of the November 2003 AMUG annual meeting

By Lee Hoong, Secretary
(lee_hoong@amugonline. org)

The Annual Meeting of the Atlanta Macintosh Users Group was held on November 18, 2003 at MacQuarium. 36 members were in attendance. The meeting began with a demonstration of Mac OS X 10. 3 (Panther) by Mark Underwood of KAUi Software. Official Business also was conducted at the meeting.

By-laws amendments

Four amendments to the By-laws were brought up for a vote by the membership. The amendments were approved by majority vote after discussion. The amendments are:

Inclusion of a deadline for the Audit Committee to have submitted their findings to the board of directors.
Currently reads:
Article XII. COMMITTEES
Section 1. Audit Committee
The Audit Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors to select the User Group's accounting system and to review the financial records and reports of the User Group. The Treasurer and any Standing Committee Director receiving or disbursing funds of the User Group, may not serve as a member of the Audit Committee.

Amended to read:
Article XII. COMMITTEES
Section 1. Audit Committee
The Audit Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors to select the User Group's accounting system and to review the financial records and reports of the User Group. The Treasurer and any Standing Committee Director receiving or disbursing funds of the User Group, may not serve as a member of the Audit Committee. The audit committee should submit to the Board of Directors their annual report no later than the end of the first quarter of the year (April 30th).

Change to the election process to reflect the direct election of board members to board positions as amended last year.
Currently reads:
Article X ELECTIONS
Section 6. Balloting
a. A ballot will be mailed or hand-delivered to each member in good standing. Each member may cast votes for up to ten (10) of the listed candidates, but no more than one vote for each candidate.
f. The ten (10) candidates receiving the most individual votes from the returned ballots (including those cast in person during the November General Meeting and those submitted via electronic mail) shall be considered the winners and shall fill the elected Director positions. In the event of ties between two or more candidates, undisputed winners will be declared elected subject to certification of results by the Election Committee; ballots will be distributed to the members present at the General Meeting, and the results used to resolve the tie(s).

Amended to read:
Section 6. Balloting
a. A ballot will be mailed or hand-delivered to each member in good standing. Each member may cast votes for one candidate in each open position.
f. The candidate with the most individual votes in each position shall be considered the winner of that position. In the event of ties between two or more candidates, undisputed winners will be declared elected subject to certification of results by the Election Committee; new ballots will be distributed to the members present at the General Meeting, votes for the disputed positions will be asked for, and the results used to resolve the tie(s).

Removal of the Past President position from the by-laws now that the terms of service are staggard.
Currently reads:
Article VII. BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Section 2. Composition
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.

Amended to read:
Article VII. BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Section 2. Composition
b. The Board of Directors consists of ten (10) natural persons elected by the membership.

Placing limits on persons from the same household serving on the Board of Directors to avoid potential interpersonal conflicts and financial risks.
Currently reads;
Article X. ELECTIONS
Section 5. Eligibility
Only members in good standing at the close of nominations may be candidates for elective office. . .
The Board of Directors shall resolve any dispute regarding the eligibility of a candidate, which cannot be decided by the Nominations Committee.

Amended to read;
Article X. ELECTIONS
Section 5. Eligibility
Only members in good standing at the close of nominations may be candidates for elective office. . .
Executive positions on the Board of Directors shall be restricted to only one (1) position/member per household. . . .
The Board of Directors shall resolve any dispute regarding the eligibility of a candidate, which cannot be decided by the Nominations Committee.

2004 Budget

AMUG President, Chris Waldrip, presented the AMUG 2004 Budget to the membership for approval. Chris highlighted

FIG 1: AMUG APPROVED 2004 BUDGET

	Pres	Edu	Expo	Grants	M'ship	News	Prog	Pub	Sec	Tele	Treas	TOTAL
Advertising						$0						$0
Grants/Donations				$1,000								$1,000
Interest Income											$100	$100
Membership Dues					$13,850							$13,850
Merch Sales												$0
Sales/Events			$2,500									$2,500
Capital Expense											$1,062	$1,062
TOTAL INCOME	$0	$0	$2,500	$1,000	$13,850	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$1,162	$18,512
Accounting												$0
Advertising								$1,750				$1,750
Bank Fees					$400						$150	$550
BBS Services												$0
Capital Regain												$0
Conf & Travel	$500						$750					$1,250
Food	$180		$50	$140	$50	$100	$300			$100		$920
Hardware				$500			$3,200			$200		$3,900
Insurance									$500			$500
Legal									$100			$100
Merchandise								$200				$200
Misc.												$0
Office Supplies		$50	$125		$725	$25	$50	$325	$30		$50	$1,380
Printing		$125	$300		$100	$1,200						$1,725
Rent/Store			$500						$1,374			$1,874
Software												$0
Postage			$250		$427	$1,260		$100				$2,037
Telephone					$376					$900		$1,276
Venue Exp		$150					$900					$1,050
TOTAL EXPENSE	$680	$325	$1,225	$640	$2,078	$2,585	$5,200	$2,375	$2,004	$1,200	$200	$18,512
NET INCOME	($680)	($325)	$1,275	$360	$11,772	($2,585)	($5,200)	($2,375)	($2,004)	($1,200)	$962	$0

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several sections of the budget amid questions from members. Doug Franks, AMUG Program Director, proposed an amendment to the budget which involved adjusting the proposed travel funds ($$) to $500 with $1200 reallocated for programming and the remainder ($1350) returned to the AMUG bank account. After much discussion on how the reallocation was going to impact programs, Doug's amendment was approved by the membership. The final budget was then approved by the majority of the members. ***See Fig 1, Approved AMUG 2004 Budget***

Meeting the candidates

There was a short break followed by official business regarding the elections for various positions on the Board of Directors. Chris explained that the ballots had been mailed on November 11, 2003, but there were no reports of ballots having been received by any members by the time of the Annual Meeting. Consequently, a new set of ballots would be sent the day after the Annual Meeting, and the deadline for receipt of ballots would be extended to December 1, 2003.

Topher Kohan then introduced the candidates for the contested positions (Mike Henigan and Chris Waldrip for President; Stan Allen and Robert Cameron for Telecom Director). Each candidate was given an opportunity to address the membership followed by questions from the floor.

The meeting concluded with a drawing for door prizes, including 2 copies of Panther.

Directions to General Meetings at Macquarium

1800 Peachtree Street, NW
Suite 250, Atlanta, GA
404-554-4000

From I-85 South
Take Peachtree Street exit 86. 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 I-75 South
Take the Howell Mill/ Northside Drive Exit (#252). Go to the second ramp, which is Northside Drive. Turn left off the ramp onto Northside Drive. Go Approximately 1/2 mile to Collier Road and Turn Right. Follow Collier road 9/10 of a mile until it ends at Peachtree Street, then turn right. Macquarium is about 100 yards on the right.

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.

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.
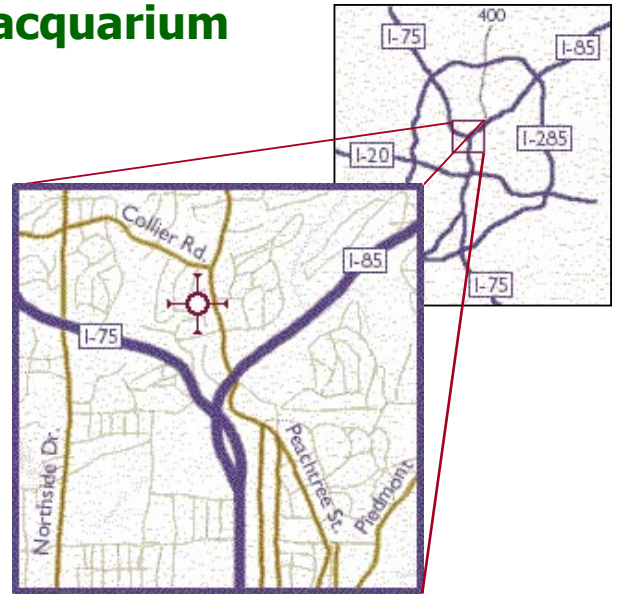
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