QCMUG MINUTES,
August 15, 2006
The Fairmount Branch, Davenport Library

Business Meeting

Attendance: There were 12 members and 7 guests present. Members present were: Dean Arney, Robert Custer, Jim Hall, Lois Harker, Wilma Hauser, Jim Holifield, David Ochs, Donald Patridge, Bill Rankin, Don Schaefer, John Schenk and Kathy Schroeder. Guests present were: H. R. Hengst, Randy Hengst, Delores Heysbrook, Julie Lyle, Kevin Lyle, Metra Lyle and Ralph Lyle. (All guest signatures were not totally clear, so any may be incorrect.)

Old Business:

Call to order - Welcome - President Don Patridge called the meeting to order at about 6:45 PM., and pointed out that next month's QCMUG meeting would be back at the Bettendorf Library, Norm Kelinson room. Don introduced the QCMUG officers and welcomed members and visitors and mentioned membership costs, payable to Treasurer, Dean Arney. He called attention to the attendance sheet, which includes all members names and renewal dates, and a space for visitors to sign. It also contains all e-mail addresses, which members can correct or update when they sign in.

Survey Results: Don explained that he had not had time to analyze the surveys returned at the previous meeting, having been out of the state for considerable time. The surveys should show the range of hardware and software being used by QCMUG members. Don also had to devote time to the development of tonight's program, so there wasn't time for the surbey.

Treasurer's Report: Dean Arney reported that there had been no activity in the QCMUG account for the past month, so the balance is still $1607.86.

QCMUG Computers Project: Jim Hall asked about the communication Don Schaefer received, about equipment available from a donor, and Don indicated he was aware of the e-mail offer, but did not indicate what action was taken, nor did Jim Hall, who has been the manager of this project.

New Business:

A New QCMUG Computer: Don indicated that the present club computer has about reached its limit of capabilities, and suggested that it might be time to consider buying a new computer, since the treasury has accumulated $1600. He suggested alternatives of a flat screen and a Mini Mac. He said that we are running things mostly on the external drive the club also purchased. He pointed out that the new Intel software cannot be run on present equipment and suggested that a group or committee might be formed to study the question.

Commendation for Publicity Chairman: It was suggested (by Dean Arney) that the publicity person be commended for getting announcements into newspapers and on the internet for QCMUG meetings. (Note: Sue Berger was commended for this work at the June meeting. See Minutes, June QCMUG meeting, on our website.) Jim Holifield reported that a number of guests had attended as friends of his, from Geneseo. They had not seen the announcements in the papers. Jim also shared a wedding book that had been produced by Kodak - it was a quality product!

Website Manager: Don reported that he is having problems doing the website using his G4 and a present program, and would appreciate a volunteer to take over this job, especially if that person had experience with Go Live.

August QCMUG Program

"Software Gems"
by Donald Patridge

Don indicated that he would be presenting a program, using Keynote, which demonstrated a number of programs or applications he had located on the web, and would share with members of QCMUG. He did so by preparing a sheet on which he listed 18 such programs, and their URL addresses, and he had also produced discs containing much of what he presented during this QCMUG presentation. Those discs have been given to Dean Arney, Treasurer, and are available for $5 each.

Some Shareware samples he spoke of, and demonstrated are programs relating to: Art, Caps Warning, Firefox, Flip4Mac (which plays movie files done on PCs), Google Earth, Google SketchUP, iTunes Publisher, Quickimage, Thunderbird and others. All these are relatively low cost programs that are developed by individuals or groups and made available on the web. Don has agreed to publish his sheet of information on the QCMUG website, along with the meeting Minutes. If members have interest in more information, contact Dean Arney to obtain a copy of the disc that contains all these references (treasurer QC Mug <treasurer@qcmug.org>.)

Open Forum: President Patridge asked about questions that had been submitted on the forms provided, and Jim Hall had collected those forms and read the first question. The question was:
1. "When copying and pasting URLs, I often get extra characters which prevent accessing the website". One suggestion was to select the ones you don't want, delete, and try it again. The questioner said that though the characters are not in the original copy selection, when pasted into the URL address spot, the extras appear. The questioner indicated that he uses AOL - which brought a general negative response since AOL seems to have a number of other properties not always friendly to Mac users. The general consensus answer seemed to be, highlight the characters you don't want (after pasting in the URL), delete and <u>then</u> press the go or search. Some members suggested Firefox as superior to AOL's software. A suggestion was made that the questioner try Safari, FireFox, Mail and see if the problem shows up - if so, it would appear to be a local computer problem.
2. "Will the Shareware programs run on older OSs?" The answer was that this would vary, depending on the application. You have to check the system requirements for each application - this will become much more of a problem as applications are written more and more for the latest OS, and for the Intel computers. Jim Hall mentioned a group that specializes in writing software that will permit running later software on older OS computers. Check with Jim Hall for more detailed information - (vicepresident QC Mug <vicepresident@qcmug.org>). One site Jim suggested was sourceforge at http://sourceforge.net/, which can serve as a starting point to locate software developed or being developed to carry out the function you want.
3. A question was raised about scanners and scanner driver software, and Don Schaefer indicated that the Microtek scanner software, scanwizard, was unavailable for later Apple OSs, and contacting Mictotek was rather fruitless, but independent software was available from VueScan, (http://www.hamrick.com/vsm.html) and it works well for many scanners and many different manufacturers, illustrating the effectiveness of third party software. Don Schaefer mentioned that this was his 58th wedding anniversary date, that his wife had permitted him to attend the QCMUG meeting on this special date, and that she had given him a copy of PhotoShop Elements 4.0 for the Mac as an anniversary gift. He suggested that this was ideal support.

The meeting was adjourned at about 8 PM by President Don Patridge.

Respectfully Submitted: Don Schaefer, QCMUG Secretary