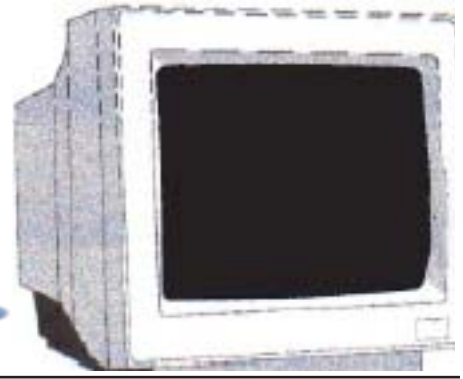


CVAUG Monitor



Cumberland Valley Apple User Group Newsletter WWW.CVAUG.ORG

May 2004

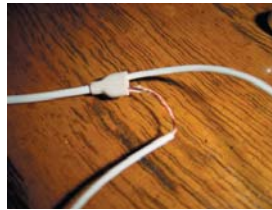
A Word From The President

I don't have a whole lot for the newsletter this month. Its basically going to be the minutes from last month's meeting and a review I just wrote on some high-end earphones I just bought. Enjoy and have a great month.

Bang & Olufsen A8 Earphones Review

After two and a half years of faithful service my original iPod ear buds started to wear out and become, I'll say it, an eyesore. I have worn these things almost every day since I got my iPod in December 2001. The cables have gotten hung up on various things, my limbs, arms of chairs and one or two car rear view mirrors while I was walking through a parking lot. Usually the ear buds popped right out of my ear with no harm done, but lately the cables have been taking some damage. The cable cover started to

separate at the Y going towards the left earbud last week.



Then the cable cover started to separate from the base of the right earbud.

So both sides of my earphones were on the verge of failing so I started to look for a replacement. At the 2004 Macworld SF I bought a pair of Macally noise canceling headphones and I have enjoyed them a great deal. They were great on the flight back across country at the end of the show. However I didn't like these headphones for my day to day use. I listen to my iPod while I am at work maintaining Macintosh computers for some cancer research companies. Having my music with me really helps the time fly as you are waiting for a software install to complete or

May Meeting Topic:
Epson All-In-One Printer-
Scanner-Copier Demo

what have you. I had also begun getting annoyed with the way the iPod earbud cables would stiffen up in cold weather. Often times while walking between buildings at work while it was cold out, if I looked both ways to cross the street the stiff earphone cables would make the ear buds pop out of my ear. This would also happen while I was listening to my music while shoveling snow off my front sidewalk. After I began looking around for a replacement for the ear buds I remembered a seminar I had attended on OS X administration back in the summer of 2001. The instructor had just purchased a pair of Bang & Olufsen A8 Earphones at the local B&O store and was showing them to our class. I remember thinking how slick they

looked and that the design would make it very hard for them to fall out of the ears of whoever was wearing them. So I went off to the [B&O](#) web site and looked up their earphones. The way technology goes, I wasn't sure if they would still be making the same model I remembered from the seminar after almost three years, but sure enough there they were. They sell for around \$160 but you can find them new on eBay for right around \$100.

Here are the A8 earphones specs:

Weight: (complete set) 22 g / 0.78 oz

Frequency range: 50 - 20,000 Hz

Impedance: 19 Ohm

(The rest of the specs are on the [Website](#))



If you think that the Bang & Olufsen A8 Earphones look like something out of a science fiction movie, you're right. A keen observer may have seen them in the movie *Minority Report* near the end. Lamar Burgess' cellular phone was a single A8 Earphone with the cord cut off of it. That has got to be the easiest prop fabrication in the whole movie.



The A8 Earphones are very adjustable. The arm that goes behind the wearer's ear pivots up and down to allow the earphones to be placed on and around the ears with ease. The shaft that the actual speaker arm is mounted on slides up and down to adjust for the height of the ear and finally the speaker arm rotates around for depth adjustment.



The Y in the earphone cable looks very ruggedly constructed when compared to the Y on the Apple earphones. This means they should last a good long time.



Once you get everything adjusted they fit and feel really nice. I would like it more if you could bend the arms that go behind your ear for an even more comfortable fit. They might be bendable, but in the first day I have owned them I haven't tested their flexibility that much.

How do they sound? Well the

frequency range is a little less on the low end than the Apple earphones so the bass is not what I am used to. I have had them only for a few hours but I am already quite satisfied with the way they feel on and the crispness of the sound.

Cumberland Valley Apple Users Group (CVAUG) MINUTES

Saturday, 3 April 2004

New Business

Election of New Officers:

President McFarland read the list of nominees for office and asked the members present to vote for the individuals nominated. Without an exception, all five nominees listed above were unanimously reelected.

Membership Roster:

The secretary clarified the membership status. Although CVAUG still has a list of former members, the club should only count as members in good standing as those who have paid the current dues. As such, CVAUG presently has 20 current (more or less active members) with dues paid until July 2004 and some beyond. The current roster was distributed to those present.

Possible relocation of

CVAUG Meeting: Gregg is currently composing a letter to Otterbein Methodist Church Pastor to obtain permission to hold meetings

there, which would permit us to have wireless hookup. (broadband excess). Church is located across the street from Gregg's residence. It was suggested that we mention the fact the our non-profit club would, like at the present location, be willing to make a donation towards the use of their facility. Gregg read his proposed letter for members' input and approval.

Summer Picnic? VP Ken Carter suggested holding a Summer Picnic again. Middletown Park was mentioned. (Swap?). Gregg will check out the availability of Picnic area.

"Geek" Assistance rendered: The secretary expressed his thanks to Gregg to his help in getting his iMac's memory increased and Wayne Younkins for his assistance in resolving some software problems on the same equipment.

Adjournment of the Business meeting

No other new business brought up for discussion, the official Business Meeting was adjourned at 10:05 hrs.



MacInTouch Home Page

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News Feed From MacInTouch.com 4/19/2004

As expected, Apple today introduced new [iBook G4](#) and [PowerBook G4](#) models.

SuperDrive is now \$2499. Both 12" and 15" models are available now, with the new 17" model due early next month at \$2799 (although the Apple Store lists "3-5 bus. days" for estimated delivery).



The 15" and 17" PowerBooks got a speed boost to 1.33 or 1.5 GHz and an ATI Mobility Radeon 9700 graphics processor accomodating up to 128 MB of video memory. The 12" model has Nvidia GeForce FX Go5200 graphics and 64 MB of video memory.

PowerBook pricing starts at \$1599 for the 12" model, and the 15" model with a 4x

Apple's new iBooks run at 1.0 or 1.2 GHz, with doubled memory capacity and a SuperDrive option for the 14" models. Available now, the new iBook G4 starts at \$1099 for a 1-GHz 12" model with Combo drive and rises to \$1699 for a 1.2-GHz 14" model with a SuperDrive and only 256 MB of memory.

**"Mac users swear by their computers.
PC users swear at their computers." --
*Anonymous***