MUGSHOT

From the Presidents Corner

As I see it there was a lot of Apple news in January! The MAC celebrated its 25th Birthday! If you want to read a fun and predictive Playboy interview with Steve Jobs click this link. Steve Jobs was sicker than he first admitted. You heard it here first (last meeting). Thank you Dr. Putzys!

Steve Jobs has taken a six month leave of absence. Rumor has it that he is waiting for a liver transplant. He may or may not return to Apple.

Various publications have indicated that because of new product development time his absence (if he does not return) will not seriously hurt Apple for the next year or two and after that it remains to be seen, In the meantime in the last quarter reported Apple confounded the experts by increasing sales and profits even when most other companies were losing business.

Other news from/about Apple: "The next upgrade to Apple's iPhone will have a strong focus on gaming, analysts and developers agree. Chicago (IL) - If it wasn't for Apple's iPhone, AT&T would have had tough time this past holiday quarter. AT&T's landline business suffered as more and more customers are switching to wireless.

Thanks to 1.9 million new iPhone 3G activations in the quarter, however, AT&T's wireless business grew. The iPhone is also stimulating AT&T growth at the expense of its rivals as most new wireless subscribers switched networks just to get the iPhone 3G.".

We had a fun-filled and informative meeting last month. I hope someone took good notes. As I recall, we did not transact any club business but heard several interesting "how tos' and fixes. I hope someone took good notes because our secretary was absent and neither of our fill in secretaries (names omitted to protect the guilty) can find their notes.

Finally, we have continued to ask the city to let us connect to the internet which is now in this building and we have received a giant "Maybe" if we can work out the details. Also our arrangement with the city has been documented with a special needs request and a contract. We have to sign a new contract every month! So far our terms have not changed.

February Program

February 3, 2009
Genealogy
Presented by Pia Brown,
Marion County Public Library.

Apple News

iLife '09: iPhoto and iWeb Reach Tipping Point
by John Martellaro on January 30th, 2009 at 8:59 AM

Many people have a technological tipping point. That's the point where software, iLife '09 for example, becomes so compelling that it can persuade one to give up personal, specialized, or UNIX geeky ways of doing things and just throw one's entire weight behind a product. iLife '09 did that for me with iPhoto and iWeb.

A future installment will cover iMovie and GarageBand.

Sometimes, especially when one has been using computers in a UNIX environment for a long time, he or she will develop ways of doing things that grant great liberty and flexibility. As a result, when a package like iLife comes along, an initial inspection may reveal that Apple has imposed its own way of doing things, flexibility is restricted, and other tools or methods remain useful, indeed hardly replaced by Apple.

In my study of iPhoto '09 and iWeb '09, I have reached that tipping point.

Of course, it would be possible to go into a dry recitation of features, but Apple does a really good job of describing the new features, both in Phil Schiller's Macworld 2009 keynote address and Apple's Web pages dedicated to iPhoto and iWeb. Instead, I'm going to describe my reaction to the product.

I used iWeb '06 a lot back in 2006, and found it a bit frustrating. I knew I wanted to drink the Apple Kool-Aid, but the pitcher was mostly empty. Not having any completely satisfying alternatives, not wanting to get bogged down in too much manual work and knowing that if Apple couldn't hit one out of the park, I decided my best bet was to wait for technology to evolve.

So the real question in my mind is not whether iLife '09 is a satisfactory set of improvements but rather if components of iLife, namely iPhoto and iWeb, force one over the tipping point. Can one completely commit now to these products without feeling that other tools and methods forge a better path. The answer, for me is yes.

What that means is that US$99 for an iLife '09 family pack is an investment well spent. That's why we read reviews, after all, to arrive at a purchase decision.

{above article from MacDailyNews}

Other News

Apple warns of reduced iMac availability in near term

Apple this week is advising members of its reseller channels that supply of iMacs will be constrained in the immediate future, a move that may signal new models are nearing production.

OMUG Minutes
[note from the editor]

The January 6, 2009 meeting was excellent and I hope that you were one of the large group present. This was an "ask, share, and learn session" and will be repeated. The questions were varied, covering many topics. The answers were given in almost every case and all agreed that it was very worth while. We almost didn't have time for the raffle and refreshments.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, we do not have any official minutes, but believe me, it was an official meeting. We had a Treasurers Report, took in new members and learned much, not only from the questions asked, but by shared expertise from Phil and N.C. The following note from Tim Rankin to Sally Smyth offers further information.

Sally,
The meeting was superb and Shelly Sizemore and I took notes for N.C. We had 3 or 4 new members join last night and had middle or upper 30's in attendance. The main thing that will be different for the February meeting is that the February MUGSHOT will only be posted on our OMUG website and not sent out to the members. We will send out a notice of the meeting indicating that the MUGSHOT can be accessed & downloaded from the website and we will also have a hot link to the www.ocalamug.org website. This way it will encourage people to utilize our website that Phil Davis puts in so much time on as well as it should clear up some continuous problems that AOL users have where they either can't open the MUGSHOT or open it and it is gibberish. Hope this will work and will become the method of choice to disseminate the newsletter. Don't worry one minute about missing the meeting as everyone realizes that you have many irons in the fire.
Tim

OMUG Web Page
Check out the OMUG home page at
http://www.ocalamug.org

Need Help With Your Computer

Additional Help

We have a number of volunteers who are available to help you with problems you may encounter using software:

General Mac Problems   Tim Rankin   821-2201 or
    timrank@themacisp.net
PrintShop or Print Explosion   Judy Rankin   821-2322 or
    judyrankin@mac.com
Appleworks or Microsoft Word   Curtiss Besley 266-6760 or
    cbesley@mac.com

Tip Of The Month

I just found an excellent solution for creating all types of labels on the Mac.

Download and install a free application from Avery called DesignPro for Mac.
http://tinyurl.com/555dbx

You can use this program to create any kind of label and you can merge data from address book or a spreadsheet.

To merge from a spreadsheet you save the spreadsheet data as a comma delimited file (.csv).
This is easy to do using File > Save As and select the csv option.

I just tested this and it is a great solution with lots of built-in templates.

You can do this with MS Word (difficult) or OpenOffice/NeoOffice (very difficult).
You can't do this with Pages 08 or Pages 09 (I am just testing Pages 09).

Just another tip from your friendly neighborhood geek!

Phil

Treasurer's Report
JANUARY 2009

Account Balance 1/1/09		$1013.49
Income 1/6/09 Meeting 50/50 Raffle	47.00	
2009-2010 Memberships	90.00	
(Lenny Shank & Marlene McMurrer Shank,		
Harry Schindehette, Edward Paez)		
2008-09 Membership Curtis Neuman	10.00	+ 147.00
Expenses 1/6/09 Meeting:		
Rent (Senior Center)	28.00	
50/50 Items	10.00	- 38.00
Account Balance 1/31/09		$1122.49

Respectfully submitted by

Judy Rankin for Clint Jones, Treasurer

2008-2009 OMUG Board of Directors and Functional Assignments

Board of Directors

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