

Apple Barrel

The Journal of the Houston Area Apple Users Group

December 2005

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**Saturday,
December 10th, 2005**

Learn about Freeway Pro 4. See the Latest Products from HP. Get Digital Camera Gift Ideas from Reagan Atkinson with Houston Camera Exchange!

Main Presentation: Joe Muscara debuts the new Freeway Pro 4 that makes web design as easy as desktop publishing (www.softpress.com). HP representatives will show the latest and greatest HP products. Reagan Atkinson of Houston Camera Exchange will help you select the right digital camera for that special holiday gift. Come join the fun of this HAAUG December General Meeting at Rice University Media Center!

Toys 4 Tots

HAAUG will be accepting donations at the **Dec. 10th** general meeting.

See **page 5** for details.



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

Meeting Location

**Rice Media Center
at Rice University**

**Entrance 8 / Building 47
University Blvd. @ Stockton Dr.**

6100 Main Street, MS-529
Houston, Texas 77005
(713) 348-4882



Geek Gift Picks

HAAUG's Holiday Gift Picks for 2005



iCreate Magazine

There are some things that are considered givens in this world. Macs will get faster, Mac accessories will multiply, and Mac magazines will look cheaper and thinner every year. There is a single magazine that has refused to follow the norm. iCreate magazine from the UK is a slick, polished, well produced collection of articles, instructional pieces and an included cd filled with demo software and assorted freebies that is worth far more than the cover price (\$133.90/year @ Amazon.com). This innovative magazine will get your brain tingling and your mouth watering.



iPod Nano

This pencil thin gadget is sure to get any geek excited! Not only does this miniature monster store up to a whopping 4GBs, but also gives you the ability to load up to 14 hours of continuous music play with full color cover art for your favorite playlists. At a price range of \$199 - \$249, this is an awesome geek gift pick because you want one, you got one, or you gotta have one.



Your very own Predator Drone

It might not fit in a stocking or a budget since they start at 3 million, but this med-altitude, remote-controlled unmanned aircraft is the coolest and ultimate geek gift. No only is this modern marvel for reconnaissance missions, but is also equipped with a full color, variable-aperture piloting camera located at the its nose, capability to deploy up to two, laser-guided Hellfire missiles, but can also be upgraded to a turbo-charged engine.



More geek gift picks...

iPod Dog

This cute and interactive pet for your iPod comes with performing lights and acceptable sound.



Epson Stylus Photo RX700

An all-in-one printer, scanner and copier that is sure to make any loved one happy.





Mac OS X "Tiger"

Whether you have or haven't. There is no denying the buzz and praise of Apple's latest operating system. Features like Spotlight, Dashboard, RSS feeds in Safari, iChat AV with enhanced features, and Automator. At \$129 at the Apple Store, this geek gift pick OS upgrade proves to be productive and fun!



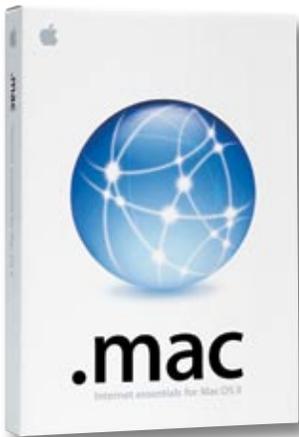
iSight Camera

Apple's sleek internet chat camera is a great addition to allow family and friends to fully unleash



Tiger's iChat AV capabilities.

Photo Courtesy of Apple.



Personalized .Mac Account

Let someone you love experience the full capability and functionality of a personalized.Mac account from Apple such as a personal .mac email account, homepage, iSync capabilities and more. At around \$100 / year membership subscription a .Mac account is the perfect geek gift for geeks and non-geeks alike.

Photo Courtesy of Apple.

DoctorMac DIRECT™

Doctor Mac Direct: We're here to help...

Bob "Dr. Mac" LeVitus
www.boblevitus.com

HAAUGraphy

A photographic journal of The Houston Area Apple Users' Group



Want your pictures in the Apple Barrel?

HAAUGraphy is a way to express and communicate our history through photography.

Submit your personal photos

to abe@haaug.org



Want your pictures in the Apple Barrel? Submit your personal photos to abe@haaug.org

2005 Photo Contest Winner

2005 Houston Area Apple Users Group Photo Contest

Best of Show

Sacre Coeur from Notre Dame, Paris



HAAUG Congradulates the Winners of the 2005 Photo Contest

From left to right:
Rex Covington, Eldon Libby & John Reeves



Visit the HAAUG website to view all the entries for this year's Photo Contest.

Toys 4 Tots

December 10th
HAAUG General Meeting

Help HAAUG make the Holidays brighter for less fortunate members of the Houston Community. The December 10th meeting will be an official Toys for Tots collection event, please bring a new unwrapped toy to the meeting, and show the Houston community how generous HAAUG member can be.

Toys for Tots is a toy distribution charity of the Marine Corp reserve foundation. A member of the local Marine Corp Reserve unit will be at the meeting to help collect our donations.

Please be as generous as possible.



iRemember Review

By Lyda McGhee

Making scrapbooking a snap.

Scrapbooking is big business - \$2.5 billion in 2004. It is the second most popular craft in the US and millions of people labor making scrapbooks out of paper, stickers, photographs, glue, ribbons and other accessories. iRemember has some good news for you. It's much easier and more fun to make your scrapbooks digitally - not to mention, neater.

Initially, I was skeptical when I first started playing with iRemember. I've never been really interested in scrapbooks but iRemember made it so easy that I am now a fan. The main skill necessary is drag and drop and I can do that very well. The program is pretty much intuitive and, with a little trial and error, I was able to easily make pages with photos of my dogs and add text to tell the story of their adventures. You can add clip art and borders, backgrounds, and extras to make your pages look really spiffy.

iRemember comes with over 500 templates to help you create your pages quickly or you can create your own. There are also over 3,000 clip art images and over 100 backgrounds as well as phrases, poems, and scripture verses that are easily found using categories and keywords in iRemember's ClipArt viewer.

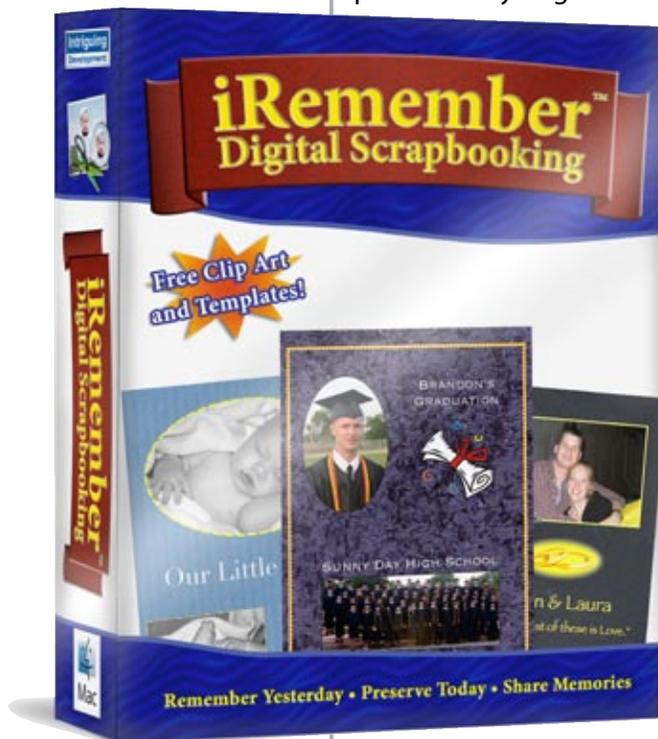
The following image formats are supported: jpeg, pdf, and tiff. iRemember leaves the original photos untouched and works with iPhoto. Supported text file formats are rtf, rtf, text, and Microsoft Word.

The Inspector window that floats to the far right of the main screen allows you to fine tune your pages. You can rotate and resize photos and crop them to the desired shape and then outline the photos with your favorite color. Adding shadows gives your pages dramatic 3D effects. Shapes filled with patterns or colors can be used to

make wonderful backgrounds for your pages.

Your scrapbook can contain as many pages as you wish. One benefit of the software is that there is a page drawer to the right of the main screen that shows you how each page of your album looks. If your scrapbook has a specific theme, this drawer can help keep you on track. Add a new page by clicking on the "+" button at the bottom of this drawer.

You can create scrapbooks in a number of different sizes including 12 x 12 which is the standard size for scrapbook pages. The default is 8.5 by 11 inches but you can even

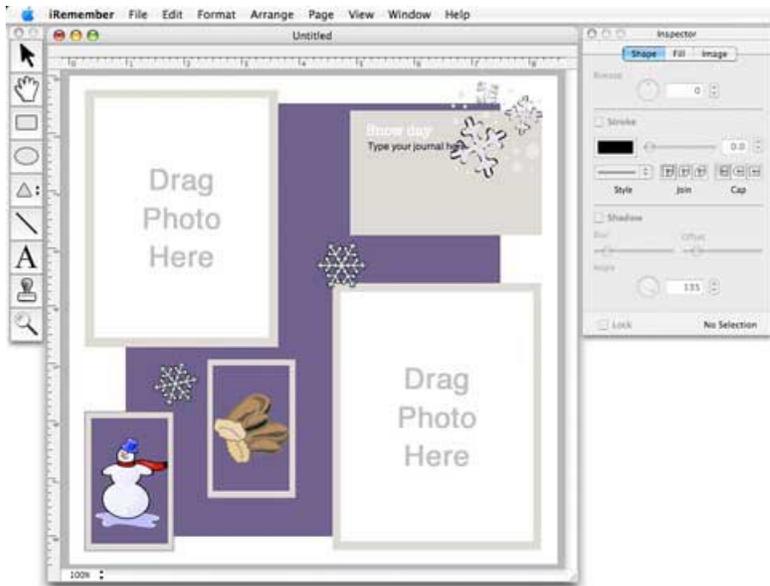




make custom sizes. You can either print the pages or save them digitally.

Because of the size of the program and the clip art files, two gigabytes of free space is recommended. The program ran quickly on my PowerBook G4 1.67 ghz with 1.5 gig of memory but I would suspect that patience would be required if you use this program on an older G3 machine with low memory. The program will run on Panther but Tiger is recommended. The cost is \$49.95.

I had a lot of fun with this program and if you are into scrapbooking, I recommend that you give iRemember a close look.



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2005 HAAUG Board Elections

By David Jaschke

And the nominees are...

President - Phillip Booth

First Vice - President of Programs - Doug Smith

Second Vice - President of Facilities - Open

Secretary - Lyda McGhee

Treasurer - Barbara Lon

Membership Chairman - Jim Connell

Apple Barrel Editor - Tamara Alexander

HAAUG Heaven Sysop - Robert Lacy

Special Interest Group (SIG) Coordinator - Rick Roberts

Webmaster - Jeff Davis

Director-at-Large – four positions:

#1 - Amy Denton, #2 - Mike Epstein, #3 - John Reeves, & #4 - Gene Zimmerman

Ready, Set, Go!

Well, the ballot is now complete and the list of candidates, drum roll please, is:

President - Phillip Booth: Phillip is a long time and tireless HAAUG supporter. He has overseen MacFest since its inception, has been a Board member and has been involved in many HAAUG-sponsored events.

First Vice - President of Programs - Doug Smith: Doug has been involved in the HAAUG Board for some time which is quite something as he lives in Lake Jackson. Talk about a long commute! He ran for the VP of Programs last year and has been doing an excellent job. He was previously a Director-at-Large and also has worked various HAAUG-sponsored events.

Second Vice - President of Facilities - Open

Secretary - Lyda McGhee: Lyda has been involved with HAAUG for many years also. She stepped up and volunteered for the Secretary position mid-term when Tamara became the Apple Barrel Editor this year. Lyda was previously on the Board and has been the secretary before.

Treasurer - Barbara Long: Boy, talk about a tireless volunteer! Barbara has been the Treasurer for a number of years and she is involved with MacFest. She and Rex Covington rebuilt the membership database several years ago and she has been the Boutique Manager for a number of years too. Barbara is a real gem.

Membership Chairman - Jim Connell: Jim has become involved in HAAUG recently. He was voted as a Director-at-Large last year and has volunteered to be involved in a number of Board committees including the latest as photo contest administrator. When Morton Butler announced to the Board that he was moving to Austin, Jim volunteered to run for the position of Membership Chairman.

Apple Barrel Editor - Tamara Alexander: A recent newlywed, Tamara volunteered and ran for Secretary last year. When Micah Gartman decided that he could no longer continue as Apple Barrel Editor, Tamara volunteered to take the position and has done an excellent job, even with having to plan her own wedding.

HAAUG Heaven Sysop - Robert Lacy: Robert has been performing this position for a number of years too. Robert has been involved in defining the new web based HAAUG Heaven system since its inception. HAAUG Heaven has evolved from a proprietary software application to a web-based application without any special software required. Robert has been involved in defining this system and providing training classes in its use.

Special Interest Group (SIG) Coordinator - Rick Roberts: Rick has been on the Board for a number of years and last year was elected this position and has done an excellent job. He too has been involved in the Board on various positions.

Webmaster - Jeff Davis: Jeff has been another tireless HAAUG supporter for quite a few years. He is a former President and has worked for HAAUGNet since its inception. Jeff was elected the Webmaster position last year and has worked hard to make it a success.

Director-at-Large – four positions:

#1 - Amy Denton: Amy has been involved in HAAUG and the Board also for quite a few years. Most recently, she has held the non-voting position of Mentor.

#2 - Mike Epstein: Mike has been on the Board for several years and was instrumental in helping make evening SIGs a success by getting his company to provide a meeting space for evening SIGs. He has also volunteered to work on various Board committees.

#3 - John Reeves: John has been involved in HAAUG for a number of years too and is a former Board member. He has always been willing to volunteer for HAAUG positions and was involved in setting up the newest Hot Line.

#4 - Gene Zimmerman: Gene has also been a long time supporter of HAAUG and has been on the Board for a number years and has worked on several committees. He was instrumental in starting the Woodlands evening SIG.

Since we have no contested positions, at the December general meeting, a voice vote was taken to approve this slate of candidates for the 2006 Board of Directors. As the Vice-President of Facilities position is open, once the new Board takes office, the first order of business will be selecting someone to take this position.

All in all, a very good group of people! It would be nice to have more new Board members and new volunteers. If you think you would like to volunteer, well, there is always the Facilities position. Many thanks to all who volunteered and many thanks to the few Board members who are retiring!

December SIG Topics

General Meeting - Saturday, November 19, 2005

Ad hoc

Groups are welcome to use the casual spaces

to meet on other topics.

Scheduled SIGs take precedence. The HAAUG SIG Coordinator is Rick Roberts.

If you have a topic that you think warrants a SIG, please

see Rick (large, bearded fellow) at the meeting,

or email him at rroberts@mac.com.

Mac 101& Fundamentals

Jonathan Magnus

This SIG is for basic Macintosh questions.

Green Apples

David Jaschke

SIG for new Macintosh users, users that have switched from another OS, or have never used a computer.

New Member Orientation

Getting the most from your membership. How HAAUG works to serve you.

Business Meeting

The business meeting will be conducted before or after the Main Presentation.

Main Presentations

Joe Muscara

Presentation and debut of Freeway Pro 4 from Softpress.

Reagan Atkinson

Houston Camera Exchange

Hp Representatives

New HP products and more!

Homepage 101

Tamara Lewis

Learn the ends and outs of developing and implementling personal and commercial websites.

Digital Photography

Joe Muscara

Bring your cameras, bring your photos (printed or electronic) and we'll discuss what makes a great photo.

Media consumption on the Mac

How to use Real Audio, Streaming MP3, Microsoft Media, iTunes and QuickTime with your Mac.

Mac One on One

Members helping members, one at a time.

December SIG Schedule

Find out when and where your SIG will be taking place.

	Auditorium	Classroom	Commons	Small Room
9 a.m.	Mac 101& Mac Fundamentals			New Member Orientation
10 a.m.	Mac 101& Mac Fundamentals	Mac One on One & Workshops	Green Apples	New Member Orientation
11:00 a.m.	11:00 to 11:15 - We will transition to the business meeting and main presentation in the auditorium. Get in early, we'll move the schedule as fast as we can.			
11:15 a.m.	Business Meeting.			
11:30 a.m.	Debut of Freeway Pro 4, Houston Camera Exchange & HP.			
12:30 a.m.	Homepage 101	Workshops	Digital Photography	Mac One on One
1:30 p.m.	Web Media		Digital Photography	Mac One on One
2:30 p.m.	Tear down, pack it up, and clean it up...			
3:30 a.m.	BBQ SIG location to be determined by consensus.			
Room assignments are subject to change at any time. SIG leaders are volunteers, be nice to them.				

December Main Presentation:

Presentation on the NEW Freeway Pro 4, Houston Camera Exchange & Hewlett Packard

Classifieds

Products and support for the Macintosh Community

Got a story, review 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

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Minutes

Of the HAAUG Board of Director's Meeting - October 4, 2005

Attendees:

David Jaschke, Clair Jaschke, Lyda McGhee, Phil Booth, Jeff Davis, Barbara Long, Rick Roberts, Jim Connell, Casey Sivula, Doug Smith, Robert Lacey, Gene Zimmerman, Rex Covington, Joe Fournet, Mike Epstein.

Call to Order: 6:30 p.m. by President, Rex Covington.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The geek wedding shower for Tamara Sasha Lewis will be held on Saturday, October 15, 2005 at Ziggy's from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

REPORTS:

Secretary - Lyda McGhee: The August minutes were approved as written.

1st Vice President - Doug Smith: Jennifer Dyer and Gordon Bell from ProSoft Engineering will be here in October (Drive Genius) and they will be giving away an iPod Shuffle to a HAAUG member at this meeting. We will also have a special FileMaker 8 presentation from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Andrew Stone from Stone Design will be here in November and Joe Muscara will present Freeway at the December meeting along with a presentation on HP printers. The swap meet is in January. Bob LeVitus will be the speaker for the February meeting and DealMac will be here in March. The Mac Challenge will take place in April 2006.

2nd Vice President - Casey Sivula: HAAUG is booked at the Rice Media Center through the end of the year. The January swap meet will be held on the third Saturday and, since the Bellaire Civic Center is not available, Casey is looking at the Park Plaza and the UH Hilton. The cost will be in the \$1,000 range. It would be nice to have a silent auction to help offset the cost. Casey is also working with Rice regarding the 2006 meeting schedule.

Treasurer - Barbara Long: Barbara will send her reports tomorrow via email.

Membership - David Jaschke (interim): There are now 293 members. In the month of September, we had 2 new members, 1 two-year renewal, and 6 regular renewals. In September, 2004 our membership was 395.

Regular members	276	
Student members	9	
Associate members		2
Lifetime members	6	
TOTAL		293

Apple Barrel - Tamara Sasha Lewis: Tamara will send out the draft to board members no later than Thursday.

Advertising Manager: This position is open.

Boutique - Barbara Long: There were no sales at the September meeting.

HAAUG Heaven - Robert Lacey: HAAUGHeaven is up and running but not too many people are using it. There is an effort being made to get members to sign up for the forums.

HAAUGNet - Jeff Davis: HAAUGNet had uninterrupted service last month, even through the hurricane. There is one new HAAUGNet member.

Publicity - Casey Sivula: A new flier was sent out and it looked great. We will need to change the flier to show that the Mac Challenge will not be held in November.

Vision - Joe Fournet: No report.

SIG Coordinator - Rick Roberts: The iPod SIG went well in September and will continue but probably not in October since that meeting is pretty well filled with the FileMaker and ProSoft presentations. Attendance at the evening SIGs has been pretty sparse except for Rex's FileMaker SIG, which consistently brings in new members. Rick would like to have a Video SIG at the general meeting with focus on iMovie. There was more socialization at the September meeting with cookies, chips, and soft drinks. It was a success.

HAAUG Hotline - John Reeves: The hotline is currently up and running.

Webmaster - Jeff Davis: Jeff thanked those members who helped to update the website.

Volunteer Coordinator - Casey Sivula: The position of Advertising Manager is still open and we need a new membership chairman.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MacFest 2006 Committee - There was a meeting Thursday of last week and the Park Plaza will be the location for MacFest 2006. The speakers are not confirmed yet but LeVitus and Breen look good. Phil is still checking on the cost of having lunch on site. Pricing for MacFest is as follows: HAAUG members - \$25 (\$35 at the door); non-members - \$35 (\$45 at the door). For HAAUG members, the cost will be \$20 if the ticket is bought before the January swap meet.

HAAUG History Committee - No report.

Brochure Committee - No report.

Photo Contest - There have been five new photo registrations. Rex will send out another email this week regarding the photo contest. Usually, people wait until the last minute to register. Due to the hurricane, the deadline for registrations will be extended through the end of October with the announcement of the winners at the

November general meeting. The new deadline for registrations will be announced in the Apple Barrel and at the October general meeting. Prizes include an HP printer and something nice from Houston Camera Exchange.

OLD BUSINESS:

Woodlands SIG - Gene Zimmerman reported that the first Woodlands SIG will be a general Mac SIG. The first one will be held at the Apple Store in the Woodlands (sponsored by HAAUG) at 7:00 p.m. on October 18th. Subsequent monthly meetings will be held at the Montgomery Community College. The facility will be provided at no cost to HAAUG and has WiFi connections. These arrangements will be mentioned on the website and on the HAAUG Calendar. The Apple Store will mention the HAAUG SIG at their .Mac presentation.

NEW BUSINESS:

Rent - Up to \$600 was approved for the October meeting.

Business cards - The board approved \$80 to be spent on 1,000 business cards.

There was a general discussion of board member responsibilities.

Elections - We should have a slate of candidates put together by the November board meeting. An email will be sent to members about nominations and the election.

Nominations Committee - David Jaschke will chair this committee.

Budget Committee - Clair Jaschke (chair), Barbara Long, Rick Roberts, Rex Covington.

Audit Committee - This committee needs to be set up before the end of the year.

Adjourned: 7:56 p.m.

NOTE:

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



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For more information, please visit <http://www.haaugnet.org>

The Houston Area Apple Users Group Board of Directors meets on the first Tuesday of every month. All members are invited. The meeting is held at:

Ziggy's Healthy Grill
2202 W. Alabama
Houston, TX 77098

(713)527-8588



www.ziggyshealthygrill.com

Upcoming Events

Subscribe to the HAAUG iCalendar at www.iCalShare.com

Apple Barrel
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Apple Barrel's editors have a policy to 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 <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 to non-members.

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.

December 20th

Woodlands MAC SIG • 7pm - 9 pm
Montgomery College in Room E210

January 21st

Swap Meet and Silent Auction
University of Houston Hilton Hotel, Shamrock Room

February 18th

General Meeting • 9am - 3:30pm

Volunteers, we thank YOU!!!

There are many opportunities to volunteer, and we appreciate all of you who pitch in with our organization of "Members Helping Members." That's what it's all about!

Whether it's unfolding chairs or tables, assisting with the boutique, helping out at the membership desk, helping the SIG coordinator, joining committees, teaching a class, or serving on the Board of Directors—it all helps and we appreciate it! See you at the next meeting!

Casey Sivula, Volunteer Coordinator

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

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 Brittmore, Suite N • 713-937-3334

Recycle America Waste Management Asset Recovery Group

2102 Atascocita Road, Humble • 281-540-8900

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For more information on computer recycling opportunities, visit:

<http://www.chron.com/content/chronicle/special/03/recycle/index.html>

Houston Area Apple Users Group 2005 Officers and Directors

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Doug Smith

2nd Vice President Facilities

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Lyda McGhee

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Jim Connell

Director-at-Large 2

Michael Epstein

Director-at-Large 3

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Director-at-Large 4

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