

QCMUG Meeting Notes: January 17, 2006

Redeemer Lutheran Church, Tanglefoot Lane

(Prologue: For the second time, QCMUG members arrived at the Bettendorf Public Library and found that the room we had reserved for our use had been given to another group. This time, the parking lots were full, and there wasn't a single available room in the Library for our use. Our Treasurer had negotiated our use of the Norman Kelinson room for January, 2006 but somebody had not recorded this at the library. Tom Brooks saved the day by quickly arranging for our use of a room at his church, so the group drove off to the new location. Our presenter had driven from Maquoketa, bringing much equipment, so it would have been a real disservice to him and a disappointment to the QCMUG membership, had it not been for the quick action of QCMUG member Tom Brooks. Thanks from all of us, Tom! Let's hope communications and records improve so we can plan reliably and continue to use these excellent facilities of the Bettendorf Public Library. D.A.S.)

Business Meeting

Attendance: There were 14 members and 3 guests present. Members present were: Dean Arney, Sue Berger, Tom Brooks, Robert Custer, Jerry Gregg, Jim Hall, Jim Holifield, David Ochs, Donald Patridge, Donald Schaefer, John Schenk, Craig Wiegel, and Karen or James Wieland. Guests present were: John Albee, Roger Mann & John Monroomorn(sp). (This last handwritten name was not easily interpreted, so the spelling here may be wrong.)

Business:

Don Patridge called the meeting to order about a half hour late (~7:00 PM), at our substitute meeting place (Redeemer Lutheran Church, Tanglefoot Lane). Our presenter and Bob Custer did an admirable job of setting up the equipment on a table, and a wall was cleared to be used as a projection screen for Bob Custer's trusty projector. Don Patridge listed a number of books available (free to members), providing they give a report. This included books on GarageBand, iTunes, iMovie and iPhoto slideshows etc. He also had a few copies of sheets he had prepared containing useful information and URLs, available to be picked up.

QCMUG Computer upgrade: Don reported that the club's computer had been upgraded such that the external hard drive is now a "bootable" hard drive. He asked the members and prospective members to inform officers of their preferences for new programs, and suggested that Firefox might be of interest.

Old Business:

A New Mouse: President Patridge reported that he and Jim Hall had decided to get a new 2 button mouse for the club, though the old mouse is still available.

Camp Courageous: Don suggested a contribution to Camp Courageous as a thank you for the December program from that organization. He reported that there had been some equipment sent to Camp Courageous to help in their computer use, without spending money. Tom Brooks moved that we send \$25, motion seconded by Jim Hall, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: Dean Arney reported that the bank statement is always sent after our meeting date, so he hadn't gotten the report as yet. Since there hasn't been any activity since the December report, the balance should still be \$1450. There have been some membership renewal checks, but not yet deposited.

Des Moines Apple Store: Members who have checked it out were complimentary about it.

New Business: There was apparently no new business to discuss, and the president introduced our presenter, a band instructor from Maquoketa Middle School.

Program Introduction:

President Don Patridge introduced Jay Kahn, Band Director at Maquoketa Middle School.

January Program:

“GarageBand 2”

by

Jay Kahn, Maquoketa Middle School

(It should be noted that Jay Kahn had brought with him his G-5 Mac computer, a large keyboard and an amplifier/speaker system, rather than make use of the club laptop. He did so in order to be able to better demonstrate the sound capabilities of GarageBand, and to be able to have much better response times from the more powerful processors in the G5. This was a lot of extra effort and was greatly appreciated by the QCMUG member audience.)

Mr. Kahn modestly claimed he didn't actually “teach”, but simply worked with middle school students, but it was apparent that he has in fact taught his students to do many advanced things with this unique music program. He said that it was not his intention to show members, in detail, how to get started with GarageBand, but would instead give an overview of GarageBand. This is pretty much what he did, though he did a very thorough job of showing the kinds of things that can be done, with music input from the virtual keyboard of GarageBand, from a real keyboard, or with electronic music provided by GarageBand loops. He also demonstrated some of the kinds of things his students have done. He showed (after some difficulties with connections and an iMic unit) how to input information with a microphone and then match that up with any or all the other music in that composition. He compared the capabilities of GarageBand and a high end Macintosh with a unit costing \$500,000 in the early 80's, and suggested that the capabilities of GarageBand exceeds those of that earlier, very expensive unit. His presentation lasted nearly 2 hours, and he maintained the interest and attention of the audience throughout, with his comments and sense of humor, as well as the excellence of his presentation.

It was pretty much the consensus that anyone who missed this program missed one of the best we had seen. It did not show people how to get started with GarageBand, and the presenter was a musician (unlike the most of us), but it certainly showed what is possible with this nearly free application. Also, please check the Resources website where a document, with a number of very useful web sites and references has been provided by President Don Patridge. You can download this for yourself, at: [*PDF download of the GarageBand References list*](#)

Visit the Maquoketa Community School District website to learn more about our presenter, Jay Kahn, at

[*http://www.maquoketa.k12.ia.us/MCSD/default.html*](http://www.maquoketa.k12.ia.us/MCSD/default.html) or
[*http://www.maquoketa.k12.ia.us/Middle/mms/teacher/kahn/jkahn.html*](http://www.maquoketa.k12.ia.us/Middle/mms/teacher/kahn/jkahn.html)

The meeting was adjourned just after 9:00 PM.

Note: Please send any suggestions for corrections, deletions or alterations of the Minutes to:
[*secretary@qcmug.org*](mailto:secretary@qcmug.org) or to [*donschaefer@mchsi.com*](mailto:donschaefer@mchsi.com).

The Minutes are not read at the meetings, so corrections are not made at that time.

Respectfully submitted: Don Schaefer, QCMUG Secretary