

QCMUG MINUTES

March 20, 2007

Bettendorf Room - Bettendorf Public Library

Business Meeting

Attendance: There were 13 members and 3 guests present. Members present: Dean Arney, Sue Berger, Buster Blocker, Tom Brooks, Robert Custer, Jim Hall, Wilma Hauser, Randy Hengst, Jim Holifield, Don Patridge, John Schenk, Kathy Schroeder, Cynthia Weinberger.

President Don Patridge called the meeting to order at 6:45 and introduced the officers.

Treasures Report: Dean Arney reported a balance of \$1987.17.

One member asked about the revenue and if there was a goal for the balance. The dues are used to cover club expenses. The balance is higher because the monthly newsletter is no longer printed and mailed to the members. Meeting information is now posted on the QCMug web site. This comment lead to a brief discussion about the listserve and how to sign up and use it.

New Business: There was no new business.

Old Business: It was asked if the payment of room rental to the library was settled and Dean said that it was and would be taken care of in June. Jim Hall asked if a time had been set for the officers to meet. It had not. (After the meeting the officers chose a meeting date of 10:00 on April 2, at the Fairmont Branch Library.)

March Program:

Mac Pilot

Presented by Buster Blocker

Buster gave a great presentation on the software, Mac Pilot. He described it as a program that takes the power of the command line and merges it with the graphic user interface. It lets you harness that power with the click of a mouse. With the Mac Pilot Program running, Buster demonstrated how you could use it to make changes in the Finder, Doc, Safari, Mail, Disks, Network, Sharing, System, Fonts, Logs, Tools, and Misc.

In Safari you can turn on the Debug menu that will allow you to change the message your computer sends out to a website so that if it is a site that doesn't support Apple and Safari,

you can tell it you are running Windows and IE and the web site will work. (Cool!) Another item in the Safari Debug menu is delete and disable cache. This will stop the cache from loading in. If you have a broadband connection, i.e. MediaCom 10mg/sec or QWest 7mg/sec download, you can pull faster from the Internet than using the cache from your hard drive.

In the Network settings in Mac Pilot, Buster explained that Macs currently shipping are optimized for a dial-up connection. The settings are only available in command line but with this program you can increase the settings in TCP send /receive to optimize for Broadband. He mentioned that you could bump the numbers up to 400,000 in send and receive buffers. You can check your improved download speeds at: www.speedtest.net.

Many other features of Mac Pilot were covered. Buster has a hand out available as a PDF file on the QCMug website. He talked about opendns.com and Esperance DV, which are also explained, on the handout.

Member Questions:

Q: Does Mac Pilot let you change settings for handicapped? Can you change how Universal Access works?

A: No, those settings are in your system preferences.

Q: I'm planning to buy a new airport wireless system and wonder which is the fastest. A, B, G, N?

A: Although N is the fastest the standard has not yet been approved and it was recommended that N not be purchased until the standard is set.

Q: How do I get and application (WMV) to open on my Mac.

A: Go to Flip4Mac.com and download the free version of the software. Click on the WMV Player and in the new window learn more. This will take you to the free download.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20.

Kathy Schroeder, secretary