

Minutes for QCMUG Meeting: October 19, 2004 at Bettendorf Public Library, Norm Kelinson Room**

*(**The Norm Kelinson Room was needed for a special ICN group, so QCMUG met in a room on the 1st floor, which had a projection screen)*

Attendance:

President Don Patridge called the meeting to order at about 6:45 PM, after the group was moved twice before finding a room with a screen, on the first floor of the Library. (The Norm Kelinson room is specially equipped for ICN/Iowa Cable Network communication, and it was needed for that purpose.) There were 19 people who signed the attendance sheet, and at least two more present who did not. There were fifteen members who signed: Don Schaefer, Brian Dobbins, Jim Holifield, Bill Rankin, Tom Boyd, D. Roth, John Schenk, Robert Rhinehart, Jim Carey, Robert Custer, Dean Arney, Tom Brooks, Jim Hall, Renne Duncan and Mike Hughes. Four guests who signed were: Marvin Deitrich, Jeralee Mannhardt, Jim Mannhardt and Buster Blocker. Total attendance was at least 21 (with at least two who did not sign the attendance sheet).

Business Meeting:

Introduction of Officers & Guests: President Don Patridge introduced the QCMUG officers: President, Don Patridge; Secretary, Don Schaefer, and Treasurer, Dean Arney. Vice President, Jim Hall, arrived later and was then introduced. President Patridge also asked each guest to introduce himself/herself. President Patridge explained that the QCMUG minutes for each meeting are published on the QCMUG website, most often this is at least 2 weeks before the next meeting, and members are encouraged to read them there. *(Any corrections noted should be sent to QCMUG Secretary, Don Schaefer.)*

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer, Dean Arney, reported that there have been two new memberships since our last meeting, and the current balance, on the date of the meeting is \$ 936.97, after paying for the new hard drive and the new RAM for the club computer (total cost: \$374.34). Dean reported that the work on the club computer is to be done by Brian Dobbins of Computer Problems Resolved, and should be completed before the next meeting. The club iBook will then have 512 MB of RAM, and an external 120 GB FireWire/USB 2 hard drive. The manufacturers of the RAM and the HD were not reported.

Use of club computer and hard drive: Don Patridge explained that it should be possible for a club member to take the external hard drive, put on applications and files necessary (for program presentation) and then simply plug it back into the computer for the presentation.

How members can obtain CD copies of the OpenOffice.Org files, and other files: Don Patridge said that CDs, containing OpenOffice.Org information, and other related files, (that took considerable download time), were on a different hard drive, and it would be necessary first to transfer those files to the club computer. He also indicated plans to produce CDs available for sale to club members, as soon as he has time to burn them. Jim Hall indicated that the cost would be about \$5.00 for each copy, which would cover the cost of the CDs, and the remainder would go into the club treasury. Don Schaefer asked Don Patridge for the process, or instructions, for members who wish to obtain the CDs. Contact Don Patridge: president@qcmug.org, or, Don said to contact him at his personal e-mail address, if you want to purchase one of the CDs.

The Program

**“Demonstration of Apple’s Wireless Peripherals: Airport Extreme,
Airport Express, iChat and iSight”
by Mike Hughes**

Mike began his presentation by telling the audience a little about himself, his background, and his current company, *Integrated Resource Design Group* (in which he is a partner), His company serves as a consulting and design group, specializing in Macintosh systems. He has worked in the Moline school district, where he got into work with

Macintosh (having previously worked as a Microsoft technician), and switched largely because of the quality and reliability of Apple's new OS X operating system. His company is an "Apple Authorized Service Provider", and works throughout the midwest area. Mike explained that his website www.irdg.com is presently "bare bones" since it is undergoing major changes and updating, and it will be mid-November (at the earliest) before it will really be ready.

Apple Extreme: Mike began his presentation with Airport Extreme, what Apple calls their third generation wireless process. (<http://store.apple.com/1-800-MY-APPLE/WebObjects/AppleStore.woa>) This process, using 802.11g, is roughly 5 times as fast as the earlier 802.11b version, and is reverse compatible, and Wi-Fi certified, so will work with Windows as well as OS X operating systems. Security is much improved with something called WPA, which has more advanced encryption. He explained that more than one of these devices can be used to extend the range of wireless communication. He explained Rendezvous technology, which can locate wireless sources for your computer and permit file sharing which was not possible before. Antennas can be added, to increase the range of signal reception by essentially changing the shape of the signal pattern, rather than boosting the signal strength. (<http://www.apple.com/macosx/features/rendezvous/>) Airport Express can also be used to accomplish the same purpose, as well as allowing the sharing of computer music with other audio systems, such as your stereo. (<http://www.apple.com/airportexpress/>) Mike also demonstrated Air Tunes. A relevant website is: (<http://www.apple.com/airportexpress/airtunes.html>) Mike enlisted the aid of Buster Blocker in demonstrating wireless access to iTunes music on each others computers, as well as a demonstration of wireless communication (audio and video) using 2 iSight cameras attached to their laptops.

In addition to demonstrating the hardware, Mike went into the software associated with accessing and controlling signals being exchanged. He also explained how wireless routers act as firewalls, and something called "Mac Address Filtering". Mike reminded everyone that the wireless operates in a 2.4 GHz band, so there is a possibility of interference from other appliances that operate in that range, such as a microwave and some cordless telephones. Firing up the microwave can knock down the wireless signal for your computer, if located near enough. While demonstrating with the iSight cameras, Mike also demonstrated how to use it in connection with iMovie, record a short "message to Gramma", convert the result to a QuickTime movie which could then be sent as an attachment with an e-mail, or recorded on a CD to be mailed.

Mike took time to answer many questions throughout his presentation, which covered a wide range of related topics. Some questions involved multiple parts and were quite detailed. This extended his presentation enough so there was little time for the regular Open Forum; however, it appeared that those present felt that it was more advantageous to take advantage of Mike's expertise than limit his presentation. Presenting such a program involves organizing and bringing a lot of equipment, along with all the wires and connectors necessary. Having to move twice, before finding a room, required redoing the setup and disconnect procedures. This presentation covered more specific, different topics than most programs, and the QCMUG certainly wants to extend our appreciation and gratitude to Mike Hughes.

Meeting adjourned: President Don Patridge asked about Open Forum questions, but reminded members that the Library required that everyone be out before 9 PM. It was decided to dispense with further questions, and the President adjourned the meeting at about 8:30 PM.

Future Programs: The *November program* is to be a demonstration of "Free & Quick Personal Web Site Creation", and it is to be presented by Jim Holifield, The *December program* is planned as the "White Elephant" gift exchange meeting, and the *January program* will feature Jackie Christopher, with a program she describes as "iPod - Music in your Pocket with a peek at iPod Photo - Music and 25,000 Photos in your Pocket".

Respectfully submitted by Interim Secretary Don Schaefer
(Note: Send corrections to donschaefer@mchsi.com)