



# Rmug News

September 2005

## This Month

RMUG Meeting, Saturday morning  
Sept 10, 2005 9-11:30 a.m.

**All Mac users, new & old** are invited  
to attend the next RMUG general meeting  
at:

the home of Jim and Donna Pace,  
2847 Balaton, Redding

Coffee and donuts will be available during  
our "Get Acquainted" time, 9 am to 10  
am. There are classes for "Beginners"  
and "Intermediate" from 9:15 to 10:00 am.

Topics this month will include safari  
enhancer / browser customization.  
Related personal creativity projects and  
issues; as well as the usual Q&A.

## Contents

Presidents Letter	1
RMUG Information	2
Secretary's Notes	3
Old Dogs / New Tricks	3
Mac Classes	3
For Sale	4
Important iMac G5 Info	4
Apples Next Test	5
BOSE Sound Doc	8
MP3 Players	8
Editorial	9
Our Host	10
Dale j's Dog	10

## Rmug Officers

*Marcus Harner - President*  
*Jim Pace - Vice President*  
*Charlotte Ruskowitz - Treasurer*  
*Jacquie Martin - Secretary*  
*Dale Josephson - Librarian*  
*Ken Lorenz - Editor*  
*Barbara Benefield,*  
*Louise Zegers,*  
*- Hospitality*

## President's Letter

Hello again Mac Users,

A Windows using friend called me a few days ago to tell me that he was getting a Mac. Albeit he wasn't getting rid of his Windows box and the Mac he was getting is a used Rev. D iMac, but the idea was planted. The idea that there is an alternative to the dominant OS, it's Macintosh. Even if the reason for having a Mac is to dabble and tinker with a foreign (to him) computer, there must be some consideration that Windows is not perfect.

During the phone call when he was giving me the news, I quickly tried to think of things I could do to make his Mac experience better. Being quite a bright fellow, I knew it would be of little use to help him with the basic Mac user interface, I mean it's a Mac. The one question that was not answered on the short call was OS 9 or OS X. This iMac was of course build for OS 9, but I think, because this computer will be mainly used for exploring and learning about the OS, then the newest OS X (10.4) may be the way to go. Of course performance will be suffering, but it is not being used as a production computer anyway. One area where I could help was to suggest a list of the 'essential' applications that do not come with the OS. Most of these apps have versions in both 9 and X.

My short list is currently:

Graphic Converter - for simple graphics editing  
Text Wrangle (or the free version of BBEdit) - text editing  
Disk Warrior - for fixing drive problems  
Photoshop Elements - for photo editing  
Office - Office is also used on his Windows box  
Fetch - for FTP  
Skype (OS X only) - free voice over IP phone calls

If you can think of any other essential apps, please let me know at the next meeting.

Thanks, and hope to see everyone there.

Marcus Harner

# RMUG Information

**Why RMUG?** The Redding Macintosh Users' Group was formed to help members and new users obtain maximum enjoyment and performance from their computers. This is accomplished through group activities and our direct affiliation with Apple™.

**Resources:** RMUG resources include monthly mailings from Apple™ and numerous outside vendors. We have a library of public domain programs, games and shareware software. We have videos and other computer-related guidebooks and information.

**Meetings:** RMUG meetings are held on the second Saturday of each month from 9:00 to 11:30 am – contact any club officer for meeting location. The meetings give members and visitors an opportunity to share information, opinions, personal experiences and techniques regarding Macintosh computer systems—hardware & software.

**Membership Information:** We invite you, as a guest, to attend our next monthly meeting. If you decide to join RMUG, your membership fee includes your whole family. We need your help as much as you need ours! Please participate!

**Welcome To Our Meetings:** Call the President, Marcus Harner at 245-0895 or contact other RMUG officers for help. Go to <http://rmug.org/membership.html> for numbers.

**Membership Dues:** \$24 / year. Includes newsletters, access to shareware, monthly workshops, troubleshooting help. Payment of dues can be made at the monthly meetings or send them to: *Charlotte Ruskowitz, 6538 Mossom Ln., Anderson CA 96007* . Please make check payable to: Redding Macintosh Users' Group.

## SECRETARY'S NOTES

MINUTES - RMUG MEETING, AUGUST 13, 2005

The August meeting was our annual picnic. This year it was at the home of Jim and Donna Pace. I was not able to attend, but I understand that the day was most enjoyable. Beautiful back yard, pool, lots of good food, and good company. Who could ask for more.

Our next meeting will be September 10 at the home of Jim and Donna Pace, 2847 Balaton, Redding, 96001. They have a beautiful back yard and graciously volunteered to host the September meeting. (Yaks Coffee Shop was not able to accommodate us for the month of September. We will resume meeting at Yaks in October.) The Beginners will meet separately as usual. The topic for the Intermediate group will be Safari Enhancer / Browser Customization.

Jacquie Martin,  
Secretary

## OLD DOGS/NEW TRICKS

### DIGITAL CAMERAS

Huh, what's that? A part of the computer revolution that is changing all of our lives is having its effect on our ability to take pictures. The digital camera is among the latest in computer accessories (it is more than a gadget).

An artist can draw a line or a shape with his brush and it is a sharp line in contrast to the background. Our older cameras could take a picture with a line and most of the time it was a little fuzzy compared to the background.

Printers (like newspapers) found a way to draw a line and print a picture with little dots. When the dots were small enough your eye could not tell the difference between the little dots and a smooth line. A magnifying glass was often used to determine how many dots there were per square inch.

The computer industry needed to draw lines and shapes. The computer monitor was displaying very small squares. Lines that were horizontal or vertical (+) it could draw very well. But lines that were on an angle (/) or circles (O) looked like very small stair steps. The computer and digital cameras now use very very small squares called "pixels." They are so small they are measured in Millions per square inch. This is so small the human eye cannot detect the squares so an angle or a circle or a picture looks smooth and sharp.

The digital camera does not use film. It uses a memory device called a "Memory stick" or a "Smart card". A business card folded into thirds is approximately the size of the memory device. These can hold hundreds of pictures. All of the pictures or any one of the pictures can be printed or stored on your computer. The memory device can be erased and used over and over.

No film to buy. No exposure to light. No trips to the store to have pictures developed. Hundreds of pictures can be stored on a small memory device. Take 10 or 20 pictures of the same item, keep the best and erase the rest. Who knows? You might get hooked on becoming a photographer.

Will the electronic miracles never cease? Maybe I was born 30 years too soon to see it all.

By Allen Hall

## MAC CLASS TO BEGIN

Well it is time for the classes to resume at the Frontier Senior Center in Anderson. Classes will start back up on September 12th at 1:00 PM. Classes meet regularly every Monday from 1:00 pm till 3:00 pm that are not a Federal Holiday. There was no response to the request for a Beginners instructor, so the Beginner and Intermediate classes will continue to be combined into the one Monday class.

Michael 347-6599

continued on page 4

## FOR SALE:

Still looking for a home for an ALPS Photo Printer. (See a previous NL for the particulars) Please let me know if you are interested in this SCSI Photo Printer.

Michael 347-6599

## Important iMac G5 Info:

iMac G5 Repair Extension Program for Video and Power Issues  
August 18, 2005  
Frequently Asked Questions

iMac G5 Repair Extension Program for Video and Power Issues The iMac G5 Repair Extension Program for Video and Power Issues applies to first generation iMac G5 computers that have video or power-related issues as a result of a specific component failure. If your iMac G5 is exhibiting any of the symptoms listed below and your computer's serial number is within the noted ranges, your computer may be eligible for repair, free of charge. If Apple or an Apple Authorized Service Provider (AASP) determines that your iMac G5 computer is eligible as part of the program, the repair will be covered by Apple for up to two years from the original date of purchase even if your iMac G5 is out of warranty. This is a worldwide Apple program.

Affected systems will exhibit one of the following video- or power-related symptoms:

- \* Scrambled or distorted video
- \* No video
- \* No power

Note: If your iMac G5 is not experiencing any of these symptoms, you do not have to contact Apple or any Apple Authorized Service Provider.

Which iMac G5 computers are affected by the iMac G5 Repair Extension Program for Video and Power Issues?  
The program is available for certain iMac G5

models that were sold between approximately September 2004 and June 2005 featuring 17- and 20-inch displays with 1.6GHz and 1.8GHz G5 processors.

The affected iMac G5 computers have serial numbers where the first 5 digits fall into the ranges noted below.

Serial Number ranges:

- \* W8435xxxxxx - W8522xxxxxx
- \* QP435xxxxxx - QP522xxxxxx
- \* CK435xxxxxx - CK522xxxxxx
- \* YD435xxxxxx - YD522xxxxxx

Where do I find the serial number of my iMac G5?

The 11-digit serial number is located on a label under the foot of the iMac G5. There is a bar code underneath the serial number. To view the label, hold the sides of the iMac and gently lay the computer face down on a soft, clean towel or cloth.

Is the iMac G5 Repair Extension program available for other Apple computers?

This program applies only to the systems noted in this FAQ. Other versions of the iMac G5 line are not part of this program.

How can I tell if my computer is affected by the component failure identified for the iMac G5 Repair Extension Program?

An Apple technical support representative or an Apple Authorized Service Provider (AASP) will need to physically examine your computer to determine if the component failure identified for the iMac G5 Repair Extension Program affects your computer and, if so, arrange for the repair.

How can I participate in the iMac G5 Repair Extension Program?

To participate in the program, please bring your iMac G5 to the Mac Genius Bar at your local Apple Retail store or Apple Authorized Service Provider (AASP), or call your local Apple contact center. The U.S. support number is 1-800-275-2273. If you are located outside the U.S., please

[continued on page 5](#)

## IMAC G5 CONTINUED:

see Apple's international contact list for your local Apple Technical Support phone number.

Apple Retail Store  
Apple Authorized Service Provider  
Apple Support Contact information

What if my computer exhibits symptoms not caused by the component Apple has identified for the iMac G5 Repair Extension Program?

It is possible that your iMac G5 may exhibit video or power issues that are unrelated to the component failure identified by Apple as part of this program and are not covered under this program. Apple or an AASP can help you troubleshoot these issues. If your iMac G5 is not covered under warranty or an extended service agreement, such as the AppleCare Protection Plan, repairs for other issues will be made at your expense if you request that they be made.

I have a remanufactured iMac G5 that fits the description noted. How can I determine whether my iMac G5 qualifies for the program?

If your iMac G5 is one of the models listed and exhibits one or more of the symptoms above, please bring your iMac G5 to the Mac Genius Bar at your local Apple Retail store or Apple Authorized Service Provider (AASP), or call your local Apple contact center. An Apple technical support representative or an AASP will examine your computer to determine if the component failure identified for the iMac G5 Repair Extension Program affects your computer and, if so, arrange for the repair.

Is there a cost for participating in the iMac G5 Repair Extension Program for Video and Power Issues?

If Apple or an Apple Authorized Service Provider (AASP) determines that your iMac G5 computer is eligible as part of the program, the repair will be covered by Apple even if your iMac G5 is out of warranty.

How long is the iMac G5 Repair Extension Program available?

The program covers affected iMac G5 computers for up to two years from the original date of purchase. Apple will continue to evaluate the repair data and will provide further repair extensions as needed.

Does the iMac G5 Repair Extension Program extend the warranty coverage on my iMac G5?  
No. This program does not extend the standard warranty coverage.

Are there any known safety issues caused by this component failure?  
No.

Can I determine if my iMac G5 has the component failure and fix it myself?

No. Apple or an Apple Authorized Service Provider (AASP) must evaluate whether your iMac G5 computer is eligible as part of the program and then conduct the repair.

If my iMac G5 is still under warranty, how does this program affect me?

If your iMac G5 is eligible for the program and within its warranty period, you will have your system repaired at no cost to you. If your iMac G5 experiences the symptoms described above and is determined to be eligible under this program by Apple or an AASP after your Standard One Year Warranty expires, the program covers affected iMac G5 computers for up to two years from the original date of purchase.

Submitted by dalej

## Apples Next Test:

Steven P. Jobs took the stage at Apple Computer's Worldwide Developers Conference... to tell more than 3,000 of his most enthusiastic fans - and occasionally also his harshest critics - that he was giving them a new homework assignment: to rework their Macintosh programs to run on chips from Intel.

Apple's decision to shift the Macintosh microprocessor business to Intel, a longtime rival,

continued on page 6

## APPLES TEST CONTINUED:

after more than a decade with I.B.M. was the latest bold maneuver in his eight years back at the Apple helm, a period in which he has reinvigorated the Macintosh line and overseen Apple's ascendancy in the digital music business.

Mr. Jobs said the company would begin incorporating Intel chips in some Macs reaching the market next year and largely complete the changeover by 2008. For the transition, Apple will offer a new version of its operating system, Macintosh OS X Tiger, that will run on both I.B.M. and Intel chips. One immediate challenge will be to persuade Apple customers to continue to buy Mac computers based on I.B.M.'s PowerPC chip while they wait for the Intel versions to arrive. But in an interview after his presentation on Monday, Mr. Jobs said he believed that Apple would be able to navigate around that obstacle.

To hear Mr. Jobs describe it, the switch was a logical and straightforward business decision.

"It didn't feel to me like a long march," he said, describing a moment several months ago when he realized he would end his relationship with I.B.M. He said the decision seemed obvious to his small team of top managers. "There was a day when we looked at each other and said, 'this is the right thing to do.' "

Indeed, it was a contingency he had been preparing for since he returned to Apple, he said on Monday. He showed a satellite map of Apple's corporate headquarters and pinpointed the building where a secret engineering project, code-named Marklar, had been tuning Apple's software on Intel-powered computers bought off the shelf.

"Macintosh OS X has been leading a secret double life for the past five years," he said.

Apple had been counting on a version of the PowerPC processor that required less power

and produced less heat, but had not gotten one from I.B.M. and its partner, Freescale Semiconductor. In addition, several analysts said they believed that I.B.M. had refused Apple's demands for deep discounts.

No financial details of the Apple-Intel deal were disclosed.

On Wall Street on Monday, both Apple and Intel shares moved down slightly. Apple's stock closed at \$37.92, down 32 cents, while Intel's stock ended at \$27.17, off 16 cents.

Yet a number of Wall Street analysts said the deal made sense. "My belief is that Apple had to do it," said Eugene Munster, an analyst with Piper Jaffray. "Clearly, they needed better availability, better pricing and a better development community." Mr. Munster has an outperform rating for Apple stock.

For his part, Mr. Jobs did not ascribe his decision to any pique with I.B.M., of which Apple remains a customer for other chips. Rather, he said he had become convinced that over the next three years Intel would win the race to deliver the most computer processing power per watt. He showed a chart projecting a significant advantage for Intel, which has struggled with heat problems in its own chips in recent years.

Several analysts said Monday that they were skeptical of such claims.

"We're not sure about whether Intel is that much better than A.M.D. or I.B.M.," said Richard Doherty, president of the Envisioning Group, a consulting firm in Seaford, N.Y. The crucial factor in the deal was probably price, he said.

If outsiders are not true believers, however, Intel is. At the event Monday at the Moscone Center here, Paul S. Otellini, Intel's chief executive, gave Mr. Jobs a bear hug and said his company held no grudges for earlier Apple advertisements that poked fun at Intel's Pentium chips.

Moreover, Mr. Otellini was blunt in pointing out that

continued on page 7

## APPLES TEST CONTINUED:

although Apple's chip purchases might not make a significant contribution to his company's income statement, Intel was eager to move its technical innovations to market more quickly.

"It's a chance to reignite innovation," he said.

Indeed, despite Apple's small share of the personal computer market, the Intel-Apple partnership could affect the balance in the industry, providing Intel's labs with a channel beyond the Windows world of Microsoft - a longtime partner but one that Intel has periodically clashed with regarding competing technologies.

In his presentation today, Mr. Jobs painted a picture of a smooth technical transition from I.B.M. to Intel chips. He mustered support from two crucial Mac program developers, Microsoft and Adobe, whose executives said they were eager to move their programs to Apple's new computers.

Moreover, Apple unveiled a technology called Rosetta, a "dynamic software translation" tool that will make it possible for a user's existing programs to run unmodified on Apple's new Intel-based computers.

Mr. Jobs acknowledged that Rosetta was based in part on technology developed by Transitive Ltd. of Manchester, England, which has a novel approach to making it possible to run programs on disparate kinds of computers.

Al Gillen, research director at IDC, a market research company, said he was skeptical that the transition would be as smooth as Apple portrayed.

"They have a history of pushing platforms that is fairly disruptive," Mr. Gillen said. He pointed to Apple's move from its original Motorola 68000-based systems to systems using the PowerPC. Though Apple had promised the transition would be smooth for Mac users, "it was basically a 'repurchase' operation," he said, requiring new software for those purchasing the new computers. "Their concept of 'fairly easy' sometimes requires buying new things."

Mr. Jobs made it clear that he had no plans to sell Apple software to run on Windows computers. But several analysts said that because the Apple and Microsoft operating systems will be running on similar hardware, he would not be able to stop users from retrofitting Apple software to run on Windows computers.

As for the third-party developers of Mac software, the audience chosen by Mr. Jobs for Monday's announcement, most seemed to feel that he had forged a workable strategy, even though it will force them to revise their programs to run on the Intel chip.

Ray Slakinski, an independent Apple developer whose company, iPodderX, makes software for podcasting on the Macintosh, said Apple's strategy would not cause him any development delays. Apple has been reliable in providing developers with tools for smoothing major transitions, he said.



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continued on page 8

## APPLES TEST CONTINUED:

"It's a good sacrifice for them in the long term," he said of Apple's shift away from the PowerPC. Still, as a Mac user, he thinks the short term may be a bit bumpy. "I think Mac sales are going to take a hit for the next few months," he said. "I was in the market for a new laptop, but I'm holding off."

Published: June 7, 2005

By JOHN MARKOFF and LAURIE J. FLYNN

## BOSE Sound Dock:

The exquisite sound that comes from my BOSE Sound Dock is unrivaled by anything I have ever seen. I think any true iPod lover not only wants but needs a Sound Dock to make their iPod more main stream. With a Sound Dock you can provide music for any group up to 200 people or 10 square miles of Southern Trinity County, which ever comes first. I will have my Sound Dock at the next RMUG meeting along with a couple of other powered speaker solutions so we can compare. As a side benefit when you keep your iPod in a Sound Dock it is always charged up for field adventures as the Sound Dock is an iPod charging station, as well as an amazing amplification system. Like any good toy, the Sound Dock has a remote so that you can control your iPod while it plays a Playlist. With the remote you can skip songs, go back songs, turn the volume up or even higher up, as well as turn the iPod off. The button at the bottom of the remote starts your iPod in the all songs mode. Now if someone would just invent a Sound Dock with an oversize color screen.

dale j

## MP3 Players:

### MP3 Players Reaching 'Critical Mass'

The number of MP3 players sold this year is expected to reach a level that's sufficient to drive demand for online music services and stores, a market research firm said Wednesday.

U.S. shipments of MP3 players are expected to increase 35 percent this year to 18.2 million, and maintain an annual growth rate of more than 10 percent through 2010, JupiterResearch, a division of Jupitermedia Corp., said. At the end of the decade, the MP3 market is expected to have an installed base of 56.1 million units, up from 16.2 million in 2004.

"Historically, any new device or medium that reaches a U.S. household penetration of 15 percent to 20 percent creates a critical mass of customers for other products and services," JupiterResearch analyst David Card said in a statement. "MP3 players will hit that mark this year."

"This is good news for both digital download stores and subscription music services. Subscription services and devices will fuel each other's growth."

Apple Computer Inc.'s popular iPod is expected to dominate MP3 player growth over the "medium term," the research firm said.

In related news, the worldwide online music market is expected to increase 134 percent this year, reaching \$1 billion for the first time, according to market researcher In-Stat.

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## Policies

This newsletter is published monthly for the Redding Macintosh Users' Group and is distributed to all club members.

No other individual, group or business may use any portion of this newsletter without prior written permission.

RMUG News welcomes articles and questions relating to Macintosh or Macintosh compatible computers. Articles may be hand written, typed, or submitted on a 3.5" floppy disk (using any popular word processing program).

Submissions must be accompanied by the author's full name, address and telephone number. The submissions become the property of RMUG unless otherwise specified.

If you have a change of address or other questions, please notify the newsletter editor or other RMUG officer as soon as possible.

Deadline for submissions is the last Saturday of each month. E-mail or deliver all material to:

Ken Lorenz

E- mail submissions to:  
*krlore@cwnet.com*

OR

*rmug@rmug.org*

(stuff files if possible)

## Ad Rates

RMUG members are invited to place "Wanted", "For Sale" & "Trade" ads in the newsletter at no charge. Business cards or commercial accounts are welcome at the rates listed above. One of the best reasons for belonging to a user's group is to let other people know about your activities, as well as learning what other people are doing with their computers and software. Please give your business cards or ads to the newsletter editor.

<p><b>AD Rates</b></p> <p><b>\$4 – business card</b></p> <p><b>\$6 – quarter page</b></p> <p><b>\$9 – half page</b></p> <p><b>\$15 – full page</b></p>
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Advertisements in the RMUG newsletter will not influence reviews or critiques of hardware, software companies or stories.

RMUG does not endorse any specific dealer or product, but we do encourage the distribution of information which may assist club members in identifying best buys and services.

## Editorial

The Beach Comber restaurant in Trinidad is where we did all of our emailing and surfing this Summer. What a nice feature. We discovered that you could even connect while sitting in the car parked in front. This is the same technology that we use at Yak's or any wify hot spot. Editing the RMUG NL from afar has been relatively painless this year. Our iBook with the airport card has really been an improvement over the last couple of years. I want to thank all of our regular contributors who add so much to our publication. You are very much appreciated.

I would encourage everyone to submit items of interest to share with the group.

It is somewhat disappointing that no one took the opportunity to rebut or agree with some of my observations, in this column over the Summer. This is a group forum, all points of view are encouraged and welcome.

Ken



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