

Apple Barrel

The Journal of the Houston Area Apple Users Group



December 2009

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HAAUG Holiday Gift Guide

Saturday, December 19th

Join us for the last meeting of 2009 as we show you the top picks for holiday shopping this year. We'll show our own recommendations as well as those from top Mac personalities.

SIG's start at 9am and the main meeting begins at 11:15. See you there!

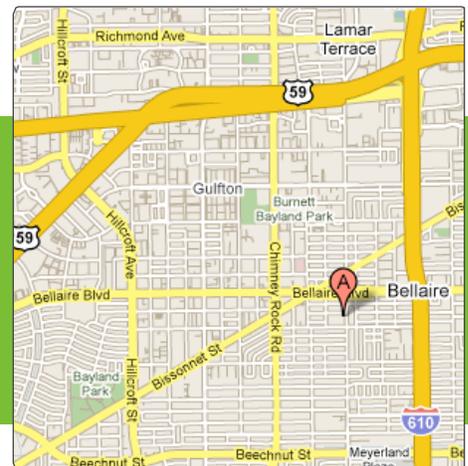


P.O. Box 570957
Houston, Texas 77257-0957

Meeting Location

Bellaire Civic Center
7008 South Rice Avenue
Bellaire, TX 77401

Just outside Loop 610 and
south of Bellaire Blvd.



Boss HAAUG Speaks

Monthly Address from the HAAUG President



Happy holidays from everyone at HAAUG!

As we close on 2009 and look forward to starting 2010, it's always useful to look back at the year and what we've been able to accomplish together as a group. We've had a great year of pertinent topics and informative special guests, as well as two successful Swap Meets. On the administrative side, we've been able to significantly cut overhead costs by moving to a new Web host and by identifying other ways HAAUG can better spend its money. Our Board of Directors is also hard at work on plans for 2010, and I'm very excited about the ideas being discussed.

HAAUG itself is one of the longest-running Mac user groups in the country and it's a testament to the dedication of everyone in HAAUG to help the group succeed. Several times since I joined HAAUG, I have been asked the same question: "Do MUG's matter anymore?" I have long believed that they do indeed matter, and have discussed the very subject in this column before. Recently, I had the good fortune to discuss the question with someone at Apple, and he wholeheartedly agreed. While we both shared concerns with attracting new, younger members to MUG's and the increasing reliance on the Internet to get questions answered as opposed to your local MUG, we both agreed that the MUG is still indeed extremely useful.

I've heard over and over that the Web is an easy go-to place for answers to questions and issues we all experience with our Macs, iPods and iPhones. HAAUG has a great deal of knowledge on the subjects to share, and because of this we should embrace the Web as a MUG tool rather than a mutually exclusive alternative. Unfortunately, today HAAUG really doesn't have a Web presence that can effectively serve the membership as fully as I would like. Don't take this to believe that I don't like our Web site, as the truth is quite the opposite. Based on research I've done online, our MUG site is light years ahead of many other MUG's on the Web. We should strive for a higher goal, however, and look at haaug.org as an extension of the physical group. In a nutshell, this means building an online community to complement our general and SIG meetings. This online community should be HAAUG's "home away from home", meaning you can reap the benefits of your HAAUG membership every day. This is also an opportunity for HAAUG's leadership to deliver more information to our members, whether it be a quick Mac OS X tip or a video of the presentation you missed last month. It would also allow members to easily share Web sites, videos and podcasts with the rest of the group.

The reason for all of this is exceedingly simple: we want HAAUG's members to get as much as possible out of their membership, and keep everyone coming back to HAAUG to get their questions answered and share their knowledge. I look forward to working with everyone in the coming year and encourage each of you to share what you'd like to see HAAUG accomplish in 2010. Thanks as always, and I'll see you on the 19th!

Matt Willmore
President, HAAUG

Holiday Sale on Wiley Books

40% Off Mac Titles for MUG Members!

Our friends at Wiley Publishing have announced a holiday sale with many of their Apple-related books on sale at 40% off the standard price. This is a tremendous deal for someone looking to broaden their knowledge on a particular subject like iPhone programming or as a more general reference, like for Snow Leopard.



To take advantage of the sale, go to wiley.com and use the promo code **MAC10** at checkout to receive the discount. Some of these books are not yet published, but you can order today with the promo code and receive the book at the lower price when it ships.

ISBN	Title
9780470565193	Teach Yourself VISUALLY MacBook, 2nd Edition
9780470568033	Teach Yourself VISUALLY iMac
9780470474198	Mac Security Bible
9780470525869	Apple Automator with AppleScript Bible
9780470481073	Cocoa Touch for iPhone OS 3
9780470560648	MacBook Portable Genius, 2nd Edition
9780470496664	iPhone Game Development
9780470521311	Snow Leopard Server
9780470525685	Mac OS X Snow Leopard Digital Classroom
9780470560631	MacBook Pro Portable Genius, 2nd Edition
9780470534861	Mac OS X Snow Leopard Visual Quick Tips
9780470508381	Mac OS X Snow Leopard Simplified
9780470436387	Teach Yourself VISUALLY Mac OS X Snow Leopard
9780470453636	Mac OS X Snow Leopard Bible
9780470436370	Mac OS X Snow Leopard Portable Genius
9780470500972	Beginning iPhone SDK Programming with Objective-C
9780470549667	Safari and WebKit Development for iPhone OS 3.0
9780470683989	iPhone SDK 3 Programming: Advanced Mobile Development for Apple iPhone and iPod touch

QuickTip



When you hit Page Up or Page Down in certain OS X programs (TextEdit for one), the cursor position normally doesn't move; only your scroll position does. As a result, typing or using an arrow key will zoom you back to the cursor position. If you prefer to move the cursor position too, hold Option along with Page Up or Page Down. You can add in Shift to select the text, too.

<http://www.macosxhints.com/article.php?story=20091125085551262>

Holiday Bundle from MacUpdate

11 Apps for \$49.99 – what a deal!

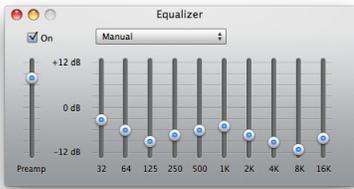


QuickTip

Are you somewhat disappointed with the output from iTunes? If so, you might try using the equalizer to modify the output levels at various frequencies. There are a number of pre-defined settings, but the MacFormat tip contained a different set of suggested levels.

Open the equalizer, and from the pop-up menu, select "Make Preset." Call it "Perfect," because it is, and set the following levels, from left to right (skip the Preamp section):

db +3, +6, +9, +7, +6, +5, +7, +9, +11, +8 db



The image shows about what it should look like when you're done. Make sure you check the "On" box to activate the equalizer, too. These settings produce absolutely the best balance I've ever heard. My home computer speakers are ablaze with sound now.

<http://www.macintoshhints.com/article.php?story=20040902070807431>



Keeping on the theme of great deals for the holidays, MacUpdate has announced a new holiday app bundle definitely worth taking a look at. For

\$49.99, you get 11 solid, well-known apps. Bought individually, these apps together would cost \$333! This is a great way to get those apps you've been eyeing for a while and receive some extra ones along the way. Here are the apps included:



PathFinder 5.5 – your Finder on steroids

Socialite – manage your social networks in a single app



Yep 2 – document/information manager

Speed Download – download manager/accelerator



Radio Gaga – Internet radio player/recorder

GarageSale – eBay auction page creator



iRip – iPod-to-Mac media transfer tool

DragThing – venerable launching tool



HealthNut – calorie and nutrient tracker

PCalc 3.5 – full-function scientific calculator



Machinarium – puzzle/adventure game

Get more information on this bundle at <http://www.mupromo.com>.

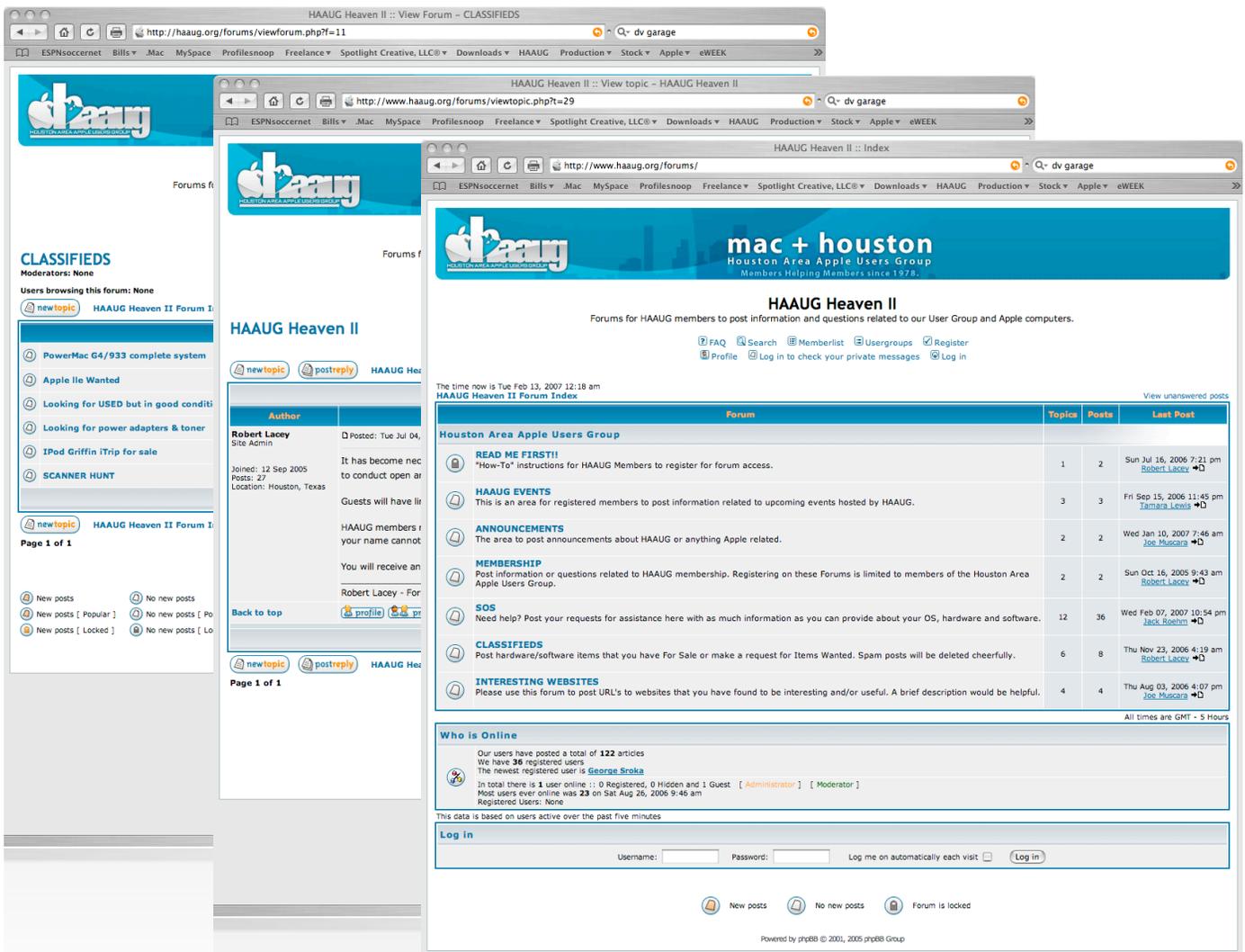
Find great specials online!

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



NOTE: You must be a current registered HAAUG member to use these discounts.

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

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Products and support for the Macintosh community

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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, November 3, 2009

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

Attendees: Philip Booth, Jim Connell, Michael Epstein, Clair Jaschke, David Jaschke, Mike King, Barbara Long (via iChat), Rick Roberts, Doug Smith (via iChat), Matt Willmore and Greg Wright (via iChat).

Call to order: 6:39 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 October 6, 2009, were unanimously approved as submitted.

Treasurer – Barbara Long: Barbara reported that HAAUG has approximately \$7,500 in its bank account. As of October 1, 2009, HAAUG is still paying IAPC for hosting the HAAUG Hotline. She has requested Jeff Davis to submit an invoice covering his services and the web hosting fees of MacHighway. Matt requested Barbara and Jeff to determine whether HAAUG has a term contract for the Yellow Pages listing for the HAAUG Hotline.

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

2nd Vice President Facilities – David Crook: Phil Booth reported that HAAUG has booked the Bellaire Civic Center for all of its meetings in 2010. He requested that a link for booking tables for the January Swap Meet be placed on the HAAUG website.

SIG Coordinator – Rick Roberts: Rick announced that he has submitted the SIG schedule for the November General Meeting. There are no changes from the SIGs for last month's General Meeting.

Apple Barrel Editor– Tamara Alexander: No report. Matt reported that he will be meeting with a couple of HAAUG members to discuss plans for expanding and enhancing the Apple Barrel and will invite anyone else who is interested to participate by iChat.

Membership – David Jaschke: HAAUG had 206 members at the end of September 2009, a decrease of four members from September 2009. HAAUG had 237 members at the end of October 2008. Five members renewed their membership. No new members joined HAAUG last month.

Webmaster – Jeff Davis: No report.

HAAUG Heaven Forum - Robert Lacey: No report.

HAAUGNet -Jeff Davis. No report. Jeff still needs to confirm that HAAUGNet has ended.

Old Business:

MacFest: No report.

Lapsed Member Call List: David Jaschke and Barbara Long are working on compiling a list of lapsed members.

Budget Committee: Phil Booth, Barbara Long, Matt Willmore and Greg Wright are serving on the committee this year. Barbara will set a date for the meeting.

Officer Nominations/Election: David Jaschke reported that Robert Lacey and Tamara Alexander have declined to run for officer positions for next year. The following officers have agreed to stand for re-election: Jim Connell, Secretary; David Jaschke, Membership Chairman; and Barbara Long, Treasurer. Michael Epstein, Mike King and Greg Wright will stand for re-election as Directors. One Director position will need to be filled. Jeff Davis has not indicated

Minutes

HAAUG Board of Directors Meeting – Tuesday, November 3, 2009

whether he will serve again as Webmaster. Final nominations will be sought from the membership at the November General Meeting.

Website/Email Transition Status: No report.

New Business:

HAAUG/HAAUGNet Email Accounts: Matt reported that the email accounts appear to be working normally. He is assisting a couple of members who use Entourage that cannot connect to their HAAUG email accounts.

Main Presentation Topic for December General Meeting: Matt reported that Reagan Atkinson from Houston Camera Exchange will be the speaker for the Main Presentation at the November General Meeting. The website and HAAUG Hotline have been updated for the November General Meeting. The board then discussed possible topics for the Main Presentation at the December General Meeting, including a holiday shopping guide, as the meeting will be held on the last Saturday before Christmas. Phil Booth mentioned the possibility of the members bringing gifts for a charitable donation, since the meeting will be held past the deadline for the Toys for Tots Campaign.

Content for the November Apple Barrel: Matt requested that articles for the next edition of the Apple Barrel be submitted by November 14.

2010 Plans: Matt reviewed the progress that has been made this year in migrating the HAAUG website and the FileMaker database to new hosting sites. David Jaschke suggested exploring transitioning the HAAUG website to a software program that would be more accessible than the current program and allow more members to assist in keeping the website updated. Other suggestions included (i) Podcasting of Main Presentations at the monthly General Meetings; (ii) converting HAAUG Heaven from its current format to something more like Facebook; (iii) ensuring that the president and at least two other officers have a list of all passwords for accessing HAAUG content; and (iv) updating the iCal calendar on the website. Matt will ask Joe Fournet to call a meeting of the Vision Committee in January to address these issues.

Adjourned: 7:31 p.m.

STARTRONICS

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Upcoming Events

Houston Area Apple Users Group 2009 Officers and Directors

President
Matt Willmore

1st Vice President Programs
OPEN [Doug Smith]

2nd Vice President Facilities
David Crook

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 Wright

Apple Barrel Editor
OPEN

HAAUG Heaven Sysop
Robert Lacey

Membership Chairman
David Jaschke

SIG Coordinator
Rick Roberts

Immediate Past President
Phil Booth

Boutique Manager
Barbara Long

Webmaster
Jeff Davis

HAAUGNet Admin
Robert Lacey

HAAUG Hotline
Phil Booth

Mentor Program
- OPEN -

Publicity Chairman
Jim Connell

Vision Committee Chairman
Joe Fournet

Volunteer Coordinator
David Crook

Senior Advisor
Claire Jaschke

Apple User Group Liaison
Doug Smith

Saturday, December 19th, 2009

Holiday Buying Guides

Join us in December as we cover all the Mac buying guides we can find online. Learn what Mac personalities such as Bob LeVitus say are the must-have Mac gifts this year.

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

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

Topic TBA

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

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

www.haaug.org/meetings.htm



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SIG Schedule

Send comments and questions to Rick Roberts, SIG Coordinator at rroberts@me.com

	Main Room	2nd Room
9 a.m.	Mac 101	Quicken
10 a.m.	Jonathan Magnus	Digital Photography
11 a.m.	Club Business	
11:15 a.m.	Main Presentation: Holiday Gift Guide	
1 p.m.	Social Media	iTunes iPhone iPod

Main Presentation: We will be presenting the hot tech items on this year's gift lists, where to find them and what we love about them.

Mac 101 & Fundamentals Jonathan Magnus* - The SIG for basic to advanced Macintosh topics.

Quicken Clair Jaschke – Quicken, the all time most useful money application.

Digital Photography Andrew Polk – Bring your cameras, bring your photos and we'll discuss what makes a great photo.

Social Media Matt Willmore – Twitter & Facebook.

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. Be ready to volunteer to lead the SIG!

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

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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: _____ Last: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Email: _____

Type Of Computer: _____

Membership:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Membership (\$45.00) | <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal (\$40.00) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Early Renewal (\$35.00) | <input type="checkbox"/> Two Year Renewal (\$70.00) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Associate (\$25.00) | <input type="checkbox"/> 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 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 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 active HAAUG member and new 2009 HAAUG President, Matt Willmore.

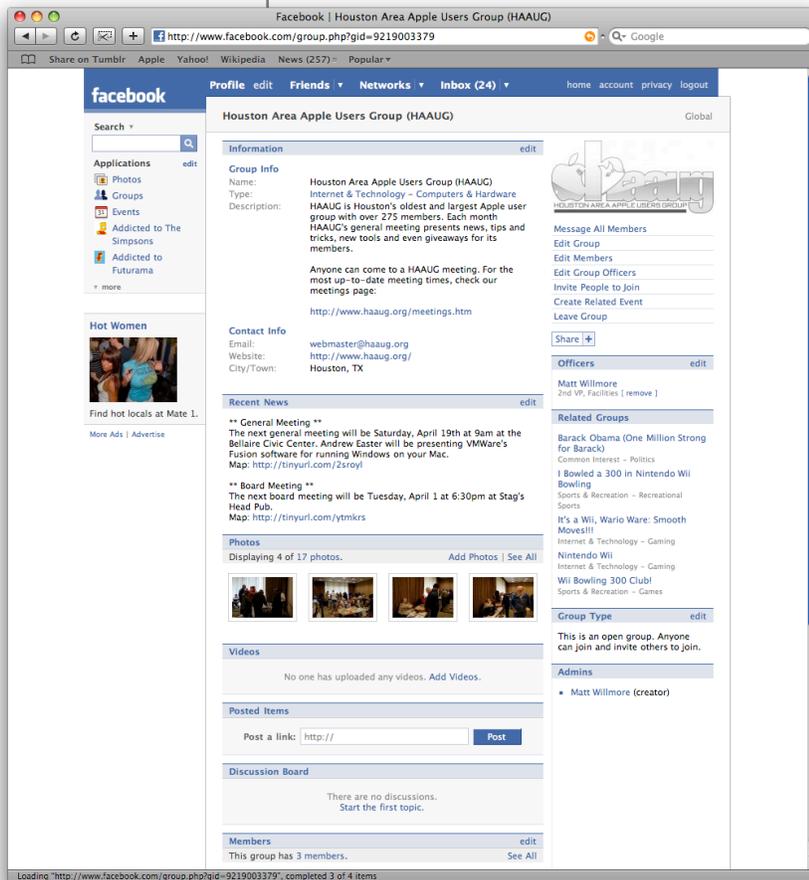
Facebook:

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

(must be a Facebook member to view)

MySpace:

<http://groups.myspace.com/haug> (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.