

Mugshot

Official newsletter of the Ocala Macintosh User Group which meets the first Tuesday of each month at the Multipurpose Senior Center
Volume 102- February 2007

From the Presidents Corner



The Way I See It by: Tim Rankin

From information that I have been to glean from different sources, it appears that Apple is picking up converts from different areas. Some are trying a Mac computer as the first computer since they have heard so many positive things about the Mac, others are long time PC users that are ready to switch over to what they perceive is a superior operating system and still others don't want to abandon Windows for various reasons, but would really like to experience what Macintosh is all about so they are buying the new Intel Macs and running both operating systems on the same computer. I guess you would call this having the best of both worlds. Aren't you glad you already own a Mac?

February Program

Mr. James Lee, President of Tropical Software Co. will give a presentation on TopXNotes. If you miss the Note Pad Desk Accessory, which once came on Macs all the way back to the early days of the "classic" operating system, you'll love TopXNotes from Tropical Software. If memory is correct, the Note Pad was still there in Mac OS X 9.x (in the Apple Extras folder), then disappeared in Mac OS X. Several companies have released Note Pad replacements, but TopXNotes— a US\$19.95, Mac OS X tool for editing and organizing notes

Apple News Macworld Expo

The Macworld Expo has come and gone and it was both a disappointing and spectacular event. The disappointing part was the fact that no new Macintosh hardware or software products were announced. In his keynote address, Steve Jobs said that there would be some "awesome stuff" coming in the next several months.

The keynote address started with Steve Jobs iTunes and iPod sales. He announces that iTunes music sales has reached 2 billion songs and that the iPod still has the largest share of the portable music players.

Apple TV

The next event was the announcement of the Apple TV (originally called the iTV). With device you can connect your computer to a HDTV television. You can now download and play music or video from iTunes and play it on your high definition television. I can't find any info about connecting your DVD player or stereo system to the Apple TV.



This is a small device like the Mac mini. It is 7.7 inches by 7.7 inches by 1.1 inch high. It has an Intel processor and has a 40GB hard drive for storing movies and songs. It has a built-in Wi-Fi 802.11n



system that allows wireless connection to your computer. The Apple TV is controlled with an Apple Remote device. It works with either a Mac or PC and sells for \$299. Apple Store is taking orders now for delivery in February.

iPhone



Steve Jobs next introduced the iPhone, which he described as a combination widescreen iPod with touch screen, mobile phone and internet communications device. It is 4.5 x 2.4 x 0.46 inches and the screen, which cover almost the entire front surface, measures 3.5 inches diagonally. It is a touch control screen, which means that you touch the part of the screen containing the icon or information that you want to select. The screen resolution is 320 x 480 at 160 ppi. Controls and connections for the device include a headphone jack, a mic jack, ring/silent switch, volume control, sleep/wakeup switch, iPod type connector, a speaker and a 2 megapixel camera. In addition there are three built-in sensors. One is proximity sensor so that when you bring the instrument to your ear the display and touch sensor will turn off. There is an ambient light sensor to control the brightness of the screen as the ambient light changes. The last is an accelerometer that is used in conjunction with the type of display orientation. If the iPhone is held upright the picture or



the landscape mode.

information is displayed in that mode and if you turn the iPhone horizontally the screen changes to

Steve Jobs demonstrated the various mode of the device, including how to download and store music and video via iTunes, how to display photographs and how to use the internet via Wi-Fi connections. In one demonstration he was listening to music when he got an incoming phone call. The screen dimmed, the phone rang and he answered. The caller asked for a certain photo so Steve Jobs located the desired photo and sent via e-mail. He ended the call and the music started again.

One very useful demonstration was the use of Google maps. He brought up Google maps on the internet, asked for a certain location, displayed the map, changed to the satellite mode to show how it looked from space. You can also get directions

The battery life is 5 hours for video, internet browsing or phone talk time and 16 hours for music listening.

The price is \$499 for a model with 4GB of storage and \$599 for 8GB storage. Purchase requires a two year contract with Cingular. It will be available in June for use in the USA with other countries to follow.

Apple Airport Extreme Base Station

Apple has introduced a new model of the Airport Extreme base station based on 802.11n standards. There was no fanfare concerning this product, in fact, it was not announced in the keynote speech. The new base station resembles the Apple TV and Mac mini computer. It measures 6.5 inches by 6.5 inches by 1.3 inches. The ports on the rear are power, USB, WAN (wide area network), three Ethernet ports and a security slot.

You can connect a USB hub to the USB port to allow more devices to be connected. Printers, hard drives and flash drives are supported but not optical drives. Multiple hard drives and printers can be shared by users connected to the network, whether they are Macs or Windows using Bonjour.

The new Airport Extreme base stations use a new technology called multiple-input multiple-output (MIMO). The base station uses three internal antennas to improve performance, claiming twice the



range and five times the speed over previous 802.11 standards. Also the new base station uses both the 2.4MHz and the 5MHz wireless bands and you can switch between the two bands.

The 802.11b standard used in the original Airport base station had a rated speed of 11Mbps with a real speed of 4-6Mbps and operated in the 2.4GHz band. The 802.11g was used in the Airport Extreme with a rated speed of 54Mbps, a real speed of 20-25Mbps and still operated in the 2.4GHz band. The new Airport Extreme base station used the 802.11n standard with a rated speed of 300Mbps, a real speed of 100Mbps and will operate in either the 2.4GHz or 5GHz band.

Apple has said that certain Macs which are already capable of supporting the 802.11n standard, using enabling software included with the new AirPort Extreme Base Station.

Those systems are:

iMac with Intel Core 2 Duo processors (excluding the 17-inch, 1.83GHz iMac)

MacBook with Intel Core 2 Duo

MacBook Pro with Intel Core 2 Duo

Mac Pro with AirPort Extreme card option

The new Airport Extreme base station will be available in February and will cost \$179. Included will be software for both Mac and Windows.

Apple Super Bowl Commercial

There are rumors that Apple will make an announcement as a Super Bowl commercial and the announcement will be the release of Beatles songs on iTunes music store.

OMUG Minutes

OMUG Minutes of the January 9, 2007

Well, it was Happy New Year to all who attended our regular monthly OMUG meeting, pushed up to January 9 as the first Tuesday in January, fell on the 2nd. Too close to the Brou Ha Ha! The Senior Center filled up, with twenty four in attendance including prospective new member George Trent from Dunellen who said that "He will keep coming back if he likes the group", Chris Newman from Ocala, Bob and Rosemarie Ostrander, old OMUG members, visiting

from Pensacola. (their Mac Users Group meets every Sat. morning at the Junior College), and guest presenter, Sean Messado from Martel in Tavares. It was good to see Ed Muhs from VMUG who is always full of interesting and informative tips and tricks for we fledgling Mac users (especially myself and Merrill Anderson). As always, it was good to see those smiling faces at the entry table: Judy Rankin, Clint Jones and Earl Satterfield who has been absent for some time. Welcome back, Earl, and thank you for selling all of those 50/50 raffle tickets!

As the December Christmas Party minutes got lost in cyberspace, Sally Smyth read the minutes and they were approved as read.

Earl Satterfield gave a brief summary of Steve Job's keynote speech, announcing the arrival of the iPhone, a neat little flat phone, touch screen, no buttons. It included iPod music and video features, WiFi, interesting scrolling method and so much more. The cost? \$499.00. Cingular has the exclusive contract with Apple's iPhone. Apple Computers now has a new name ! Apple Inc.

Michelle Holmes said that the Apple Store at Millennium Mall is undergoing a revamp so go the the Florida Mall for assistance. I've been there and was very well received and my issues were handled immediately.

Sean Messado from Martel Technology in Tavares introduced himself and began what turned out to be a very comprehensive discourse on printers and especially the purchase and replacement of inkjet ink cartridges. There are vast difference in type and price between the different manufacturers ~ Dell, versus Cannon versus HP versus Epson; the difference in quality using pigment versus dye base ink, generic versus name brand. Sean assured us that the generic cartridges hold up as well as brand names and will give you years of good quality in your printing efforts. He passed around many examples of his work using the generic inks and the colors were staggeringly bright and clear. The pros and cons of the Epson printer were discussed ~ prices, reliability, rebates when purchasing, and good customer service when using their 1 (800) help line. Laser printers are getting less



expensive to run and repair and replacement cartridges are more economical than inkjet. He emphasized not to be timid about refilling your own cartridges.

For printer health, Sean suggests that you print often to keep the heads clean and moist and to use the printer utility to clear plugged heads. When printing, use the TIF file to get better quality when using Photo Elements. (My OAG Camera Club members suggest printing in RGB). Martel Technology will fix printers for free, except for parts and shipping is free for jobs or \$50.00 and over.

After our refreshment break (thank you, Judy), there was much discussion about protecting your photos, projection pictures on the wall and then photographing the image, forwarding pictures with text, SanDisk Flash Drives, getting "PhotoRestore" (restores corrupted files), "CarbonCopy" and "SuperDuper" from VersionTracker.

50/50 winners were Bob Ostrander, Earl Satterfield, Virginia Baldwin and N.C. Sizemore.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sally Smyth
Secretary, OMUG
sallyssmyth@mac.com

Need Help With Your Computer



Macintosh OS X Networking Hardware Software Training

Computer Consulting
Rick Carlsen
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OMUG Web Page

Check out the OMUG home page at <http://www.ocalamug.org>

TREASURER'S REPORT January 31, 2007

Account Balance 12/31/06		\$330.81
Income 1/9/07	50/50 Raffle	+ 35.00
Expenses 1/9/07 Meeting:	Newsletter	30.00
	50/50 Raffle Items	66.48
	Rent (Senior Center)	28.00
	Speaker (Sean Massada)	<u>30.00</u>
		<u>-154.48</u>
Account Balance 1/31/07		<u>\$211.33</u>

Respectfully submitted by
Judy Rankin for Clint Jones, Treasurer



Check out the OMUG home page at <http://www.ocalamug.org>



Is your Mac acting up on you!? Crashing, freezing – or did it just die?

Need help with these and all other problems or repairs pertaining to Macs.

Contact Joe Pipala 352-343-2813; Mon.-Fri. 8:00 to 5:00 P.M.

macfixit@comcast.net

PrintShop or Print Explosion Judy Rankin 821-2322 judyrankin@mac.com

General Mac Problems : Tim Rankin 821-2201 timrank@themacisp.net

All the Board of Directors are available for help, also. See them on the Board of Directors page of this web site.



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