Apple Barrel

The Journal of the Houston Area Apple Users Group

January 2010

Boss HAAUG Speaks

page 2

From iPhoto to Fabulous

Klipsch S4i Headphones page 4

Minutes

page 8

Upcoming Events page 10

Got Junk?

page 11

HAAUG on Facebook page 14



Semi-Annual HAAUG Swap Meet

Saturday, January 16th

It's that time again for HAAUG's long-standing tradition, the semi-annual Swap Meet! Your unwanted hardware, software and other-ware is exactly what someone else has been looking for. Be sure to sign up online @ haaug.org/swapmeet to get your table before the 16th (one table free for each member, \$50 for non-members).

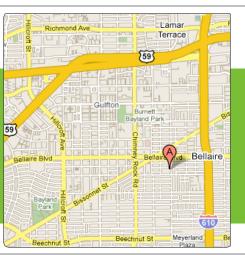
The Swap Meet goes from 9-2, but get there before the good stuff's gone!

Meeting Location

Bellaire Civic Center

7008 South Rice Avenue Bellaire, TX 77401

Just outside Loop 610 and south of Bellaire Blvd.





P.O. Box 570957 Houston, Texas 77257-0957

Volume 32 | Number 1

Members Helping Members Since 1978

Boss HAAUG Speaks

Monthly Address from the HAAUG President



To me the new year has to be one of my favorite times, in no small part because it always feels so full of promise and opportunity. (I always then quickly remember that December 31st was just as full of that promise and opportunity as January 1st, but obviously didn't remember that until January 1st. Funny how that works.) I'm very much looking to the new year and what I'll be able to accomplish personally, professionally and with HAAUG. It's those who reach out and grab the opportunities to succeed that do, and I fully intend to be one of those this year.

Dear HAAUG,

One of the ways I plan to accomplish this is through HAAUG. We had another great year in 2009 and took large steps to making sure HAAUG is around for years to come. I am planning on 2010 being a continuation of that, pushing us forward as a premier Mac user group, community and resource for southeast Texas. Several of the ideas I discussed in last month's column are going into the Vision Committee, and at the January board meeting I was encouraged by the amount of vibrant discussion about how HAAUG can continue to improve. I'm excited about what we'll be able to accomplish this year and am lucky to have a passionate board to carry out our goals.

In the spirit of New Year's resolutions, the Swap Meet on January 16th is a great way to get those old computers, software boxes and keyboards out of your closet and into the hands of someone who can put it to good use, while making a little money for yourself. Our January Swap Meet is always the bigger one each year, surely because of people wanting to clean house and start fresh. I personally have an overflowing box of neglected gear that needs a new home, and look forward to seeing you there as well. If you don't have anything to sell, please come by between 9-2 on Saturday to see if anything catches your eye. If you're looking to brush up on a particular OS, software package or utility, chances are you'll find on it here.

If you can't make the swap meet or have a little too much left after the sale, there are other ways to part with your extra inventory. Sites like **Gazelle.com** will quote you online for your hardware and even provide a box and free shipping. Don't forget that everything not sold at the Swap Meet must go home with you, so Gazelle.com may be a great way to get rid of leftovers.

Thank you again for supporting HAAUG, and I look forward to seeing everyone on the 16th!

Matt Willmore

President, HAAUG

From iPhoto to Fabulous

Jim Connell, Secretary



Mac users know iPhoto as a digital image library software program that comes with every new Mac and allows users to store and organize digital images. Included

with iPhoto are some image editing tools, such as red-eye correction, cropping, retouching and enhancing, but iPhoto is not Photoshop.

When iPhoto is open, you will notice icons for "Book," "Calendar," and "Card" at the bottom of the screen. These are portals to greatness for your best photos and a sure way to wow your friends and family members with a memento of a special occasion that will be a keepsake for years to come.

I spent Thanksgiving Day at a friend's beautiful home in the country in Kenney, Texas, about a 50-minute drive northwest of my home. The occasion was a large gathering of long-time family friends. I took lots of pictures and selected the best to include in an iPhoto book that I entitled "A Country Thanksgiving."

Even though I was a first-time user, creating the book could not have been easier. I created an album of the photos I had selected, clicked on the "Book" icon and then chose the type of book I wanted (hardbound or softbound), size and format. Next I simply dragged the pictures where I wanted them on each page. (Actually, iPhoto would have placed the pictures automatically but I wanted to arrange them myself so that the photo sequence would tell a story about the day.)

Each page has a default layout. Want one photo on a page that is set up for four? Just click on the layout for the page at the bottom of the screen and select the page with one photo. I didn't include captions but could have done so by changing the layout for each page.

When I had the book just as I wanted it, I clicked on "Buy" and uploaded the book. Apple took it from there. The book ships in about three or four days, and with express shipping, it was delivered to my doorstep in less than a week.

I was really pleased with the high quality of the book. The glossy paper that Apple uses enhances the pictures in the book, and the title I chose is imprinted on the hardbound cover that is enclosed in an impressive dust jacket cover.

I sent a photo book to each family who attended the Thanksgiving Day festivities. The response was amazing. The recipients used words such as "extraordinary," "excellent," "beautiful," "very professional," "fabulous," and "phenomenal" to describe the book.

Encouraged by the reception of my Thanksgiving photo book, I also prepared one with pictures from a family Christmas celebration, with equal success. I encourage you to give this iPhoto service a try.

QuickTip

My iPhoto '08 used to start in seconds despite the



despite the 30,000+ photos I kept in it. But after I installed iLife '09 and upgraded my iPhoto library, iPhoto '09 would hang for several minutes with the dreaded beach ball on startup. Even worse, though was that opening any event would trigger another hang of a minute or more, as would viewing a photo full-screen. (Once these initial hangs were over and done with, the app would work normally.)

Inside the iPhoto Library Package, there are four SQLite databases (face_blob.db, face.db, iPhotoAux.db and iPhotoMain.db). I found that by "vacuuming" all four of these databases, I restored iPhoto '09's performance back to something on par with its predecessor.

Open Terminal and change directories (using cd) into your iPhoto Library (by default, cd "~/Pictures/iPhoto Library"). Once there, execute the following command:

for dbase in *.db; do
sqlite3 \$dbase
"vacuum;"; done

http:// www.macosxhints.com/ article.php? story=20090227072825458

Review: Klipsch S4i Headphones

Ed Truitt, HAAUG Board Director at Large



QuickTip

I have noticed that my iPhone running v2.0 will remember the volume for headphones and speakers independently. For example, if you have headphones connected and set the volume to 50%, then remove them and set the volume to 100%, when you reattach the headphones the volume returns to 50% and vice versa. This also works on an iPhone 1st generation running v2.0. I do not know if this was a feature in v1.0, however.

[robg adds: This works in both phone mode and iPod mode; the onscreen display when setting the ringer volume level even tells you that you're setting the headphone ringer level when you've got headphones plugged in.]

http:// www.macosxhints.com/ article.php? story=20080805082400259



Freshly armed with a bit of Christmas money, I made the journey down to the local Apple Store. After a bit of browsing, I plunked down my money, and walked out with... a new set of Klipsch S4i in-ear headphones. After about a week of fairly heavy use, I have no regrets for spending my Christmas \$\$\$ in this manner. The quality of the sound is on par with other inear headphones I have used, but the main plus to the S4i is in the comfort department.

The Klipsch S4i is a replacement for the standard "earbuds" provided with the iPod and iPhone. It features Apple's advanced three-button microphone and remote system, and is fully compatible with the

latest iPhones and iPods. It will work with older iPhones (including the 3G) and iPods, but some functions (including, oddly enough, the up/down volume controls) don't work in those devices.

The sound that comes out of the S4i is comparable to other in-ear headphones of similar pricing (e.g. the Bose® in-ear headset.) The oval tips, when properly fitted, provide a level of noise isolation which allows you to listen to your music at lower volumes (which is safer for your hearing.)

As I mentioned earlier, the reason I am so happy with the S4i isn't the quality of the sound (though it is certainly a positive), nor the fact that they carry the Klipsch name (though I have always been a fan of their speakers.) The real selling point to me has to do with comfort. One of the reasons I have tried so main in-ear headphones is that, to be blunt, they are so darned painful. Normally, after about an hour or so of use, the earbuds themselves begin to chafe the inside of the ear canal, while many of the headphones/headsets with over-the-ear clips tend to press on the cartilage at the back of the ear, making their continued use pretty much impossible. On the other hand, I have been able to use these headphones for upwards of 6 hours continuous, without feeling any discomfort whatsoever.

As an additional benefit, the elimination of outside noise has allowed me to lower the volume by about 15-20%, which translates into a whole lot less of that feeling of "ringing in the ears" when I take them out. And, while the volume controls aren't available, I am able to pause/resume playback, and switch between the music player and the telephone using the remote with no problems.

The S4i has an MSRP of \$99.99, and is available at the **Apple Store**, as well as online at **Amazon.com** and the **Klipsch website**.

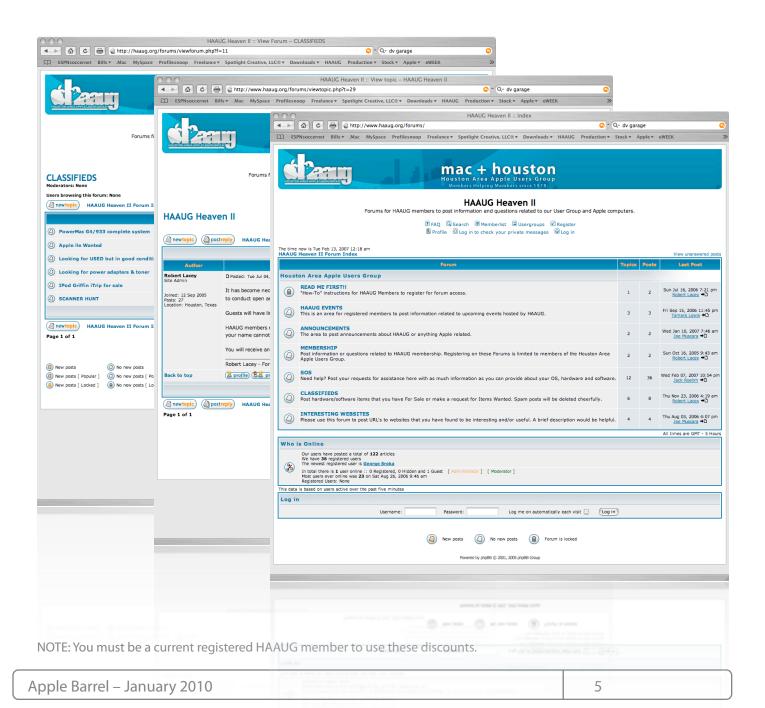
Find great specials online!

Special Offers for HAAUG Members via HAAUG Heaven

Check our forums for daily deals!

HAAUG discounts can be found on the HAAUG Heaven forums.

http://haaug.org/forums



Classifieds

Products and support for the Macintosh community

Got a story, or photo you would like to see in the monthly edition of the Apple Barrel?

The Apple Barrel is always looking for good, meaty material for its monthly publication. If you have a personal story, review of a new product or just a funny or helpful thought, feel free to spread the word via the Barrel.

Submit your story, review or photos, etc. to: abe@haaug.org

MAC FIRST AID

Specializing in Apple Computers

- On-site Service
- Repairs
- Consulting
- Very Reasonable Rates
- Special Discount Rate for HAAUG Members

Serving the Houston Area for 15 Years! (281) 537-2842







Classifieds

Products and support for the Macintosh community



HOUSTON SIGN COMPANY

Signs • Banners • Vehicle Graphics
Digital Printing • Screen Printing
Come to us for all your signage needs
Quality & Service since 1946.

Phone: 713.662.3123 www.houstonsign.com





ADVERTISING RATES

General Rate Policy

If more or less space than specified is used within one year from the date of first insertion, the rate will be adjusted to the earned rate published here.

Frequency Rates

Number of insertions in a 12-month period determines frequency rate.

Black and white rates (per issue):

2/3 Page Ad

Dimensions: 5" x 10.125" Frequency: 1X \$125, 2X \$120, 3X \$115

1/2 Page Ad

Dimensions: 7.625" x 5" **Frequency:** 1X 90, 2X 85, 3X 80

1/3 Page Ad

Dimensions: 7.625" x 3.375" **Frequency:** 1X \$75, 2X \$70,

3X \$65

1/4 Page Ad

Dimensions: 3.75" x 5"

Frequency: 1X 65, 2X 60, 3X 55

1/6 Page Ad

Dimensions: 5" x 2.5" **Frequency:** 1X \$40, 2X \$35,

3X \$30

Business Card Ad

Dimensions: 3.5" x 2" **Frequency:** 1X \$30, 2X \$25,

3X \$15

* Dimensions of advertisements may vary as a result of document layout.

Minutes

HAAUG Board of Directors Meeting – Tuesday, December 1, 2009

Location: Industrial Audio/Video, Inc., 2617 Bissonnet Street, Houston, Texas.

Attendees: Philip Booth, Jim Connell, Jeff Davis (via iChat), Michael Epstein, Clair Jaschke, David Jaschke, Mike King (via iChat), Rick Roberts, Ed Truitt (via iChat), Matt Willmore and Greg Wright (via iChat).

Call to order: 7:00 p.m. by President Matt Willmore, a quorum of voting members of the board being present.

MONTHLY REPORTS:

Secretary – Jim Connell: The minutes of the board meeting held on November 3, 2009, were unanimously approved as submitted.

Treasurer - Barbara Long: No report.

1st Vice President – Programming - Open: No report.

2nd Vice President Facilities – David Crook: Phil Booth reported that he has the contract with the City of Bellaire for renting Bellaire Civic Center for HAAUG's General Meetings and Swap Meets in 2010 and that the rent for the November and December General Meetings has been paid. Bellaire Civic Center is not available on December 12, 2009, so the December General Meeting will be held on December 19, 2009, the regularly scheduled third Saturday. Phil stated that the Senior Center, a room to the west of the main meeting room at Bellaire Civic Center, is normally available on the Saturdays when HAAUG meets and could provide an extra meeting space for a SIG. He does not know what the extra rental charge would be for using this room.

SIG Coordinator – Rick Roberts: Rick announced that the SIG schedule for the December General Meeting will be the same as that for the November General Meeting. He supports the making of a midmorning announcement at the General Meetings about the choice of SIGs that are available and

suggests that SIG leaders advise attendees of the other SIGs that are being conducted at the General Meeting.

Apple Barrel Editor-Tamara Alexander: No report.

Membership – David Jaschke: HAAUG had 204 members at the end of November 2009, a decrease of two members from October 2009 and a decrease of 30 members from November 2008. One new member joined at the November HAAUG General Meeting, and nine members renewed their membership, including three renewals for two-years.

Webmaster – Jeff Davis: Jeff reported that the website is working.

HAAUG Heaven Forum - Robert Lacey: No report. Ed Truitt may be interested in assuming the duties of HAAUG Heaven SYSOP.

HAAUGNet - Jeff Davis. HAAUGNet has ended. Jeff will disable the dial-up accounts in due course. No alternative to the current HAAUG Hotline voice mail service has been identified. The Yellow Pages listing is coming due, and may cost \$700 to \$800 per year to renew. Someone needs to check the terms of the Yellow Pages listing. HAAUG needs to switch to an 800 number and end the Yellow Pages listing. A telephone number with a White Pages listing is about \$24 a month.

Old Business:

MacFest - Phil Booth: No report.

Lapsed Member Call List: Matt Willmore, David Jaschke and Jim Connell will begin calling the list of lapsed members once the list of lapsed members is completed.

8 www.haaug.org

Minutes

HAAUG Board of Directors Meeting – Tuesday, December 1, 2009

Budget Committee: Phil Booth, Barbara Long, Matt Willmore and Greg Wright are serving on the committee this year. Barbara has not yet set a date for the committee to meet. Phil Booth will look for last year's budget information.

Officer Nominations/Election: David Jaschke submitted the following list of nominations for officers and directors:

President - Matt Willmore; 1st Vice President - Programs - Doug Smith; 2nd Vice President - Facilities - open; Secretary - Jim Connell; Treasurer - Barbara Long; Membership - David Jaschke; Apple Barrel Editor - open; HAAUG Heaven SYSOP - open; SIG Coordinator - Rick Roberts; Webmaster - Jeff Davis; Directors at Large: (1) Michael Epstein, (2) Michael King, (3) Ed Truitt and (4) Greg Wright; Immediate Past President - Phil Booth; Senior Advisor - to be appointed by new Board in February Board Meeting.

Since there are no contested positions, the election of officer and directors for 2010 will be held by a voice vote of the members present at the December General Meeting.

Audit Committee: The committee will be appointed after the 2009 financial books close next year.

New Business:

Semi-Annual Swap Meet: The Swap Meet will be held on January 16, 2010. A link for online registration needs to be set up on the website. Matt will contact Tamara about posting a graphic for the Swap Meet on the website.

Charity Gift Drive: The board discussed conducting a holiday cash fund drive for a charity such as the Salvation Army by adding a link to the website.

Main Presentation Topics for December and February General Meetings: The board discussed a holiday gift guide as the Main Presentation for the December General Meeting, including possibly having someone from Micro Center participate in the presentation. The fact that the December General Meeting is being held on the last Saturday before Christmas complicates having someone from Micro Center participate. The December Main Presentation could focus on holiday gift suggestions that Bob LeVitus has featured in his newspaper column and that Macworld has published in a recent issue. Bob "Dr. Mac" LeVitus has traditionally given his "State of the Mac" address at the February General Meeting. Doug Smith will contact Bob about his schedule for February 2010. A presentation on Frogpad and Office for Mac 2010 are other possibilities for February, if Bob LeVitus is not available that month. The iCal calendar on the website still needs to be updated, and links to HAAUG's pages on Facebook and Twitter need to be added to the website.

December Apple Barrel Content: The deadline for submission of content for the December Apple Barrel is December 12, 2009.

Adjourned: 8:09 p.m.

Upcoming Events

Houston Area Apple Users Group 2010 Officers and Directors

President Matt Willmore

1st Vice President Programs **Doug Smith**

2nd Vice President Facilities
OPEN

Secretary
Jim Connell

Treasurer Barbara Long

Director-at-Large 1
Michael Epstein

Director-at-Large 2

Michael King

Director-at-Large 3 **Ed Truitt**

Director-at-Large 4

Greg WrightApple Barrel Editor

OPEN

HAAUG Heaven Sysop
OPEN

Membership Chairman **David Jaschke**

SIG Coordinator

Immediate Past President
Phil Booth

Boutique Manager Barbara Long

Webmaster

Jeff Davis

HAAUG Hotline Phil Booth

Mentor Program

Publicity Chairman Jim Connell

Vision Committee Chairman

Joe Fournet

Volunteer Coordinator
OPEN

Senior Advisor
To Be Appointed

Apple User Group Liaison **Doug Smith**

Saturday, January 16th, 2010

Semi-Annual Swap Meet

Join us for HAAUG's semi-annual Swap Meeting at Bellaire Civic Center. One free table is available to each registered member. Tables for non-members and additional tables for all are \$50 each. Electricity is available for \$5 per table. Be sure to register online today as space fills up quickly for the January Meet!

Location: Bellaire Civic Center | Map online at www.haaug.org

Saturday, February 20th, 2010

Bob LeVitus' State of the Mac

Our favorite local Mac personality will visit us in February to present another edition of "State of the Mac" and discuss what's new with our beloved platform. This is sure to be a packed meeting, so be sure to get a seat early!

Location: Bellaire Civic Center | Map online at www.haaug.org

Saturday, March 20th, 2010

TB/

Location: Bellaire Civic Center | Map online at www.haaug.org

Find out the latest news on future HAAUG meetings...

www.haaug.org/meetings.htm

STARTRONICS

George McKenzie Macintosh/IBM Services, Maintenance & Repair Specialist

> 4141 SW Freeway Suite #470 Houston, Texas 77098 713-524-5646 FAX 713-524-4635

10 www.haaug.org

Got Junk?

Computer recycling opportunities in the Houston area

Houston area recycling centers:

Environmental Service Center

11500 South Post Oak Road • Dial 311 or 713-837-9130

Westpark Recycling Center

5900 Westpark • Dial 311 or 713-837-9130

Goodwill COMPUTER WORKS

12230 Westheimer Houston, TX 77077 281-589-1215

Commercial electronics recyclers:

ScrapComputer.com

350 W. 38th St., Houston, TX 77018 • 713-691-9995

**Accepts all computer-related items free; offers free pickup for large amounts.

Altech Metals, Inc.

10612 Hempstead, Building A • 713-680-9325 **No TVs or monitors

ARM Trading, Inc.

2476 Bolsover, Suite 557 • 713-665-0213

Compucycle

620 W. 6th St. • 713-866-8021

ONYX Environmental Services

Baytown • 1-800-624-9302

Houston Computer Recycler

6102 Brittmoore, Suite N • 713-937-3334

Recycle America Waste Management Asset Recovery Group

2102 Atascocita Road, Humble • 281-540-8900

Eagle Electronics

10612 Hempstead, Building A • 713-934-8585

Become Part of the Action

Join or renew your membership with the one and only Houston Area Apple Users Group today!

Join Online With a Credit Card:

Paying for your membership online with a credit card is secure, fast and easy!

Visit **www.haaug.org/join** for details on joining.

Join by Mail:

Please fill out and complete the following form. Send a check or money order payable to HAAUG and mail it to the address shown below. First year dues are \$45 and renewals are \$40 per year thereafter. Memberships are available for full-time students at \$25 per year, including the first year. Associate memberships are also available for \$25 per year.

Your membership card will be mailed to you. You may pick up your starter kit at the next HAAUG meeting.

First:		_Las	t:
Company:_			
Address:			
	Zip:		
Home Phone:		_Work Phone:	
Email:			
Type Of Computer:			
Membership:			
	New Membership (\$45.00 Early Renewal (\$35.00) Associate (\$25.00)		Renewal (\$40.00) Two Year Renewal (\$70.00) Student (\$25.00) <i>Requires Student ID</i>
Check #		Member # (if renewing):	
How did you hear about HAAUG?			
Do you know someone who would be interested in joining HAAUG? Y N			
Would you be willing to volunteer in HAAUG?			
Mail check to: HAAUG P.O. Box 570957 Houston, TX 77257-0957 Attn.: Membership Chairman			

Membership Benefits

Enjoy the benefits of being a HAAUG member.

Monthly Meetings

This is where the excitement begins. On the third Saturday of each month, members of HAAUG meet for a day filled with activities, including presentations by major software and hardware vendors, special interest group (SIG) meetings, public domain software libraries, raffles and much, much more. Swap Meets are held twice each year, in January and July.

Software Libraries

HAAUG maintains public domain and shareware libraries for the Apple II, Macintosh and Newton systems. HAAUG also distributes system software for the Macintosh (7.0.1 and earlier), Newton and all Apple II series computers. HAAUG has been designated by Apple Computer to be the Central United States Repository for Apple II Software.

Bulletin Board System & Internet Link

HAAUG Heaven is our 24-hour meeting place with several gigabytes of downloadable software, helpful information and discussions on all topics of computing, all accessible at rates from DSL speeds down to 33,600 bps.

HAAUG Heaven

HAAUG Heaven provides each member with an internet e-mail address allowing exchange of world-wide electronic mail. Many discussion topics and many internet newsgroups make the answers to your questions as close as your keyboard.

Club Magazine

Club and industry news, meeting information and special member offers are published in our monthly newsletter - The Apple Barrel. The Barrel's content is also available to members on HAAUG Heaven in Adobe Acrobat format.

Mentor Program

The HAAUG Mentor Program puts people with hardware, software, system or network problems in contact with volunteers who can provide solutions. Contact with the mentors can be made through the HAAUG Hotline, HAAUG Heaven, e-mail or at the monthly meetings.

Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

People with common interests, including Macintosh and OS X basics, Newton, internet, games, educational computing, databases, publishing, graphics, desktop video, programming and more gather for in-depth discussion, product demonstrations, tutorials and general knowledge sharing.

HAAUG Hotline

Call the HAAUG Hotline at 713-522-2179 for the latest meeting information and to leave voice mail for officers.

Lots of Fun & Friendships

HAAUG is a not-for-profit volunteer group founded in 1978, three years before there was an IBM PC. Approximately 300 members enjoy the benefits of HAAUG. We range from beginners to experts, but we all know the secret to making our computers more valuable - a HAAUG membership.

Learn more about the benefits of HAAUG membership at www.haaug.org.

The Apple Barrel is a monthly publication of the HOUSTON AREA APPLE USERS GROUP (HAAUG) P.O. Box 570957 Houston, Texas 77257-0957.

Apple Barrel's editors have a policyto protect the creative rights of authors. The Editors acknowledge that authors' works are copyrighted and intend to honor those copyrights by: 1) this statement of policy, 2) providing, when considered significant, copies of edited text to the author for review prior to publication, 3) seeking permission to reprint previously published pieces from the author whenever possible, and 4) printing acknowledgment of reprints used.

If you are interested in joining HAAUG, please call the HAAUG Hotline at (713) 522-2179 or sign up via our web site at www.haaug.org.

Annual membership is \$45 for new members, \$40 for renewing members, \$25 for student members and \$25 for associate members (out-of-state members who receive the Apple Barrel through e-mail only). The Hotline is also the Mentor line if you need help. Guests are welcome to attend one or two meetings to get acquainted with HAAUG, but participation in certain presentations and activities may be limited to members only. HAAUG is an independent support group of Apple product users and is not affiliated with Apple Computer, Inc. The following are trademarks of Apple Computer, Inc., Apple, Apple II, Apple IIGS, eMac, Macintosh, iMac, iBook, PowerBook, ImageWriter, LaserWriter and the Apple Logo. All other brand names mentioned are registered trademarks or trademarks of their respective holders, and are hereby acknowledged.

HAAUG's New Facebook + MySpace Pages

Club Announcement

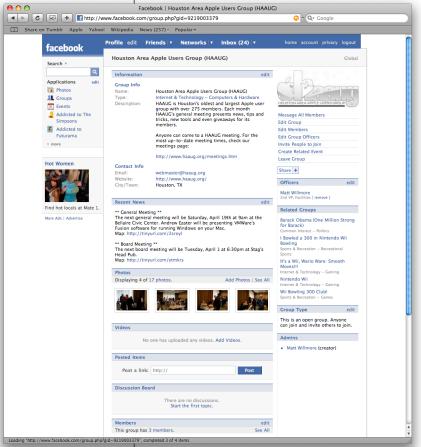
We're on Facebook + MySpace! Check it out.

Starting this month, the basic frameworks for HAAUG's NEW Facebook and MySpace pages have been created thanks to HAAUG President Matt Willmore.

Facebook:

http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=9219003379

(must be a Facebook member to view)



MySpace:

http://groups.myspace.com/haaug (open to the public)

These pages are part of a larger plan drafted by the Vision Committee to create more of an outreach to potential HAAUG members in the Houston area and beyond. Both Facebook and MySpace have been found to be immensely successful in informing and recruiting youth that otherwise may not have become aware of organizations such as HAAUG.

We highly recommend that current members pass along this information to fellow Apple Users and take a quick look for yourself at our progress.

14 www.haaug.org