

# QCMUG Meeting Notes: July 19, 2005

Norm Kelinson Room - Bettendorf Public Library

## Business Meeting:

**Attendance:** There were 21 in attendance at the July 19th meeting, 13 club members and 8 who identified themselves as guests. This is our largest number in attendance so far this year and the largest number of guests. Members present: Phyllis James, Jim Holifield, Jim Hall, Bill Roe, Don Schaefer, Dean Arney, Robert Custer, Duke Roth, Sue Berger, Tom Brooks, Brian Dobbins, Buster Blocker and Don Patridge. Guests were: Gabriel Moore, Greg Boll, Harry Mott?, Jerry ???, Dave Reed, Craig Weigel, Terry Weigel and Jim Boland. (Question marks indicate difficulty in reading the letters, or that no last name was listed on the sign-in sheet.)

**Business Meeting:** The meeting was called to order by President Don Patridge @ 6:40 PM. Don welcomed the guests who were present, invited them to consider membership @ \$20/year and introduced the treasurer Dean Arney (who would willingly accept membership) and the vice president, Jim Hall.

**Free equipment:** Don announced that an older lady had a computer and printers that she would be happy to give anyone who was interested - including a new Apple StyleWriter 2500 printer. Don sent the following message to the QCMUG List on July 21, 2005:

*"We have an older lady offering the following Mac computer and printers. I will forward any requests to her so she can call you about picking them up. Apple 15" monitor, Performa 640 CD, Stylewriter 1200 printer, New Color StyleWriter 2500 printer in box yet! It is yours if you are interested."*

Don described some handouts that were available on the back table, and also made available some calendar strips (which could be fastened to a monitor as a readily available reference).

**Membership discounts/free extras on purchases:** Don described a 30% discount available from O'Reilly books (publishers of David Pogue's "Missing Manual..." series. He also said purchasers of a new Apple computer would obtain a free iPod - he didn't indicate how long this would be in effect. He offered a PhotoShop CS tutorial book to anyone who was interested, and who would give a report on it - no takers.

**Tiger question:** Treasurer Dean Arney reported that he had received advice that he should download some specific freeware to improve on Tiger, and asked if others had heard about this and if they thought it necessary. Both Brian Dobbins (Apple tech) and another guest who is also an Apple Tech, said they were unaware of any problems with Tiger, without additional software.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer, Dean Arney, reported that the treasury contains \$1363 at this time, and that the club now has a membership of 44. Don and Dean also mentioned that Dean still has a few of the CDs & AppleWorks and ShareWare information sheets available @ \$5 per CD.

**Tutorial help:** Don mentioned that if members want to go to "Atomic Learning" (a site with tutorials on AppleWorks and many other programs), he and member Sue Berger have arranged for members to do so. Members only: contact @ QCMUG President <president@qcmug.org for the URL and password information needed for this site & for a clip art site.

**New Business/Old Business:** The question was raised about the QCMUG reservation of the Norm Kelinson room, and assurances that we would actually have it available. Dean Arney reported that we had prepaid our reservation of the room until the end of the year, but actually had it reserved until the end of January, 2006, because we were unable to use it for the June meeting. Dean pointed out that the Library reserved the right to pre-empt the room if it was needed by a group with a higher priority for use of the special equipment and connections available in that room. With no other business, Don Patridge introduced Don Schaefer, who presented the program

# **PROGRAM**

## **“From Digital Images to DVDs: How to Make Slideshows”**

**Presenter: Don Schaefer**

Before beginning the presentation, Don asked two questions:

1. How many of you have installed ilife 5 on your computers? and
2. How many have actually made a slideshow or movie and burned it to a DVD?

Four people raised their hand for the first answer, and three for the second, and 2 of those 3 were Apple techs. Don said he had prepared the presentation to start with beginners (with iLife), and handed out a one page program summary (“Making DVD Slideshows, in a Nutshell”) so the audience would know the agenda or sequence to be used in the program.

Don first demonstrated how to download digital images to your computer, using iPhoto (the default arrangement) or (by changing the preferences in Image Capture) to download to any place you wish. The advantages of not going directly to iPhoto were demonstrated and explained. Don demonstrated how to import these unedited photos directly into the iPhoto Library, make a new album, test and arrange the order of the photos with the instant slideshow capability of iPhoto, make a slideshow from this album, transfer the slideshow to iDVD and then burn a DVD. For those who want to avoid all the “bells and whistles” associated with editing photos, adding music, Titles etc., this is the simplest procedure available - It is certainly not recommended, since almost all photos can be improved by even minimum editing. Don then demonstrated how to edit any or all of the photos imported using only iPhoto 5 (which is much improved over the previous versions of iPhoto, in regard to editing capabilities) create a new slideshow, with selected transitions, timing and background music, export that slideshow to iDVD, and burn a DVD. He next demonstrated how Photoshop Elements 3 (a more powerful, but relatively inexpensive image editing program from Adobe), could be used to edit the images, how these images could then be processed two ways: high resolution, for prints, and lower resolution, for slideshows, the lower resolution photos imported into iPhoto, exported to iDVD and a DVD burned.

He then showed what he thought was the best method; this was to change the preferences in iPhoto so that double clicking an image in an iPhoto film roll would open Photoshop, or Photoshop Elements, permit editing there, and saving would replace the original photo in the iPhoto Library. Again, after editing, the slideshow could be sent to iDVD, a DVD designed and burned.

Next, Don demonstrated how the slideshow arrived in iDVD, including arrival in a previously made DVD, how the themes could be changed, different photos or movies chosen for drop zones, music changed, added or deleted, and the DVD burned. There wasn't time to actually demonstrate the process of opening iDVD first, dragging in either a slideshow or an album, editing the slideshow after it is in iDVD and then burning the DVD, but it was included in the full handout - a 9 page instruction article which covered what was demonstrated and some things that were not. Don encouraged everyone to make use of the iLife capabilities to put related series of their digital photos into iPhoto, make DVDs (which can contain a number of slideshows, or slideshows and movies) and burn them to DVDs, which is a great way to share photos. He illustrated his recommendation with numerous slideshows he has made, some scientific/medical, some of sports activities and some of personal family events, including special dinners, weddings, reunions and even a funeral.

Last, Don made available a dozen DVD copies of the slideshow that was just put together for the QCMUG demonstration, so anyone interested could take it home and play it on their own TV (the bigger screen the better), so the quality of the digital images could be compared with comparable imaging done on VHS or even S-VHS tapes. He said he would have preferred sticking the DVD into a player and showing it there on a large screen TV, to encourage audience members to begin playing with iLife 5, but the TVs in the Norm Kelinson room cannot be used like normal TVs and are set up for special uses.

**Open Forum:** Questions and answers were handled during the presentation, and the presentation ended near 8:30 PM, so a separate Open Forum was not held. A number of questions were answered, individually, after the program, including: How does Photoshop Elements 2 compare with 3 - is it necessary to upgrade to do what was done in the program demonstration. Don's opinion was that PSE 2 and PSE 3 both have everything needed to do all editing, batch processing, cooperative editing with iPhoto 5, and the new features in PSE 3 are the more specialized ones needed more by users who do not have the organizational capabilities of iPhoto 5 - use either one.

**Handouts on QCMUG Website:** Go to the QCMUG website and download your own copy of each of the handouts - the 9 page article is just under 1 MB in size, so (depending on your internet/e-mail service) the download time may be a matter of minutes. The one page summary should download quickly.

President Don Patridge adjourned the meeting at about 8:30 pm.

***Note:** Some Thank you type information: **Robert Custer** supplies his own projector, brings it every time, sets it up and at the end of the program, puts all the pieces back in the carrying case and takes it home. He has to arrive early (to permit setup) and is one of the last to leave. **Don Patridge** carries a similar suitcase of cables, connectors, parts and speakers, making connections possible for the club computer, and for computers brought by presenters. In addition to his duties as President, Don is our most frequent program presenter, and has always done considerable preparation work. **Brian Dobbins**, who is a professional Apple technician (Computer Problems Resolved) is often the one we turn to when things don't work the first time - Brian knows what to do and always is ready to help out. Things don't run smoothly by accident - they run smoothly when people like Bob, Don and Brian are in the organization. Don Schaefer - July 23, 2005*

*Respectfully Submitted: Don Schaefer, QCMUG Secretary 2004-2005*