



**QCMUG Meeting Minutes  
January 18, 2011  
Bettendorf Public Library**

**Attendance**

A total of 13 members were present at the meeting. Dean Arney, Sue Berger, Keith Claussen, Lee Claussen, Brian Dobbins, Jim Hall, Wilma Hauser, Harry Healey, Jim Holifield, Geri Maitlen, Brett Neese, David Neese, David Ochs, Arnold Olson, Don Patridge, Bill Rankin, Faye Waterman, and Cynthia Weinberger. Our guest was Janice Egger.

**Business Meeting**

- The meeting was called to order at 6:37 pm.
- The Treasurer reported a balance of \$2,670.95.
- Keith Claussen presented to the group a list of equipment to get started doing a video podcast for the MUG. We have been mentioning and discussing the idea on the email list towards the end of 2010. The group agreed to pursue this and authorized a budget of up to \$1,600 to purchase a camera, tripod, microphone, case, and external hard drive.
- Don Patridge asked about the annual St. Ambrose Tech Fair, so Keith will send an email to the person in charge last year to see what's going on this year.

## Program

Dropbox by Brian Dobbins.

Brief overview and homepage: <http://www.dropbox.com/>

Dropbox bills itself as “online backup, file sync, and sharing made easy.” It’s completely cross-platform (Mac, Windows, Linux, iOS, Android, Blackberry) with both your computer and mobile devices.



# Dropbox

**Sync** – Any file you put into Dropbox will automatically be available to all of your mobile devices and computers.

**Share** – You can set permissions to allow others to view or even make changes to a document. Great for collaboration or when you are on the road away from home. There is also some support from 3rd party apps like 1password to keep all those passwords and accounts in sync too.

**Backup** – Dropbox can be a handy backup too as well. Not only are files stored locally (desktop or laptop computers only, mobile devices download as needed) but also in the ‘cloud,’ which means if disaster strikes, you’re covered!

Dropbox is free with 2GB of storage. Additional space (50 or 100GB) is available for an annual fee.

## Open Forum

Q: Geri Maitlen asked how to get a CD unstuck from a drive. The disk is one of the mini CDs.

A: Normally, you can hold the mouse button down at startup (left button on 2 or 3 button mice) until it ejects the disk. The mini CDs, or ones with custom shapes, are NOT to be used with any Mac that has a slot drive. If you can’t eject yourself, the machine will likely need to go in for service.

Q: Wilma Hauser asked about how to get pictures off of a DVD.

A: It depends on who made the DVD (Wilma was talking about a homemade movie with a slideshow). iDVD, when using that to build your project and slideshow, has an option to include the original image files on the disk which can be accessed when opened on your Mac. But if it’s just in movie format created with another program that doesn’t offer this option, the movie can be converted back into MOV format by using a program called Handbrake (<http://handbrake.fr/>). The program also requires a media player called VLC (<http://videolan.org>) be installed as well. Both are open source, free, and trust-worthy apps!

Q: Faye Waterman has issues opening Office 2007 files with Office 2004 on her Mac.

A: Those files can be opened with either Pages, TextEdit, or Google Docs. Microsoft has a converter available (<http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/en/details.aspx?FamilyID=b846d255-a7d4-4a2c-a084-d434c29fe676&displaylang=en>) that will allow you to open the files with the older versions of Office.

Q: Arnold Olson asked about doing taxes on your Mac.

A: Turbo Tax (<http://www.turbotax.com>), Free Tax USA (<http://www.freetaxusa.com>), and Tax Cut (by H & R Block, <http://www.taxcut.com>). We also had a program on doing taxes on your Mac in February 2009 ([http://www.qcmug.org/downloads/minutes/2009/qcmug\\_minutes\\_02-2009.pdf](http://www.qcmug.org/downloads/minutes/2009/qcmug_minutes_02-2009.pdf)).

Meeting was adjourned about 8:18 p.m.

**Next Month's Meeting:**

The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 15.

*Respectfully submitted by Keith Claussen, QCMUG Secretary*

[www.QCMUG.org](http://www.QCMUG.org)