

Apple Barrel

The Journal of the Houston Area Apple Users Group

January 2005

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HAAUG's Semi-Annual Swap Meet

Saturday, January 15th, 2005
9:00am – 3:00pm

Yes, it's time again to clean out your closet
and sell that Mac stuff everybody else wants.

Members in good standing get a FREE table!
Extra member and dealer tables are \$50. Electricity is \$5 extra.

To reserve your table, visit www.haaug.org

Meeting Location

Please join us this month at

Bellaire Civic Center
7008 S. Rice Avenue
Bellaire, TX 77401



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

Hot News

Important information for the discerning Mac user

Apple Barrel

is a monthly publication of the
HOUSTON AREA APPLE
USERS GROUP (HAAUG),
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.

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iTunes Music Store Now Accepts PayPal

Cupertino and San Jose, California—December 10, 2004

Apple and PayPal today announced that the iTunes Music Store in the US will now accept PayPal for purchases of music downloads, audiobooks and gift certificates. Starting today, iTunes Music Store purchases can be funded through PayPal's virtual wallet, allowing customers to pay in the way they prefer—using a credit card, bank account or stored account balance. The first 500,000 customers to open a new iTunes account in the US using PayPal as their form of payment before March 31, 2005, will receive five free songs.

With Apple's legendary ease of use, pioneering features such as iMix playlist sharing, seamless integration with iPod and groundbreaking personal use rights, the iTunes Music Store is the best way for PC and Mac users to legally discover, purchase and download music online. The iTunes Music Store features more than one million songs from the major music companies and 600 independent record labels, over 9,000 audiobooks, gift certificates and exclusive music not found anywhere else online.

PayPal, an eBay Company, enables any individual or business with an email address to securely, easily and quickly send and receive payments online. •



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Apple Ships Xsan Storage Area Network File System

Cupertino, California—January 4, 2005

Apple [has] announced it has begun shipping Xsan, a high performance, enterprise class Storage Area Network (SAN) file system priced at the industry's most aggressive price point of \$999 per client and per server. Xsan combines breakthrough performance with Apple's legendary ease of use for customers who require scalable, high-speed access to centralized shared data for storage consolidation and workflow in video post production, data center, broadcast and high performance computing environments.

Xsan is a 64-bit cluster file system for Mac OS X that enables organizations to consolidate storage resources and provide multiple computers with concurrent file-level read/write access to shared volumes over Fibre Channel. It is certified with Apple's suite of professional applications, including Final Cut Pro HD and Motion. For the first time on Mac OS X, up to 64 video professionals can simultaneously access a single storage volume that supports multiple high-bandwidth video streams for efficient workflow in video and film editing, broadcast, visual effects and motion graphics creation. •

"Apple's pro video and IT customers now have an affordable, high performance SAN file system on Mac OS X," said Philip Schiller, Apple's senior vice president of Worldwide Product Marketing. "Together, Apple's Xsan file system software and Xserve RAID storage hardware deliver a powerful, easy-to-manage, enterprise class SAN solution at a breakthrough low price."

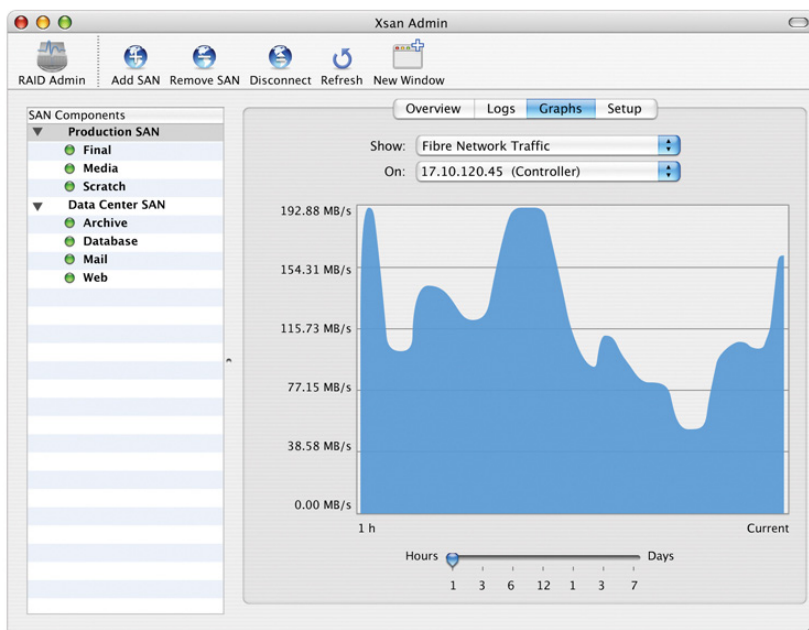


Photo credit
Courtesy of Apple Computer

MacWorld Round-Up

For those of us who weren't able to make it to Moscone Center this year...

"2005 is the year of High Definition Video, and Final Cut Express now delivers stunning real-time HD editing and advanced titling and soundtrack creation tools to customers at the same affordable price," said Sina Tamaddon, Apple's senior vice president of Applications.

Apple Announces Final Cut Express HD

MacWorld Expo, San Francisco—January 11, 2005

Apple [has] announced Final Cut Express HD, a major upgrade of its advanced video editing application for video enthusiasts, students and aspiring filmmakers that makes it easy to capture, edit and output High Definition Video (HDV) using all the powerful features of Final Cut Express. Apple continues to lead the industry by delivering a complete line of HD video editing solutions including iMovie HD, Final Cut Express HD and Final Cut Pro HD. Priced at only \$299, Final Cut Express HD also includes LiveType for stunning, HD-quality animated text and graphics and Soundtrack for custom musical scores.

Final Cut Express HD users can now capture professional-quality HDV over a single FireWire cable, without requiring any additional software or hardware. Whether it's with DV or HDV content, the RT Extreme engine in Final Cut Express HD allows users to instantly preview effects, filters, transitions and multi-stream composites in real time, without rendering. Final Cut Express HD also supports Digital Cinema Desktop, a feature that enables HD and DV preview monitoring on a primary or secondary Apple Cinema Display.

With LiveType, Final Cut Express HD users can add sophisticated, HD-quality animated text and motion graphics to videos quickly and easily. LiveType includes 27 animated LiveFonts, 150 pre-configured effects and a variety of customizable templates, backgrounds, textures and objects that can be added to any Final Cut Express HD project. Final Cut Express HD also supports direct timeline file placement from Motion, Apple's revolutionary high-performance, real-time motion graphics design program for a smooth, integrated workflow. •

For more information, visit:

<http://www.apple.com/finalcutexpress>



Photo credit
Courtesy of Apple Computer

MacWorld Round-Up

For those of us who weren't able to make it to Moscone Center this year...

"iLife '05 is far beyond anything available on a PC, and is a must-have upgrade for every Mac user," said Steve Jobs, Apple's CEO. "If you have a digital camera, digital camcorder or create music, iLife '05 is built for you."

Apple Announces iLife '05

MacWorld Expo, San Francisco—January 11, 2005

Apple [has] announced iLife '05, the must-have upgrade to Apple's award-winning suite of digital lifestyle applications, featuring major new versions of iPhoto, iMovie, iDVD and GarageBand and including the latest version of iTunes. iLife '05 continues to lead the industry with the most innovative and comprehensive suite of software for organizing, editing and sharing digital photos; creating stunning digital movies and DVDs; and purchasing, managing and creating digital music.

iPhoto 5 adds advanced editing tools so you can perfect your photos without ever leaving iPhoto, including controls to set exposure, black and white points, saturation, tint, temperature and sharpness, while also showing users a histogram and providing the most intuitive way ever to straighten photos.

With iMovie, Apple revolutionized movie-making by allowing anyone to import and edit digital video on their Mac. Now iMovie HD leads the revolution again by allowing users to capture and edit stunning High Definition Video (HDV) from the new generation of HDV camcorders.

iDVD 5 includes 15 amazing new themes featuring moving drop zones that can display video clips or photos in motion across DVD menus, just like the latest Hollywood DVDs.

GarageBand put a complete recording studio on a Mac. GarageBand 2 adds 8-track recording, so users can record an entire band at once, plus pitch and timing correction to quickly fix those tracks that don't sound perfect. •

For more information, visit:

<http://www.apple.com/ilife>

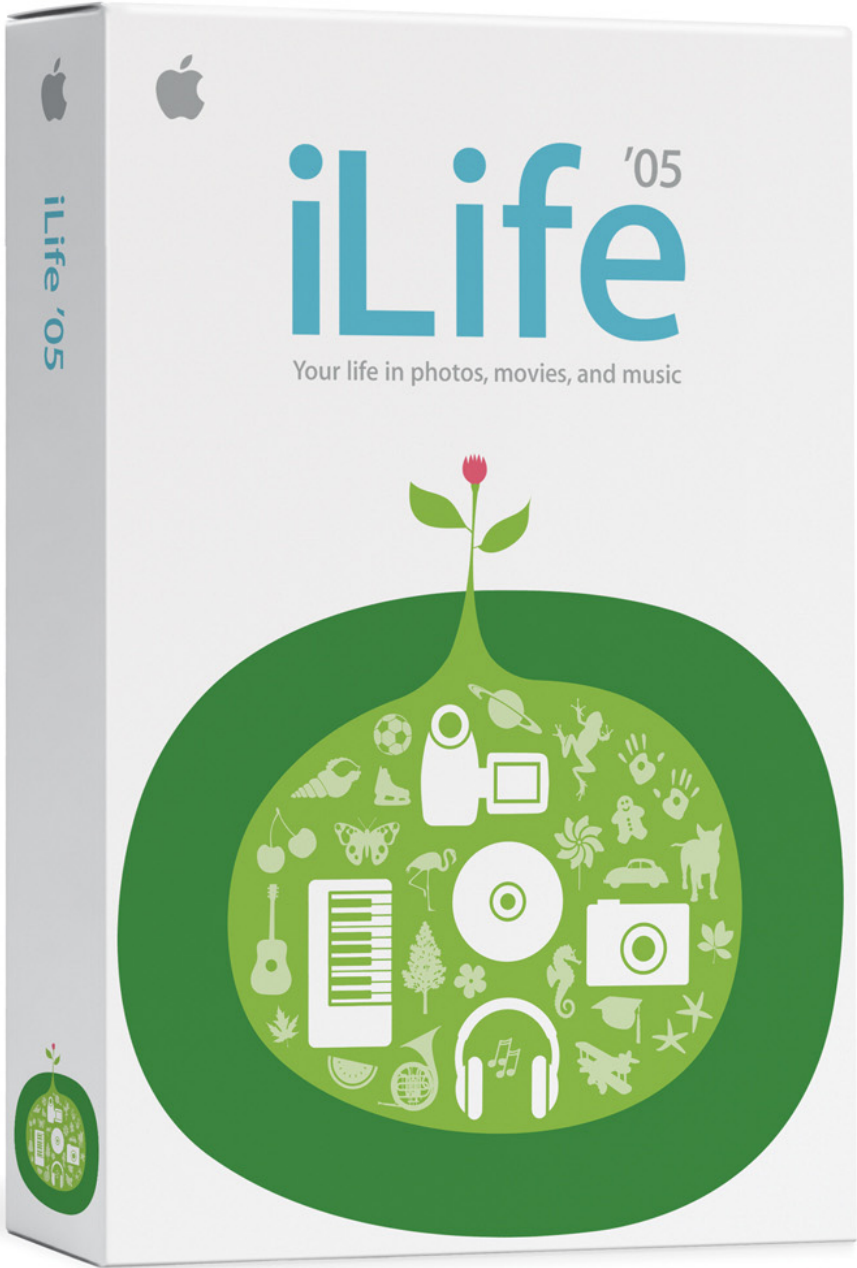


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Courtesy of Apple Computer

MacWorld Round-Up

For those of us who weren't able to make it to Moscone Center this year...

"With iWork '05, we're building the successor to AppleWorks by taking advantage of the latest innovations in Mac OS X and iLife '05," said Sina Tamaddon, Apple's senior vice president of Applications. "iWork '05 makes it incredibly easy for anyone to create really great-looking documents, newsletters and presentations quickly and easily."

Apple Unveils iWork '05

MacWorld Expo, San Francisco—January 11, 2005

Apple [has] unveiled iWork '05, productivity software designed to take advantage of both Mac OS X and iLife '05 to help users easily create, present and publish professional-looking documents and presentations. iWork '05 introduces Pages, an innovative new word processor with an incredible sense of style, and also features Keynote 2, a major new version of Apple's presentation software that lets anyone create cinematic-looking presentations. Both Pages and Keynote 2 take full advantage of the advanced typography and graphics engine of Mac OS X, are seamlessly integrated with iLife '05, and include a collection of themes and templates that make it easy to produce stunning results in minutes.

Pages gives users the tools to create great looking letters, newsletters, reports, brochures and resumes with advanced typography, multiple columns, footnotes, tables of contents and styles. Featuring dynamic text wrapping and alignment guides, Pages lets users create free-form arrangements of text, graphics, photos, tables and charts. An integrated iLife media browser lets users drag and drop photos from the iPhoto library directly into documents, and with over 40 Apple-designed templates, Pages makes it easy to create amazing documents in minutes.

Keynote 2 is a powerful application that gives users everything they need to create compelling presentations, portfolios, interactive slideshows and storyboards. Keynote 2 delivers powerful slide animations to synchronize the movement of multiple objects and cinematic real-time animated text.

iWork '05 imports AppleWorks and imports and exports Microsoft Word and PowerPoint files along with supporting a wide range of industry standard file formats including PDF, Adobe Photoshop, TIFF, JPG and QuickTime. Keynote 2 now includes the ability to export presentations to Macromedia Flash. •

For more information, visit:
<http://www.apple.com/iwork>

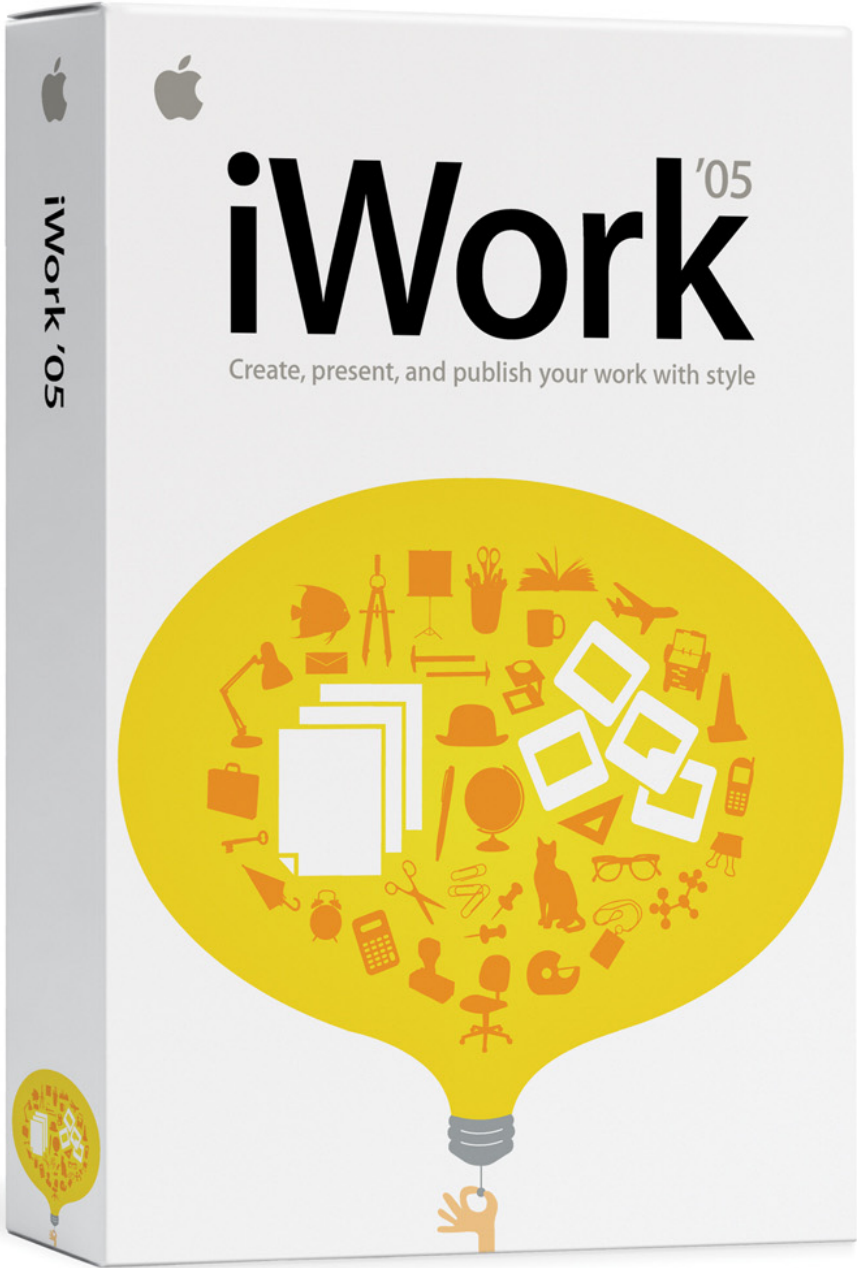


Photo credit
Courtesy of Apple Computer

MacWorld Round-Up

For those of us who weren't able to make it to Moscone Center this year...

"Starting at just \$499, Mac mini is the most affordable way to enjoy Mac OS X and iLife," said Steve Jobs, Apple's CEO. "Just plug in your display, keyboard and mouse and you've got an incredibly compact Mac for a price that almost anyone can afford."

Apple Introduces Mac mini

MacWorld Expo, San Francisco—January 11, 2005

Apple [has] introduced Mac mini, the most affordable and compact Mac ever. Starting at just \$499, Mac mini is the ideal desktop computer for anyone looking to get started with Mac OS X and features iLife '05, the latest version of Apple's innovative suite of software for managing digital photo and music collections, editing movies and creating music. Just two-inches tall and weighing only 2.9 pounds, Mac mini redefines design for the sub-\$1,000 desktop.

Every Mac mini includes iLife '05, which was introduced today, and is the must-have upgrade to Apple's award-winning suite of digital lifestyle applications with major new versions of iPhoto, iMovie, iDVD and GarageBand. iLife '05 also features the latest version of iTunes, the world's best digital music jukebox software which includes the iTunes Music Store, the world's number one online music store.

Mac mini offers the processing and graphics performance to take advantage of demanding consumer applications with either a 1.25 GHz or 1.42 GHz PowerPC G4 processor and ATI Radeon 9200 graphics with 32MB of dedicated DDR memory. Both models come with a slot-load Combo drive for watching DVD movies and burning CDs, and up to an 80GB hard drive for storing digital media creations.

Mac mini includes one FireWire 400 and two USB 2.0 ports for easy plug-and-play connections to popular peripherals such as Apple's market-leading iPod digital music player, digital still cameras, digital video camcorders and printers. Mac mini offers a DVI interface that also supports VGA so customers can easily connect to a variety of LCD or CRT displays. The new Mac mini includes built-in 10/100BASE-T Ethernet and a 56K V.92 modem for easy Internet access, and offers optional support for an AirPort Extreme Card for 54 Mbps 802.11g fast wireless networking along with an internal Bluetooth module for the latest in wireless communications. •

For more information, visit:
<http://www.apple.com/macmini>



Photo credit
Courtesy of Apple Computer

MacWorld Round-Up

For those of us who weren't able to make it to Moscone Center this year...

"iPod shuffle is smaller and lighter than a pack of gum and costs less than \$100," said Steve Jobs, Apple's CEO. "With most flash-memory music players users must use tiny displays and complicated controls to find their music; with iPod shuffle you just relax and it serves up new combinations of your music every time you listen."

Apple Introduces iPod shuffle

MacWorld Expo, San Francisco—January 11, 2005

Apple [has] introduced iPod shuffle, a breakthrough digital music player based on iPod's legendary shuffle feature which lets users experience their music in a million different ways. Smaller and lighter than a pack of gum, iPod shuffle comes with its own lanyard so it's ready to wear right out of the box. iPod shuffle works seamlessly with iTunes' innovative AutoFill feature which automatically selects songs from a user's music library to fill up iPod shuffle with just one click. iPod shuffle is the most affordable iPod ever and is available in two models: 512MB holding up to 120 songs for just \$99 and 1GB holding up to 240 songs for just \$149.

iPod shuffle is based on iPod's pioneering and widely-used shuffle feature, which randomly selects songs from the user's music library or playlists. In addition, iPod shuffle works seamlessly with iTunes and its innovative new patent-pending AutoFill feature, which automatically selects the perfect number of songs to fill iPod shuffle from a user's complete music library on their computer. And at any time, with a flip of a switch on the back of iPod shuffle, users can choose to listen to their music in order rather than shuffled, perfect for listening to a favorite new album.

Users can conveniently charge and transfer music from their Mac or PC by plugging iPod shuffle directly into a USB port. iPod shuffle doubles as a portable USB flash drive with up to 1GB of storage space to back up personal files and exchange them between computers. •

For more information, visit:

<http://www.apple.com/ipodshuffle>



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Classifieds

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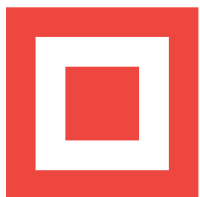
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Minutes

Of the HAAUG Board of Director's Meeting—December 2, 2004

Attendees:

David Jaschke, Doug Smith, Joe Kudrna, Clair Jaschke, Barbara Long, Mike Epstein, Christina Huston, Rick Roberts, Joe Fournet, Morton Butler, Micah Gartman, Philip Booth, Casey Sivula, Rex Covington, Tamara Lewis

Call to Order: 6:39 P.M.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

There were no announcements.

REPORTS:

Secretary: Clair Jaschke

Clair presented the November minutes, which were approved without amendment.

1st Vice President: Doug Smith

December 11	(2nd)	HP
January 15	Swap Meet	Bellaire Civic Center
February 19	State of Mac	Bob LeVitus

Doug reported that he will be going to MacWorld and will recruit presenters while he is there. He asked the President to write a thank-you letter to Regan at Houston Camera Exchange for the November presentation and for judging the digital camera contest.

2nd Vice President: Joe Kudrna

Joe reported that the December general meeting would be at the Uptown Inn and Suites on I-10. January Swap Meet will be at the Bellaire Civic Center. More tables will need to be ordered. February meeting site has not been booked. He is looking at the Bellaire Civic Center or the Holiday Inn on Hwy 59 at Kirby. For March thru June, he has booked the Holiday Inn.

The Bellaire Civic Center now has wireless Internet service.

Treasurer: Barbara Long

Barbara reported that there is \$15,484.71 in the bank. The year-to-date profit is \$1,398.85 including the purchase of new caps for the Boutique.

Boutique Manager: Barbara Long (acting)

Barbara reported that there were sales of \$60 for November for the sale of the new caps.

Membership: Morton Butler

Mort reported that there are over 400 members. He is working on the new member handout packages. Phil reported that Mort has all new member CDs.

Apple Barrel Editor: Micah Gartman

Micah reported that for the draft of the December Apple Barrel, several people commented about the lack of a Christmas theme. He said holidays do not necessarily fit in with his pre-selected monthly color scheme based on the Apple colors. After several suggestions were made, he said he might add white snowflakes or other suitable décor. He has been working on a six-part series on the history of HAAUG based on David Jaschke's previous article from 11 years ago. He would like to do a six-part continuation of that history to bring members up to date.

SIG Coordinator: Philip Booth

Phil reported that he has prepared the preliminary schedule for December and has e-mailed it to the Board. After a suggestion about a wireless networking SIG, Phil said he would try to schedule it in the afternoon. Phil said he might consider scheduling more SIG rooms in the morning and few or none in the afternoon.

Rex posted the evening SIG schedule on the web. Dec. 7 is OSX and Dec. 14 is FileMaker. Both will be at the offices of IAV unless an alternate location is announced.

HAAUG Heaven Sysops: Robert Lacey

Rex reported that HAAUG Heaven forums are up and running. There was a HAAUG Heaven SIG in November. Robert wants to write an article on HAAUG Heaven for the Apple Barrel.

HAAUGNet Sysops: Jeff Davis

Rex reported that there are a couple of DSL users. HAAUG will catch up on billing the dialup users. HAAUGNet gives users space for their own websites. Joe K and Rex will send a memo to Micah to modify the HAAUGNet ad to advise users about this benefit.

Publicity: Christina Huston

Christina reported that she is working on notices to be sent out regarding the December, January, and February meetings.

Vision Committee: Joe Fournet

Joe reported that there was no meeting this month so no report. The next meeting will be in late January unless there is a hot topic.

Volunteer Coordinator: Casey Sivula

Casey reported that there were 64 members and 1 visitor at the November general meeting.

HAAUG Hotline: Rex Covington

Rex reported that the HAAUG Hotline is still on his cell phone, as he has not had time to set up the new system yet.

Webmaster: Rex Covington

Rex reported the website was updated today. He needs a copy of the latest bylaws to post on the Board page.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

MacFest 2005 Committee: Phil Booth (Rex Covington, Barbara Long, Casey Sivula)

Phil said that he had no report. The MacFest is scheduled for the first Saturday in May and needs to be promoted.

Relocation Committee: Casey Sivula (Rex Covington, Doug Smith, Joe Kudrna, Phil Booth)

Casey reported that Joe Kudrna has done some important work this month. The committee needs to meet to go over his arrangements and discuss other options.

OLD BUSINESS:

Projector: Rex Covington and Mike Epstein

Rex reported that he and Mike would purchase the projector this month.

Nominations Committee: David Jaschke, Phil Booth

David presented the final ballot for 2004 Board of Directors.

President: Phil Booth, Rex Covington

First Vice-President-Programs: Doug Smith

Second Vice-President-Facilities: Amy Denton, Casey Sivula

Secretary: Tamara Lewis

Treasurer: Barbara Long

Membership Chairman: Morton Butler

Apple Barrel Editor: Micah Gartman

HAAUG Heaven Sysop: Robert Lacey

Special Interest Group (SIG) Coordinator: Rick Roberts

Webmaster: Rex Covington, Jeff Davis

Directors-at-Large (four positions): Jim Connell, Mike Epstein, James Warren, Gene Zimmerman

Apple Barrel Ads Accounting: Casey Sivula

Barbara is still reconciling the ads. The Houston Sign ads should have only appeared once or twice this year but have been published every month; so they can be removed from the Apple Barrel if room is needed but can be left in if needed for filler.

HAAUG Digital Photo Contest: Rex Covington

Rex reported that the contest was great. There were a lot of photos; most were submitted at the last minute. Over 20 members participated. Rex will get more help next year. The grand prize of an iPod went to Sean Johnston. The second prize of an HP photo printer was donated to HAAUG by the winner and auctioned off.

Projector Screen: Philip Booth

A motion was approved to increase the funds for the projector screen to \$350. Phil will purchase tomorrow.

NEW BUSINESS:

Rent:

A motion was approved for \$500 to rent tables for the Swap Meet.

Bob Levitus Airline Ticket:

A motion was approved for \$200 to purchase airline tickets for Bob Levitus for the February general meeting.

Ballot for 2004 Election:

Write-in spaces will be allowed. Barbara and Phil will get the ballots mailed; Rex and Mort will help. The Apple Barrel will have the candidates' statements.

Membership Requirements:

While the By-Laws do not state that Board members must be HAAUG members, the board can establish a policy in this regard. David Jaschke posed the following questions to the Board.

- Should all elected Board members be required to maintain an active membership?
- Should all appointed Board members be required to maintain an active membership?
- Should other HAAUG representatives be required to maintain an active membership?

A motion was approved stating that Board members and other representatives of HAAUG must be active HAAUG members.

This policy is to be included in the By-Laws the next time they are amended.

SIG at Sugar Land CompUSA:

Former HAAUG member Robert Lewis has proposed to hold the HAAUG Games/Utilities SIG at the Sugar Land CompUSA where he works. There was much discussion on this topic. A motion was approved to advise Robert Lewis that he does not have Board approval to conduct off-site HAAUG SIGs.

Randy Herzstein membership fee:

During November, a membership fee for Randy Herzstein was received through Kagi. A motion was approved to return the membership fee in accordance with the advice of our attorney.

Adjourned: 8:30 P.M.

NOTE:

Any board or committee reports not listed in these notes were not presented or discussed.

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Upcoming Events

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Houston Area Apple Users Group 2005 Officers and Directors

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1st Vice President Programs
Doug Smith

2nd Vice President Facilities
Casey Sivula

Secretary
Tamara Lewis

Treasurer
Barbara Long

Director-at-Large 1
Jim Connell

Director-at-Large 2
Michael Epstein

Director-at-Large 3
James Warren

Director-at-Large 4
Gene Zimmerman

Apple Barrel Editor
Micah Gartman

HAAUG Heaven Sysop
Robert Lacy

Membership Chairman
Morton Butler

SIG Coordinator
Rick Roberts

Immediate Past President
David Jaschke

Boutique Manager
Barbara Long

Webmaster
Jeff Davis

HAAUGNet Admin
Jeff Davis

HAAUG Hotline
Rex J. Covington

Mentor Program
Amy Denton

Publicity Chairman
Christina Huston

Vision Committee Chairman
Joe Fournet

Volunteer Coordinator
Casey Sivula

February 2005

[Bellaire Civic Center](#)

State of the Mac with Bob Levitus

Note from the Volunteer Coordinator

Our January Swap Meet will provide opportunities for volunteers with help needed to set up and tear down tables and chairs and, in general, help us keep things organized. At this time, plans are to meet at the Bellaire Civic Center on Friday (please contact volunteer@haaug.org for exact time) and then we will need additional help on Saturday to tear down everything.

Thanks again for all the help you provided this past year in our "Members Helping Members" Houston Area Apple Users Group. If you haven't had a chance to volunteer, do it now - you'll find it is lots of fun. We look forward to a very successful New Year!

See you at the next meeting!
Casey Sivula, Volunteer Coordinator