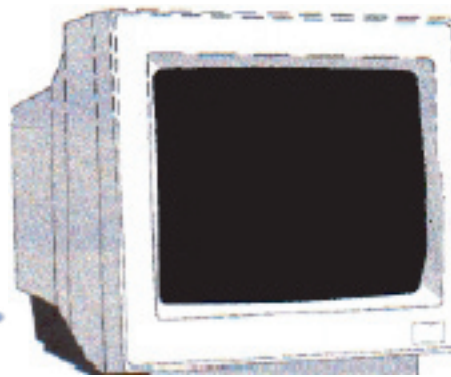


CVAUG Monitor



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A Word from the President

by Gregg McFarland

I hope that everyone had a good past couple of months and that the cancelation of last month's meeting didn't catch anyone off guard. The past couple of months have been full of exciting announcements from Apple. If you didn't read about them elsewhere we'll talk about some of the bigger ones right here. Let's get to it!

Apple Announces the MacPro

by Gregg McFarland

Apple's CPU transition from PowerPC to Intel is now complete. All shipping Apple Macintosh computers now have Intel processors in them. Most of the models available have dual core processors for the performance of two processors in one. The last computer to make the switch over was Apple's Professional desktop model. The computer's appearance changed very little, it still looks like a gigantic cheese grater. However a second optical drive opening was added and a FireWire 800 port along with a second USB 2.0 port have been added to the front of the computer.

The inside of the computer has changed quite a bit too. The previous G5 computers were limited to two Serial ATA (SATA) hard drives and the one optical drive. The new MacPro has

This Month: Bluetooth & You

four drive trays lined up side by side going from the front of the computer to the back. Each tray can hold one drive and

adding the drives is as simple as sliding out an empty tray and mounting a new drive in it and sliding it back in place. With all the drive bays filled with big drives you can get 2TB (terabytes) of hard drive storage INSIDE the case.

The MacPro features two Intel Xenon dual core processors

(equating to four processors) at 2GHz, 2.66GHz or 3GHz each! There are also 4MB shared L2 cache per processor, a 128-bit SSE3 vector engine and 64-bit data paths and registers. This all adds up to make this one FAST computer.

The memory architecture has completely changed as well.



The computer has eight slots for 667MHz DDR2 ECC fully-buffered DIMM (FB-DIMM) memory. If you fill those up with the biggest DIMMs available you max out at 16GB of RAM.

On the back of the computer there are three USB 2.0 ports (for a total of 5 ports on the computer), one FireWire 400 and one FireWire 800, optical and analog audio in and out ports and two 10/100/1000BASE-T Ethernet ports.



As with the rest of the Intel Macintosh computers you'll need to order an external USB modem if you intend to dial into an ISP over your phone line. For further expansion, there are three PCI Express slots in the computer for additional graphics cards or other such items.

Pricing on the new MacPro computers breaks down like this: Dual 2GHz \$2,100, Dual 2.66GHz \$2,400, Dual 3GHz \$3,200.

Apple Upgrades iPods

by Gregg McFarland

Apple held a special media event on September 12th where several announcements were made. Upgrades were announced for every model of the iPod, that's the iPod, iPod nano, and the iPod shuffle.



The new iPod features a 60 percent brighter and more vibrant 2.5-inch color display perfect for watching TV shows and Music Videos right in the palm of your hand. The 60GB iPod model has been replaced with a 80GB hard drive. The battery in the 30GB model can last up to 14 hours of music and 3.5 hours of video.



The new iPod nano features Apple's innovative Click Wheel and an even smaller, thinner and lighter design and is available in silver, pink, green, blue and black.

The iPod nano is available in 2GB, 4GB and 8GB storage sizes. Not all colors are available in all storage sizes. The 2GB is \$149.00, the 4GB is \$199.00 and the 8GB is \$249.00.



Rounding out the new iPod

line is the iPod shuffle. The iPod shuffle is now the world's smallest digital music player. Nearly half the size of the original, the new iPod shuffle measures just half a cubic inch in volume, weighs just half an ounce and features a stunning all-new aluminum design and a built-in clip, which makes it the most wearable iPod ever. The iPod shuffle is now available in only a 1GB size at a price of \$79.

iTunes Store Expanded

by Gregg McFarland

At Apple's special media event on Sept 12th Apple announced that the iTunes Store would be selling Movies in addition to the large selection of music of every variety they already host there. So far Apple has partnered with Walt Disney Pictures, Pixar, Touchstone Pictures and Miramax Films and has acquired 75 titles that can be downloaded for \$14.99 for recent releases and older titles can be downloaded for \$9.99. The movies can be viewed on the computer or on

the iPod. The iTunes Store is also now offering NFL 2006 Highlights. These video clips will be available the day after the game is played and cost \$1.99 per game. The entire season of highlights for one team can be purchased for \$24.99.

Another addition to the iTunes Store is the availability of games for your 5th generation iPod. There are nine games available on the web site so far. These titles Vortex, Tetris, Pac-Man, Cubis 2, Zuma, Texas Hold'em, Mini Golf, Mahjong and Bejeweled. All the games are playable with the iPod's scroll wheel and select button.

Each game costs \$4.99 or you can purchase all nine games for \$44.91.

The iTunes Store now features over 3.5 million songs, 65,000 podcasts, 20,000 audiobooks, over 5,000 music videos and 220 television shows. With Apple's legendary ease of use, pioneering features such as integrated podcasting support, iMix playlist sharing, seamless integration with iPod and groundbreaking personal use rights, the iTunes Store is the best way for Mac® and PC users to legally discover, purchase and download music and video online.

Apple Offers Sneak Peek

by Gregg McFarland

In a rare move, Apple pulled the wraps off of a product that they have not finished yet and showed it off to the world.



The product has not gotten a real name yet, but during its presentation Steve Jobs referred to it as iTV. The iTV is a TV set top box that accesses your home network (wired or

wireless) to connect to your computer's hard drive. Once connected to your computer the iTV can then play your digital media (movies, music videos, home movies and music) on your television screen. All

of the files are accessed via the tiny Apple Remote control. Since the iTV is connected to your home network (and presumably the outside internet) the iTV can also access streaming content like internet radio stations and podcasts. It is

unclear with the specs given if the iTV has an onboard hard drive to store any content downloaded from the internet. Time (or Q1 2007) will tell.

Minutes for July Meeting/Picnic

by Dieter H. Protsch

The Minutes of the July 2006 meeting/picnic were read and approved as written.

Old Business

Picnic: For those members who had the opportunity to attend the picnic meeting and swap at the Middletown Park, the meeting was a pleasant sociable get-together, including family members with many members exchanging ideas and great deals.

New Business

Dues: Members are reminded that membership dues (\$12.00) for the year July 06-07 are requested by not later than 30 September 2006. E-mail reminders will be sent to all members, noting that members not renewing their membership will be dropped from the membership roster.

New Membership Roster:

Pending the final receipt of dues by the end of September, a new membership roster will be available to all members in good standing.

Meeting Place: Our present place in the church basement has been well received by all members. Planned renovations in the church may require paying a certain rent to be paid for usage of our present meeting room. Presently our group makes a biannual donation, but is prepared to relocate should we be required to pay an unaffordable rent. Pres. McFarland stated that we

have other options available, but the present location is quite suitable for our purposes.

Adjournment of Business Meeting

No other new business being presented, the official business meeting adjourned at 10.05 hrs.

Problem solving session.

Members discussed various problems and experiences. Technical discussions covered new Mac applications and platforms. Windows vs. Apple security and weaknesses regarding hackers and spam, with Macs found to be considerably safer. Experience had shown Macs to be best for internet use. Members also exchanged information on various worthwhile purchases of software and new products. Other matters discussed covered USB 1&2 jump drives (Lexar), formatted, as well as PC card adapters, emulators, flash drives and a multitude of other subjects.

A most interesting subject of discussion was an unusual web site of nakupedia.org apparently located on the tiny island of Nauru.

Workshop Adjournment

Following this rather interesting workshop, the meeting adjourned at 11:55 hrs.

Boot Camp Experience

by Maria O. Arguello

Products: Boot Camp (Beta) and Microsoft Windows Professional XP Service Pack 2
Companies: Apple and Microsoft
URL: apple.com and microsoft.com
Price: Boot Camp Free and Microsoft Windows XP Professional (SP2) \$299.99
Test System: MacBook Pro, 2-GHz Intel Core Duo, 2 GB RAM, OS 10.4.7
Date: October 2006
Reviewer: Maria O. Arguello
Rating: 3.5 out of 5 apples for Boot Camp
Rating: 4.5 out of 5 apples for Microsoft Windows Professional XP Service Pack 2

Boot Camp is Apple's beta program for running Windows on the Intel Mac computers. Out of sheer curiosity and to give the Mac community a first-hand account of what it takes to install it, I have documented my experience. Boot Camp's competitor is Parallels. I chose Boot Camp over Parallels to run PC-only games on my Mac. With Boot Camp Windows runs natively with full access to the CPU, Graphics, and other resources. PC games run fast using all the power of the computer. With Parallels Windows XP runs on a Virtual Machine which means that OS X runs like normal with Windows XP inside a separate application, in effect

two operating systems running at once. Thus PC games run slower or not at all.

Boot Camp (beta) can be downloaded from the Apple site. Once downloaded, I couldn't find it on my hard drive to install it. None of the documentation mentioned where the application resides in the hard drive. Spotlight to the rescue and found it in the Utilities folder.

Boot Camp comes with documentation, which I followed. You have to have OS 10.4.6 with the appropriate firmware installed. When you run Boot Camp Assistant it lets you know if you need to update your firmware or system software.

The next step takes you through the process of burning a Macintosh Drivers CD and creating a new partition for the Windows XP operating system. All the steps are very clearly explained.

When you are ready to partition the start-up disk you can drag the divider to set the partition size. This is done without disturbing the original Mac OS X partition; all the software and information remains intact.

I ran into problems at the point of partitioning. I got the following error message- I didn't want to have to reformat my 100 GB hard drive. Although I had 23 GB free space on my startup drive I couldn't understand why I couldn't allot

an 8-GB partition. After, giving a lot of thought to reformatting or not, I decided to reformat.

I was ready to go with Carbon Copy Cloner and a new 160 GB external hard drive. About ten minutes into the cloning process the external hard drive stopped and the process stopped dead on its track.

I had posted a question to several discussion groups to see if anybody else had encountered my problem. Someone wrote back that they had received the same error and advised to persist with the installation and to ignore the error message. I did just that and it WORKED! The only problem was that I had to keep the default partition size to 5GB. I have found since that that is not enough. A better size would have been 10 GB.

Okay, so I was ready to install Windows XP Service Pack 2 on a single disk (a must). That installation went fairly well. The documentation instructs as to the formatting type NTFS and FAT with reasons for each. At some point during the installation, the computer screen went black. I forced quit and restarted the computer. Windows finished the installation without any further problems.

After installing Windows, the next step was to install the Mac drivers from the Macintosh Drivers CD. The drivers installed were for various

capabilities for graphics, networking, audio, Airport wireless, Bluetooth, the Eject key (on Apple keyboards), and brightness control for built-in displays.

The first order of business was to connect wirelessly to the Internet on the Windows side. I have an Airport Extreme Base Station as my wireless router. Windows could not 'see' it. I think I spent some time trying different things like changing settings in Windows without being sure of what or why. I finally gave up and went to the Apple site to read the discussions about Boot Camp. I found one very helpful response titled: Accessing an Airport Network with a Windows XP PC or laptop (with XP SP2), just what I needed, which stated that some wireless routers cannot connect to a closed wireless network because you cannot see the network in the Available wireless network window. This was my clue. I had a closed wireless network, so I changed it in the Airport Admin Utility and it was seeing immediately. Success at last. In conclusion: Boot Camp (Beta) is flaky to install. The user has to restart each time to go to the Mac or Windows side. This is a pain. The PC-only game Half-Life ran fast natively in Windows using Boot Camp. That was good.
