THE JOURNAL OF THE HOUSTON AREA APPLE USERS GROUP MAY 2002

# Apple Barrel

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# Utilities to expand OS X

**BY ADAM C. ENGST**
ace@tidbits.com

A bevy of utility developers now offer several Mac OS X utilities to extend your experience with the new operating system well beyond the stock configuration. Here are just a few that allow users to add functions to OS X.

**Default Folder X**

Apple has never done a good job of making it easy to open and save files. Mac OS X is in many ways a step back even from Mac OS 9. In earlier versions of the Mac OS, savvy users fixed Apple's Open and Save dialogs with utilities like Power On Software's Action Files (the successor to Now Software's Super Boomerang) and St. Clair Software's Default Folder. Only Default Folder has made the jump to Mac OS X so far, and in doing so, it has fixed a number of Mac OS X's Open and Save dialog navigation problems in Carbon (though not yet Cocoa) applications. We wrote about Default Folder X 1.0 when it shipped; it's well worth it for anyone frustrated by Apple's clumsy and inconsistent Open and Save dialogs. The recently-released Default Folder X 1.1 offers a variety of small feature improvements and bug fixes, including the option of showing free disk space and icons in Default Folder's menus. Compatibility has been improved with a number of programs,

SEE "UTILITIES FOR OS X" ON PAGE 4

# HAAUGNet moved to new location with new admins, new services added

**BY JEFF DAVIS**
HAAUGNET ADMIN AND
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

As of mid-April, www.haaugnet.org and our internet provider service moved to a new, secure location at IAPC. HAAUGNet itself is running on a new, Apple G4 Server using the OS X Server Suite of software. Our web site is hosted at IAPC, as are all of our users. What the move means to HAAUGNet users is faster hardware, more secure software and faster connections to the Internet.

Soon we'll add services such as multiple e-mail accounts for only a small additional cost. We can offer service through DSL, ISDN and T1 lines if you feel the need for speed! With that much speed, you could offer your own streaming Quicktime movies.

Most important to some of you is the fact that we have administrators with faces now: Rex Covington, Robert Lacey, Joe Muscara, and myself (Jeff Davis) are the Four Amigos, err, I mean Admins. We've added an e-mail account for HAAUGNET user support: support@haaugnet.org. Feel free to leave e-mail there, and you'll get a quick response.

In an emergency, call my cell phone (281-788-5333) or Robert's (281-413-0492) or Rex at 281-300-4788. We sometimes sleep between 10 PM and 7 AM, so calls during that time may not be answered in a friendly tone!

To setup access to HAAUGNet:
*Phone* 832-553-6419
*Set TCP/IP PPP Name Server Addresses to*:
204.189.120.98 and 204.71.92.1
*Set search domains to:* haaugnet.org
*Mail Settings*
*Incoming* POP3 mail:
mail.haaugnet.org
*Outgoing* SMTP mail:
smtp.haaugnet.org

## Win me!

(or sell raffle tickets so someone else can)

HAAUG's first ever fund-raising raffle got underway at the last General Meeting with the distribution of raffle tickets for sale by the membership. Only members can sell tickets, but anyone can buy them to win a top-of-the-line iMac with SuperDrive.

The member who sells the most tickets wins an iPod. To get raffle tickets to sell, contact Rex at 281-300-4788 or rexjc@wt.net.

*Apple Barrel* is a monthly publication of the Houston Area Apple Users' Group, P.O. Box 570957, Houston, Texas 77257-0957.

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If you are interested in joining HAAUG, please call the HAAUG Hotline at (713) 522-2179 or sign up via our web site http://www.haaug.org. Annual membership is $45 for new members, $40 for renewing members, $20 for student members and $20 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.

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, 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 wishes to thank HAL-PC for providing HAAUG with Internet service.

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**APPLE BARREL PUBLISHING**
The Apple Barrel is produced by a committee including Elizabeth English, Manley Mandel, Janet Marks and Gem Smith, led by George Sroka, on various Macs running PageMaker, among other things. April Enos designed the masthead logo.

**MAC AND APPLE SIGS WANTED**
Volunteers who have ideas for SIGs, please contact Phil Booth at pcbooth@swbell.net .

**ARTICLES NEEDED - ALL FLAVORS**
Send to Apple Barrel Drop on HAAUG Heaven or e-mail to apple_barrel_drop@haaug.org.

## History of Memorial Day available on web

Read about the origins and history of Memorial Day (May 27) at The History Channel's website. You'll learn that Memorial Day was considered a "Yankee" holiday for many years because it honored northerners who died in the Civil War. Consequently, several southern states (including Texas) established other "Memorial Days" for Southerners who died in the Civil War. www.historychannel.com/exhibits/memorial/memorial.html

# Create flow charts, technical drawings easily and quickly with ConceptDraw

**BY REX COVINGTON**
VICE PRESIDENT-PROGRAMS

ConceptDraw is an application for creating business and technical drawings easily, saving you time and providing a clear illustration of your ideas. The program comes with more than 70 libraries, which enable you to draw all kind of charts and diagrams, flowcharts, UML diagrams, web site plans, network diagrams, floor plans, time lines, organization charts and many more.

ConceptDraw Standard features powerful drawing tools, text editor, functions to program behavior of the objects and HTML export. It is Internet-enabled and easy-to-use.

I have been using ConceptDraw for the last two months, and have done four drawings. For example, I produced a network layout in 15 minutes. It was very easy to do. The library of images had everything I needed.

The flow chart I did was just as easy. The technical

**MEMBER REVIEW**
ConceptDraw™

drawing was easy, but it seems not to let me do the drawing in scale and no 3D drawings. either. I will check into that; I could be wrong.

Layering, grid and snap to objects work well. You can also draw segments and figures, group objects into more complex ones, and connect them with intelligent connectors. I did import some graphic files, and they were easily added to the library.

For someone who has little experience using a drawing program, this program would be a plus. It has a low learning curve and you can get started immediately after installing it. For the people who need high end technical drawings with 3D and drawing scaling, a CAD program like VectorWorks would be a better choice.

I like ConceptDraw and its time-saving features and ease of use. I would recommend it to anyone. The basic program cost $199. For more information come to the May meeting or visit the ConceptDraw website at http://www.conceptdraw.com/

# What's your Mac doing when you're gone?

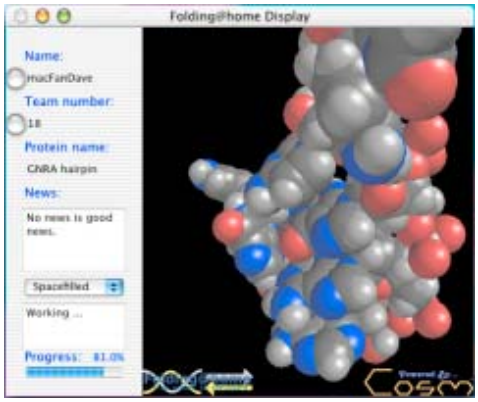
**BY DAVID TREVAS**
HAAUG DIRECTOR AT LARGE
AND COCOA PROGRAMMING SIG

For most of us, the answer to the question posed in the headline is "nothing." For others participating in the well-known Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence (SETI) at Home, the answer is "at least a little something."

SETI is an example of distributed computing, the idea being that a massive number of ordinary desktop computers can solve problems that would otherwise require a supercomputer. If your problem can be divided up into small pieces and you can get people to let you use their computers for free, this technique can give you tremendous computing power at very low cost.

While some consider the SETI@home effort to be a complete waste of time, others realize that the odds of finding anything from radio telescope data are low. A more recent effort has begun at Stanford University that can lead to understanding and maybe even treatments or cures for Alzheimers disease, Parkinsons disease, Lou Gehrigs disease (ALS) and Mad Cow disease (CJS), among others. It is called Folding@Home (http://folding.stanford.edu), and it lets your Mac fold proteins, provided you're using OS X. It is critical to understand the dynamics of protein folding since flaws in this process are the keys to these diseases.

There are both graphical and command-line versions of Folding@Home available for Mac OS X as well as a Folding@Home screen saver. The graphical version looks like the picture shown below. To make it fun, your personal statistics tracking the work you've done are maintained and you can join teams simply by entering the team number the first time you start the program.




Even though Mac OS X is the third platform for which Folding@Home was released (following Windows and Linux), four of the top 50 teams are Mac OS specific. There is also a small Apple Computer, Inc. team that's currently in 82nd place. In the top 100, there is one Linux team, one BeOS team and zero teams boasting about using Windows (surprise!).

Another fact that should make Mac users proud is that—while 27% of Windows users who signed up are actually doing work and 29% of Linux users—a whopping 55% of Mac OS X users are cranking out results for medical science!

Feel free to join me on the MacAddict4Life team (team number 18) and lets get folding!

For more information, see the Folding@Home web site (http://folding.stanford.edu).

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# UTILITIES FOR OS X

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

including the heavily used Microsoft Office X. Default Folder X 1.1 is $35 shareware and is a 1.5 MB download.

http://www.stclairsoft.com/DefaultFolderX/

**CopyPaste-X & PTHPasteboard**

For most people, Apple's implementation of the clipboard is sufficient. Select something, choose Copy or Cut, and the selected item replaces whatever was on the clipboard and is ready for pasting. Applications like Nisus Writer and utilities like CopyPaste cleverly extended the clipboard by making it possible to access multiple clipboards. That functionality has arrived in Mac OS X thanks to CopyPaste-X and PTHPasteboard.

Both utilities track recently copied or cut items (20 for PTHPasteboard and between 10 and 200 for CopyPaste-X) and let you paste any one of them into other applications with a keystroke or a click in a palette. Both also save the recently remembered items through restarts, but CopyPaste-X goes beyond this in making these clipboards editable, storing user-defined clipboards permanently for repeated use, and providing full drag and drop to and from the CopyPaste-X palette.

If your needs are minimal, PTHPasteboard is probably sufficient, but for a full-fledged multiple clipboard utility, CopyPaste-X is the only way to go. CopyPaste-X is a 1.3 MB download and costs $20 shareware. PTHPasteboard is a free 123K download, although donations are accepted.

http://www.scriptsoftware.com/copypaste/cpx.html

http://www.pth.com/PTHPasteboard/

**USB Overdrive**

Apple ships only single-button mice with Macs, but many people prefer mice or trackballs with buttons, scroll wheels, missile launchers, and so on. Some vendors of these alternate pointing devices have provided Mac OS X drivers (Kensington is a notable example), but for many devices, the only way to bring them into the world of Mac OS X is through Alessandro Levi Montalcini's USB Overdrive. Currently in beta for Mac OS X, USB Overdrive lets you program multiple buttons and access scroll wheels.

Alessandro is extremely up front about the fact that USB Overdrive is currently a beta, so be sure to read all the release notes and known problems, and send in detailed reports of anything you experience. USB Overdrive beta 4 is a 617K download; it will be shareware when released.

http://www.usboverdrive.com/trouble.html

**Snapz Pro X**

Though the Mac OS has, since time immemorial, offered the capability of capturing an image of the screen, and even though Apple enhanced this screen capture capability to capture just windows a few years back, everyone who's serious about taking screenshots uses a third party utility. The same truism applies in Mac OS X.

There have been numerous such programs over the years, but Ambrosia Software's Snapz Pro is the screen capture utility of choice for many people, TidBITS staff included. Snapz Pro X makes it possible to take professional screenshots in Mac OS X. Although it isn't quite as snappy as it was as an extension in OS 9, it's still the only game in town for screenshots.

Snapz Pro X 1.0.2 costs $30 ($50 for Movie Capture); a licensed version also ships for free with most new Macs. The utility is a 13.1 MB download.

http://www.ambrosiasw.com/utilities/snapzprox/

**Font Reserve and Suitcase**

Another area in which the Mac OS has never met the needs of serious users is in font management. With 15 or 20 fonts, it's not a big deal. With the font-intensive projects many users have, a font management utility like Suitcase or Font Reserve is essential. Both utilities help you gather fonts from the various locations Mac OS X stashes them. Then you can group them into sets, and activate and deactivate them at will to keep the current set at a manageable size. Font Reserve 3.0 costs $90; Suitcase 10 is $100.

http://www.fontreserve.com/

http://www.extensis.com/suitcase/

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## Welcome these new and renewing members

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Irv Greenbaum
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Stan Nethery
Joseph Nowicki
Robert Phifer
John Reeves
Clark Reid
Jim Scott
George Sroka
Paul Swansen
Robert Tucker
Edward Volick
Madeline Westbrook
Lynn Young

# Small Bytes

**COMPILED BY GEORGE SROKA**
APPLE BARREL EDITOR

## iTools offers 'utility knife' for searching, research, translations

An interesting and useful collection of search, language translation and research tools are gathered together at http://www.itools.com/. In addition to the standard searching, the site also features dictionary, encyclopedia, quotation and biography searches. You can translate from one language to another, and translate entire sites from one language to another. Worth a look.

## Finding happiness on the Internet

Simply point your web browser to http://www.eur.nl/fsw/research/happiness/ to find the secrets of happiness. OK, maybe not the *secrets*, but a heck of a lot of research on the history and philosophy of happiness. Quite interesting, actually. Who says you can't find happiness on the Internet? It's just a mouse click away.

## iPhoto update includes brightness controls, mail integration and more

Apple has rolled out iPhoto 1.1, a free update including new brightness and contrast controls, integration with Mac OS X's Mail application for simple e-mailing of photos to friends, and controls for setting favorite photos as desktop backgrounds and screen saver slide shows.

iPhoto requires Mac OS X version 10.1.2 or later and a Macintosh with a built-in USB port. A Mac with at least a 400-MHz PowerPC G3 processor and 256MB RAM is recommended.

http://www.apple.com/iphoto

## Fetch lives on in version 4.0.2

Fetch, the popular Mac FTP (File Transfer Protocol) client, has been updated. Fetch was among the first FTP clients for the Mac, and version 4.0 is one of the first for Mac OS X. Version 4.0.2 offers dozens of improvements in performance, compatibility, and features, such as support for long file names on OS X and the ability to duplicate remote files. Users can download and run a free 15-day trial copy from the Fetch Softworks web site. Single user licenses for Fetch 4.0.2 are available for only $25, and the 4.0.2 upgrade is free for existing customers of Fetch Softworks.

http://fetchsoftworks.com/

**VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER** — HAAUG will hold its first Volunteer Appreciation Dinner on Thursday, Sept. 26, at the Shafaii Party and Reception Center on Federal Road on the eastside of the city. Rex Covington is shown with his gal pal, Janice Turner, at the location.

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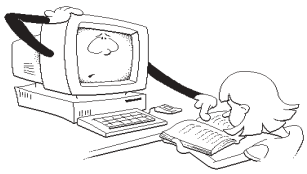

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# SIG TOPICS

9:00 **Mac 101** –Ken Martinez– **Jamail Conference Rm** Prerequisite, owning a Mac or Mac clone: This one-hour SIG is for beginners or those with basic Macintosh questions. Join us with your questions and/or conversation. This SIG is general although hardware oriented, Mac Fundamentals leans more toward system software.

**Spreadsheets** – Joe Muscara – **Jensen Conference Rm.** Have a question about how to do something with a spreadsheet? Drop on by and we'll help you figure it out. In the meantime, just don't be surprised if the discussion roams to the latest Macs, what's in the new OS, what's new for the Mac, or anything else remotely Mac related. Considering the hour, there's usually a lot of fun and experience in the room.

**Home Networking** –Sarah Gonzalez – **McMurtry Auditorium** Want to feed that cable or DSL connection to more than one Mac? This session will give you the information on building your Home network.

10:00 **OS X** –Mort Butler– **McMurtry Auditorium** Rex Covington will lead this SIG due to Mort being out of town this month,

10:00 **Appleworks/ Clarisworks**– John Reeves – **Jensen Conference Rm.** I plan to show some of the updated features of AW 6 while using Mac OS X.1. No schedule is set, just which topics the members want to see that day. Any other topics that members wish to cover are also welcome.

**Macintosh Fundamentals** – Jonathan Magnus– **Jamail Conference Rm.** A beginner's SIG that will answer beginners questions. The operating system ins and outs, the built-ins and the add-ons, tuning it and keeping it happy. This general SIG is mainly software oriented, Mac 101 is primarily hardware oriented..

11:15 **Main Presentation– McMurtry Auditorium**

12:15 **Business Meeting McMurtry Auditorium** The business meeting will be conducted on time even if it means interrupting an unfinished main presentation in order to let SIG leaders and other attendees make it to 12:30 SIGs on time.

12:25 **New Member Orientation – McMurtry Auditorium** Getting the most from your membership. How HAAUG Works to serve you

12:30 **Internet Setup for your Mac** – Randy Herzstein– **McMurtry Auditorium** Randy will lead a discussion on the settings your mac needs to join the Internet.

**Mobile Computing** –Joe Kudrna–**Jensen Conference Rm.** All things Mobil, and wireless. This month we will continue to cover wireless networking.

12:30 **Java Script**– Jonathan Magnus **Jamail Conference Rm.** Is changing to a discussion of the Unix foundation of OS X I Will do some Unix commands. Something about basic terminal commands. We will go to some web sites for examples.

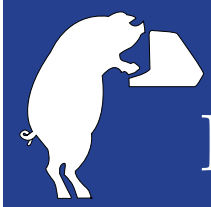
**Mac One on One** Volunteers as available **Ante room to the Jamail Conference room.** We will try to have a few experienced Mac users to meet with people who need assistance either with a Mac or with the club itself. This SIG Meets as Necessary

1:45 **Digital Whatever Jamail Conference room** – Isabelle MacCrimmon – **.** Isabelle will demonstrate Adobe's latest version of GoLive, their WYSIWYG Web Page editor, She will use the HAAUG Web site redesign to demonstrate the software.

**Internet** – Larry McLoughlin– **Jensen Conference Rm.** Come make the most of the Internet.

**Cocoa programming McMurtry Auditorium** – David Trevas– We will be looking at the NSPasteboard class which allows your Mac applications to have cherished features like cut n' paste and drag n' drop. We won't treat plug n' play, but we will have rock n' roll with Salt n' Pepa, country n' western with Brooks n' Dunn and Rhythm n' Blues with Peaches n' Herb.

**YOU'LL NEED A CABLE THIS BIG** — Sarah Gonzales is shown during her Home Networking SIG, which helps members understand how to set up their own wired and wireless networks. The SIG meets at 9:00 AM Saturday, May 18. Sarah is otherwise known as HAAUG's "patron saint" for arranging for us to meet at Rice University free of charge.



# SIG SCHEDULE May 18, 2002

## Houston Area Apple Users Group

| | McMurtry Auditorium 1 | Jensen Conference Room 2 | Jamail Conference Room 3 | Jamail Ante-Room 4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9:00 am | Home Networking | SpreadSheets | Mac 101 | Open |
| 10:00 am | OS X | Apple/Clarisworks | Mac Fundamentals | Open |
| 11:15 am | Main Presentation *ConceptDraw* | Open | Open | Open |
| 12:15 pm | Business Meeting | Open | Open | Open |
| 12:25 pm | New Member Orientation | Open | Open | Open |
| 12:30 pm | Internet Settings | Mobile Computing | Mac OS & Unix | Mac One on One (as needed) |
| 1:45 pm | Cocoa Programing | Internet | Digital What Ever | Open |

**MAIN PRESENTATION**

Concept Draw

ConceptDraw is a application for creating business and technical drawings easily, saving you time and providing a clear illustration of your ideas. The program comes with more than 70 libraries, which enable you to draw various charts and diagrams. Standard features include powerful drawing tools, a text editor and HTML export.

# Upcoming Meetings

## HAAUG Vice Prez to demo ConceptDraw May 18

Come see an easy-to-use and intuitive program for creating flow charts, diagrams and more at the General Meeting on Saturday, May 18, in Duncan Hall on the campus of Rice University.

HAAUG's own Rex Covington, Vice President for Programs, will demonstrate the software during the Main Presentation at 11:15 AM. You can read his review of the software on page 2.

## HAAUG Board meets June 4

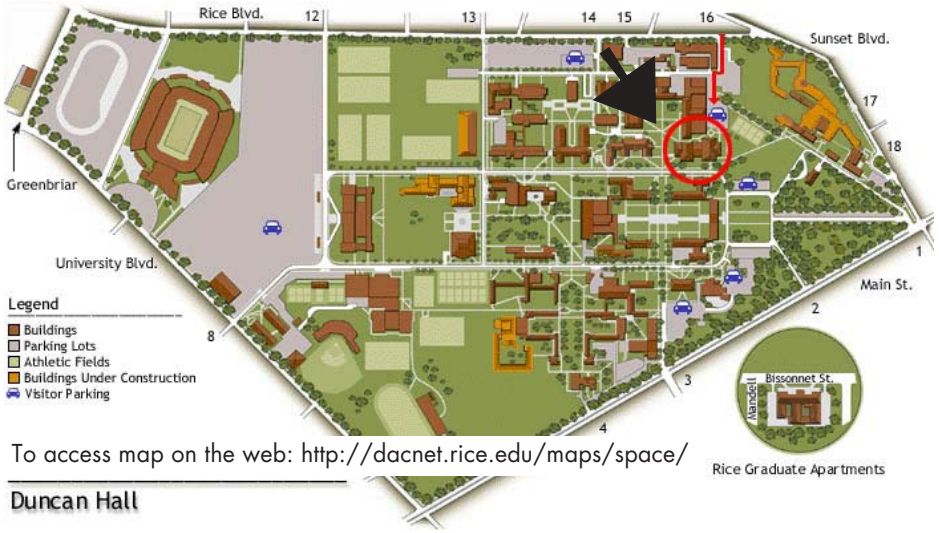
The HAAUG Board of Directors will meet next at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 4, in the offices of HAL-PC, 4543 Post Oak Place (off San Felipe near MicroCenter).

# HAAUG meets at Rice University

HAAUG meets on the Rice University Campus in Duncan Hall. The meeting space is being donated by Rice, and we're extremely grateful for their generosity. **DIRECTIONS TO THE MEETING**:

**From US 59/the Southwest Freeway**: Exit Greenbriar. Turn South toward the Rice University Campus. Turn East (left) on Rice Blvd. at the light. Look for entrance 16 on the right past Rice Stadium.

**From Loop 610/the South Loop**: Exit Main Street. Turn North toward the Medical Center. Turn West (left) on Sunset Blvd. Sunset Blvd. and Rice Blvd. split in about 1/2 to 1 block. Bear left on Rice Blvd. Entrance 16 is the first parking lot entrance on the left.




NEXT GENERAL MEETING

SATURDAY, MAY 18

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