



BRMUG

Baton Rouge Macintosh User Group

News and Views

April 2005

BRMUG Information

Member Meetings

Regular meetings are held the third Thursday evening of each month at BlueBonnet Library at 6:30 P.M.

Planning Meetings

The Thursday after the regular member meeting the planning meeting is held at 6:15 at Calendars on Perkins near Essen.

About BRMUG

For more information call the User Group President, Isaac Traxler, 225-926-1552 or send e-mail to info@brmug.org or check our web page at <http://www.brmug.org/>

BRMUG Volunteers

Isaac Traxler president@brmug.org
 Glenn Matherne vp@brmug.org
 Don Ballard treasurer@brmug.org
 Don Ballard sec@brmug.org
 Richard Johnson m1@brmug.org
 Jeff Sheldon m2@brmug.org
 Contact anyone above if you have suggestions for BRMUG.

After the Meeting

Join us at Brewbachers on Bluebonnet after the BRMUG meeting: fun, food, open format. Get to know each other.

Newsletter Articles

Please submit newsletter articles to newsletter@brmug.org. Articles are printed on a space available basis. Submissions are welcome!

The April meeting will be held at the **Bluebonnet Library** on **April 21st**, the 3rd Thursday of the month, at 6:30 P.M. The meeting will be 6:30 PM at the Bluebonnet Library. The topic this month will be *An Introduction to iWork Pages* by Isaac Traxler. The presentation will cover the basics of Pages -- Apple's new word processor, page layout program. Members and guests are welcome. After the meeting, we will have our normal Social Hour at Brewbachers. If you need help getting there (<http://www.brmug.org/about-brmug.html>).

Here is the meeting schedule:

6:30 PM	Welcome and recent news
6:50 PM	Don's Distraction
7:00 PM	Pages Presentation
8:00 PM	Questions and answers
8:30 PM	Adjourn to Brewbachers

Meeting is at Bluebonnet Library!

Visit <http://www.brmug.org/next-meeting.html> for more information.

March Meeting

In March we took a look at Tiger (the new version of Mac OS X). We had a chance to preview many of Tiger's new features via a pre-release version. As we saw, Tiger has a lot of new features and capabilities (over 200 it turns out). It was really neat to have a chance to play with Tiger in advance. I saw plenty of things to look forward to. My pre-order will be in soon. I hope the preview of Tiger got you excited about it. I know it revved me up.

Tiger Release Announced

Apple announced that Tiger would ship on or before April 29. You can place your order now at the Apple store for \$129 including shipping. Tiger ships only on DVD. For a limited time, you can order a CD version of Tiger for an additional \$9.99 shipping. Tiger includes over 200 new features according to Apple. For details, visit <http://www.apple.com/macosx/newfeatures/over200.html>. Apple has continued the family pack which includes up to 5 licenses for one family's use is once again available for \$199. Apple has also introduced a bundle of Tiger, iLife, and iWork for \$249 (a savings of \$38).

Panther Update Released

Even though Tiger has been announced, Apple has not stopped work on Panther. On April 15 Apple released an update to take Panther to 10.3.9. As with other releases, this one includes security fixes and a number of updates to the OS and its built-in applications.

AAPL

Unfortunately things appear to have returned to normal. Apple just announced their quarterly earnings. And they were good, real good. Apple shipped over 1 million Macintoshes this quarter (up 53% over same quarter last year) and over 5 million iPods this quarter. Profits were higher than expected and

APRIL Contents

March Meeting	•1
Tiger Release Announced	•1
Panther Update Released.....	•1
AAPL.....	•1
iDVD Update	•2
Shake 4 Announced.....	•2
Soundtrack Pro Released	•2
Final Cut Studio Announced.....	•2
Other Macintosh User Groups.....	•2
teleport	•2
Hardware Update Rumors.....	•2
iWork Pages.....	•3

well ahead of same quarter last year. How did Wall Street react? Unlike the recent past, they returned to their previous behavior. Apple fell almost 25% after the announcements. Wall Street is concerned that next quarters earnings will not increase significantly (maybe even decline a little). Notice, they are not worried about Apple losing money, just that the rate at which profit has been growing may decrease. In fact, this is a likely probability. Next quarter is when Apple does the bulk of its education sales. While the unit sales are likely to increase, the profit per system will likely decrease because education typically buys lower cost systems. I suspect much of the decline will be recovered. Another exciting month in high finance.

iDVD Update

iDVD from iLife 05 has an update out. iDVD 5.0.1 improves compatibility with iPhoto and stability.

Shake 4 Announced

Shake 4 is a major upgrade of Shake. The new release adds 3D compositing and many other capabilities including even better integration with Final Cut Pro.

Soundtrack Pro Released

Soundtrack Pro is a new high-end audio application for audio and video professionals. Soundtrack Pro can be used to fix or apply effects to audio. You can think of Soundtrack Pro as Garageband on steroids. Soundtrack Pro is available for \$299. For more information, visit <http://www.apple.com/finalcutstudio/soundtrackpro/>.

Final Cut Studio Announced

In the past Apple has had various bundles centered around Final Cut Pro. Apple has finally created a complete suite. Final Cut Studio includes Final Cut Pro 5, Motion 2, Soundtrack Pro and DVD Studio Pro 4. This puts a complete production studio in one suite for the price of \$1299 (a savings of almost \$800).

Other Macintosh User Groups

SMUG

Shreveport Macintosh User Group
<http://mac.meetup.com/146/>

NOMUG

New Orleans Macintosh User Group
<http://www.nomug.org/>

Hardware Update Rumors

In spite of Apple harassing web sites that post information that may have been leaked from Apple, the rumor sites are full of news about hardware upgrades coming soon.

Most sites expect the PowerMac to bump to 2.7 GHz. Apple has recently reduced some of the video card offerings on PowerMac G5 models. This could mean new options are coming.

The iMac is expected to jump to 2 GHz and have its video card improved and be boosted to 128 MB of video memory.

Rumors indicate that the eMac is not yet dead and will receive a modest speed boost to 1.42 GHz. Video enhancements for it also seem to be planned. Some believe that the built-in display will be enhanced.

teleport

Ever have more than one Macintosh in front of you? Ever try to shuffle between a PowerMac and a PowerBook? Every once and a while I have the pleasure of having two Macintoshes to use at the same time. Unfortunately, I have never bought a KVM so that I can share keyboard, video and mouse. And really, I do not want to lose the display -- I just want a single keyboard/mouse to control both Macintoshes.

Heck of a dream isn't it? To sit and one keyboard/mouse and use it on two different Macintoshes. Guess what -- you can do just that! teleport from Abysssoft does it. teleport allows you to simply move your mouse off one screen and on to the screen of the other Macintosh!

I know this sounds crazy, but it is true. This is not an April Fool's Joke. teleport really works. It is a wonderful time saver and a great tool to help someone learn. I sometimes find myself working on my laptop and having to put it down to attend to an update or an install on my wife's laptop. While PowerBooks are wonderful machines, juggling between a 15" and a 17" is not trivial while reclining on a couch (not that I am complaining mind you).

teleport has ended this hassle for me. I enable sharing on my wife's teleport, sit it on a TV tray within eye sight, and just scroll over to her screen, and do what I need. Then I move back to mine and continue with my work. When hers needs attention -- just ease over with the mouse and take care of it.

I know this sounds to good to be true -- but it really works. As a matter of

fact, I still do not believe it. Just before I started writing this article, I pulled out my laptop and connected my work PowerMac and my PowerBook to make sure it really worked.

I have to admit that I have not used it very much. It was really useful the other night when Kathy was trying to do something and I got frustrated trying to verbalize the suggested fix. Sharing a screen with two keyboards/mice is an excellent way to demonstrate something. [Don, please download teleport and put it on your laptop. Maybe we can use it at the next meeting.]

You can get teleport from Abysssoft (<http://www.abyssoft.com/software/teleport/>). teleport is Donationware (no fee required but donations are accepted. Julien Robert is the author (he recently graduated from college and appears to be working at Apple. Check out his resume.). The information on his website says that he recently got a Mac Mini and that he would be putting more time into teleport (wonderful).

Downloading teleport gets you a zip file. You double-click that file to expand it to a folder. Inside the folder is a Readme that does a good job explaining how to install and how to use it. On Panther the installation is very easy - you double-click the teleport control panel in the folder. It installs it into your System Preferences and opens it (after the prerequisite typing in of your admin password).

Now teleport is not true magic. To make it work, both systems must be on the same subnet and able to talk to each other (I have used both ethernet



BRMUG Mailing Address
5261 Highland Road #202
Baton Rouge, LA 70808

For more information call the User Group President, Isaac Traxler: (225) 926-1552
e-mail: info@brmug.org
web: <http://www.brmug.org/>

and AirPort). You open the teleport panel on both computers. You share the one you are not planning to type on. On the other one, you should see the first become available. Drag it down and position it just like you were adding another display. Teleport does not enable you to run applications on your Macintosh and display the windows on the other Macintosh (even teleport has its limits -- maybe if we donate more...).

At this point you should be able to scroll off your display and onto the display of the other computer. Your keyboard should also work fine.

Teleport includes checkboxes for activating it and for enabling sharing of this Macintosh. It has options for merging the clipboard (I have not tested this for fear of what might happen since I am running PTHPasteboard to enable multiple clipboards). It also allows you to force pressing of the Apple key to move across to another Macintosh.

One last time, teleport really works. It is still a very new program. I am sure that it has some learning curves to grow through. I just hope Julien keeps working on it -- the possibilities are enormous. Of course, I suspect he will have a lot of trouble getting people to try it. I remember reading about it several months ago and laughing. I was sure it was a prank. There is no way it could be that easy. But it really does work. And the performance is excellent. I have had no more trouble clicking in the right place with the mouse on the other Macintosh than I have on mine. If this is a dream, please do not wake me up. I like this dream a lot!

This makes two totally unique applications for the Macintosh: teleport and SubEthaEdit. SubEthaEdit is an editor for text files. What makes it unique is that multiple people can edit the same file and the same time via Rendezvous. Maybe I should talk about SubEthaEdit next time...

by Isaac Traxler

iWork Pages

Pages joined Keynote 2 to form the product iWork. With only 2 products, iWork seems a little slim. We all know that Keynote is a great product. It basically does everything that Microsoft PowerPoint does and more. But it does it in a much easier to use package. Keynote is young, but solid.

Pages just came out. It was developed by the Keynote team. The goal of Pages seems a little nebulous. Clearly it is a word processor. At first glance, Pages seems a little shallow. It seems like some things are missing. This appears to be Pages trying to capitalize on its Cocoa heritage. Spell checking and many

2005 Meeting Calendar			
January 20	iPhoto Introduction	Isaac Traxler	Bluebonnet Library
February 17	Keynote 2	Don Ballard	Bluebonnet Library
March 17	Tiger Preview	Isaac Traxler	Bluebonnet Library
April 21	Pages	Isaac Traxler	Bluebonnet Library
May 19	Available	TBA	Bluebonnet Library
June 16	Tiger	Isaac Traxler	Bluebonnet Library
July 21	Garage Band	TBA	Bluebonnet Library
August 18	iChat	TBA	Bluebonnet Library
September 15	iMovie	TBA	Bluebonnet Library
October 20	CompUSA Visit	Mike Luchsinger	CompUSA
November 17	Available	TBA	Bluebonnet Library
December 15	Holiday Gathering	N/A	Brewbachers
BRMUG's Meetings at a Glance Send ideas to newsletter@brmug.org .			

other tasks that applications typically include are left to the Services Menu Item under Pages. This is a good thing. Apple is trying to show developers the right way to take advantage of the library of useful code already available via the Services Menu Item (like spell checking).

Pages is a lot more also. It shares a lot with AppleWorks in basic approach. It strives to fill in the basic page layout niche. It is clearly not intended to displace Adobe InDesign for large books. But it can be a great answer when doing flyers or brochures.

Flyers have always been a problem. Some people thought the right answer was to do the flyer in a graphics program and add in text features. Other people believe flyers should be done with a word processor and pasted in graphics. Both solutions leave a lot to be desired. Page layout programs like InDesign are just too bulky for simple flyers (not to mention very expensive). If Pages is successful in this area, it

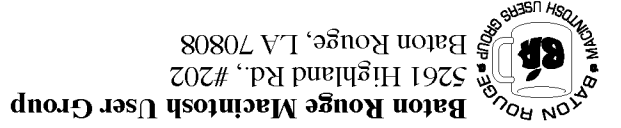
will solve a lot of problems. At \$79 for a outlining/presentation program (Keynote), and a page layout/word processor (Pages), Apple has a real bargain.

Pages borrows the template idea from Keynote and comes with a number of basic templates. I find the need to customize a Pages template much greater than for Keynote. I have also found it very tedious (I am almost done with the first page of the BRMUG Newsletter). Clearly I do not quite understand the paradigm.

Pages embraces color in ways that I have not seen before in a text-based application -- another inheritance from Keynote.

Pages strives to make it easy to place graphics and blocks. It has amazing abilities to flow text. Unfortunately, I appear to be locked into the old way of doing things to easily adapt to Pages way of doing things. Off to practice some more. There is a presentation coming up.

by Isaac Traxler



This Month:
Introduction to iWork Pages
 by Isaac Traxler

*Hiroshima 45
 Chernobyl 86
 Windows 95*

**THIS NEWSLETTER IS RECEIVED BY ALL
 BRMUG MEMBERS, CONTRIBUTORS, AND
 REPRESENTATIVES.**

The Baton Rouge Macintosh Users Group is a non-profit organization dedicated to Macintosh Users. Our mission is to help bring these users together in order to keep them informed of Apple Computer, Inc.'s trends, visions, and educate them on how to best use this most cost effective, easiest and friendliest of all platforms: **The Macintosh.**

If you are in the position of selling, supporting, or using the Apple Macintosh computer or any of Apple's products, we would like your participation and support for the benefit of our membership and your customer base.

Everyone is invited to attend the meetings. For a complimentary newsletter, or flyers to give out to others, or any information about the group contact the following BRMUG Ambassador: Isaac Traxler, President, (504) 926-1552, e-mail: president@brmug.org. We'll be most happy to talk to you about the Macintosh!

Send this form with \$15 (\$10 with copy of current school id for students) check payable to BRMUG to: BRMUG Treasurer, 5261 Highland Road, #202, Baton Rouge, LA 70808.

BRMUG Membership Form 4/2005

Name: _____

Address: Street, City, State, ZipCode

Home Phone: _____

Office Phone: _____

Things the club should do:

My interest areas:

