

The CVAUG Monitor

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Cumberland
Valley
Apple
Users
Group

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HAGERSTOWN, MARYLAND

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<http://www.cvaug.com> CVAUG GETS A NEW WEB PAGE

Due to a set of circumstances partly beyond our control, CVAUG now has a new web page. This happened very quickly. It all started with the Apple User Group Bulletin informing us that they were deleting their entire database of user groups. The day and time were set forth as to when this would occur. Apple was going to rebuild the database from scratch. Certain requirements were stated as to when we could send new information about our club, minimum club size (we barely made it) and the necessity of having a web page.

You may recall that we had a web page provided by one of our members several years ago. But this member seldom if ever attended meetings and the web page, it was felt, was not being kept up to date. Mike French, president-elect, decided the time had come to act. A domain name (cvaug.com) was registered for two years. The name could have been cvaug.org (which perhaps would be more accurate) but Mike pointed out that when folk go searching, names ending with .org don't pop up the same as those ending with .com.

Next came the need for a host. A company offering to host our web site for free was chosen. The catch? Advertisements which are not really that obtrusive. Our host is Netfirms, Inc. located in Toronto, Canada.

Our web site is up and running but not without small difficulties. Page three has some strange characters embedded in the text. We are leaving them there for the time being so go ahead, take a look and see for yourself! Eventually this will be corrected.

One of the things this web site can do and will do very quickly is to give us the capability to have our newsletter posted. A simple click of your mouse will put the latest *Monitor* on your monitor and you can download it and print one out. Or you might want to look at back issues, which might also be posted there.

Late-breaking news, interesting related web sites and more will be at every member's fingertips by clicking on a "link" provided you have a computer and Internet access! We can also publicize our upcoming yard sale (slated for August 12th in Middletown).

Not only will we have links to other web sites we hope other web sites will have links to ours! We need all the publicity we can get. For example, it is possible some local web sites such as the one operated by the Herald-Mail Company would allow a link to our site. We will have to check into all these possibilities.

Your ideas and suggestions will be very helpful in establishing and maintaining an attractive web site for our club. You can learn more about cvaug.com at the May meeting. See you then!

A Word or Two About Our Web Host: netfirms.com

Netfirms, Inc. is a privately held corporation based in Toronto, Canada. Founded in September 1998, Netfirms offers world class domain name-based web hosting for free.

After several months of software and network infrastructure development, Netfirms officially launched in July 1999. Any business or organization worldwide can now host a website for free with their own domain name (e.g. yourname.com or yourname.netfirms.com), in a fast, secure and reliable environment. It doesn't stop there; Netfirms plans to offer exciting new features and services every month. Netfirms is directed by seasoned management with experience in Internet and related technologies since 1994. Their vision for Netfirms is to soon become the largest online business community.

We believe in the power of the Internet and want every company, every great idea and topic to have a presence on the web for free.

Meeting: Sat., May 6th, 2000
9:30 a.m.

St. John's Lutheran Church

Agenda: Installation of officers.

A program based on Internet access is planned using our newly-installed "outside line" capabilities!
We can check out our new web site!

Election Results

President—Mike French

Vice President—Dan Springer

Secretary—Bob Kurtz

Treasurer—Russ Robinson

Librarian—Ken Carter

If I had a very small mouse attached to my computer would it be called a "Mini" mouse?

*This and that
from here and there . . .*

OS/9 Thwarts Teachers

Rumor has it that more than just a few teachers and school systems are balking at the new OS/9-shipping computers. It seems OS/9 eliminates the ability to utilize Apple's superb security program AtEase as is the ideal interface for K-12 schools. One MIS we spoke with is pulling his hair with the delima of how to deal with a brand new computer lab with 28 new iMacs. Another with literally hundreds of Macs is attempting a downgrade to OS/8.6 and finding lots of bugs and problems to keep AtEase in place. One county school system computer specialist commented: "With all the off-the-wall moves Jobs is making these days, this one really takes the cake! Like there aren't enough problems with OS/9 as it is, now we have to deal with security." Undoing the security for several thousand middle school students is enough to "Send those computers back."

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More "This and that" on page two

*More—This and that
from here and there . . .*

Apple and AOL

Looks like the Earthlink connection has made the hard drives on new machines a little less crowded. *Apple is no longer shipping AOL software on its machines.* At least, not on the machines announced at MacWorld Tokyo. Their official statement is that third party software is often reviewed as to being appropriate on their machines and that AOL MIGHT return in the future. But I bet Apple's investment in Earthlink had more than a little to do with it. (Apple used to have a large investment in AOL too, before they started eWorld.)

Adobe backed down

Sort of. They announced on Friday, March 17 that anyone who paid full price for InDesign 1.0 (\$699) can get the upgrade to version 1.5 for free. Guess that will shut up some of the people that were complaining that with all the bugs 1.0 had, the upgrade should be free. Wonder what the others will say.

InDesign

Adobe announced an update to InDesign bringing it up to version 1.5. The update adds 70 new features. It is even better integrated with other Adobe applications and has enhanced precision and control. It is suppose to be available next month. Gee, and it hasn't even been out a year yet. (\$99 upgrade price.)

[U.G.N. Editor's Note: upgrades are where the graveyard is for software companies. Particularly those who sell the upgrades online, or send out a simple CD. Chances are the features were coded into the initial release, and only 'revealed' in the upgrade. Each new product added to the product line offers the promise of a long upgrade life. Both Photoshop and Illustrator have been exploited about as far as they can. InDesign holds new and fertile upgrade revenue for Adobe.]

(CVAUG Editor's Note: InDesign has been selling for \$29.99 although at first some catalogs had it priced at \$89.99) U.G.N. News items Copyright 1999, The User Group Network:

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Final Sale • Closeouts • Don't Miss Out On These Bargains!

If you don't see it—CALL! Prices good until Feb. 28, 1991

		HARD DRIVE BLOWOUT!	
		Int.	Ext.
Classic 2/40	\$1170		
Mac SE/30 w/ 40-meg.HD	\$2726	40 MB	\$299
Mac LC II w/ 40-meg.HD	\$1625	52 MB	\$329
Mac IIsi 5/100	\$2914	105 MB	\$399
Mac IIfx 5/100	\$4407	105 MB lo-profile	\$509
Mac IIfx 4/80	\$6332	120 MB	\$599
13-in. Hi Res RGB Mon.	\$ 623	210 MB	\$859
ImageWriter II w/cable	\$ 384	CONFIGURATION PRICES	
Stylewriter 13 TT Fonts	CALL	2/40 si Std.KB 13-in. Mon.	\$3140
Apple CD ROM Drive	\$ 587	5/100 si Ext.KB 13-in. Mon.	\$3680
9600-baud Modem	\$ 562		

Faster Internet Access Coming Here Soon

According to an article in *The Morning Herald* on Thursday, April 13, 2000, a couple of local companies will soon be providing high-speed Internet access. This mean speed up to 100 times faster than using a telephone line with a modem. Not to mention the fact that while you surf the net, unless you have an extra line, your telephone is tied up!

Least likely to be mentioned in an article like this is Allegheny Energy—an electric utility. They, along with BroadbandNow, Inc., have established a subsidiary named Allegheny Communications Connect. This new company will use digital subscriber lines, wireless and other means to connect users to the Internet, according to the article.

Different levels of service will be provided and the price will vary—faster will cost more! Supposedly, prices will be similar to or better than using DSL (Digital phone line service). More than just Internet service will be provided such as interactive games. The article claims the service should be available locally by the end of the year.

Hot on the heels of BroadbandNOW is the local cable TV company—Antietam Cable. They have already been testing their capabilities. Teamed up with Antietam Cable is Kiva Networking. Service will be provided over existing cable lines without disturbing TV viewing. Actually, phone service may also be provided over the same lines. A special modem will be required and the cost is listed at \$39.95 per month for residential service. It should be available in about four months. The cable company claims to have 36,500 customers.

iMac Helping Apple Sales

According to an article in *The Morning Herald* on Thursday, April 20, 2000, the iMac is responsible for allowing Apple Computer, Inc. to beat the expectations of analysts in the second quarter this year.

Revenue for the quarter was listed at \$1.94 billion—a 27% jump from last year at this time.

According to the article, Fred Anderson, Apple's chief financial officer, more than one fourth of the sales during this period were made to people buying their first Mac and 17% were former Wintel users!

All of this good news for Apple has pushed their stock price way up. At one point it reached a high of just over \$150 in March of this year. A two-for-one stock split is expected in June.

Listen to the Radio

But don't use your radio to do so! Use your computer and the Internet instead. You'll need a program such as RealPlayer for \$29.95 on line or on CD. A free version is also available for downloading. Other programs are available and each has its own set of stations ready to try. You can even listen to police, fire and airplane traffic from various locations all over the country.

Quality will vary as the signals come through. If Internet traffic gets heavy it can cause temporary intreruptions to any radio station tuned in. Some stations send data faster than others and may not work with slower Internet connections.

The CVAUG MONITOR

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