



BRMUG

Baton Rouge Macintosh User Group

News and Views

August 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 July meeting will be held at the **Bluebonnet Library** on **August 18th**, the 3rd Thursday of the month, at 6:30 P.M. The meeting will be 6:30 PM at the Bluebonnet Library. This month, Don Ballard and Isaac Traxler will demonstrate *iChat*. *iChat* has come a long way from its initial release. Come learn about *iChat* and instant messaging in general. Don and I plan to bring *iSight* cameras and demonstrate video chats also. 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	iChat A/V
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.

June Meeting Review

Periodically we do a meeting that surveys useful commands and programs for the Macintosh. I am always amazed how many tools we discover that we use. We always discover some common tools but we also find a few unique tricks up our sleeves also. Inside the newsletter is an article discussing some of the highlights.

As always, I hope you enjoyed the meeting and hope to see you this month.

BRMUG Picnic

The annual BRMUG Picnic is scheduled for September 17th. See page 2 for more details and make plans to be there!

AAPL

After everything was said and done (with Another month has gone by. Apple's 3 month stock chart looks pretty good -- not spectacular, but pretty good. Looking over the last 3 months, Apple has had reasonable gains with a fair amount of ups and downs in there. What surprised me was to notice that the high on Friday (\$46.22) was Apple's 52-week high. In fact, it was the highest value in Apple's history! From that perspective, these

must have been some very good months. But in fact, they do not appear to have been great. The transition from Power architecture to Intel is still a research topic. No major software or hardware announcements have happened recently. And yet, Apple just hit their highest ever stock price. Maybe it is time to start wearing our sunglasses at night...

Mighty Mouse

Apple finally did it -- they gave into the multi-button mouse. That is right. Apple now has a mouse with more than one button -- sort of. Actually, the new mouse (Mighty Mouse) looks almost exactly like the previous mice and has no obvious buttons just like the previous generation. But, unlike the previous

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BRMUG Picnic

September 17 at 3:00 PM

NE Corner of Highland and South Stadium

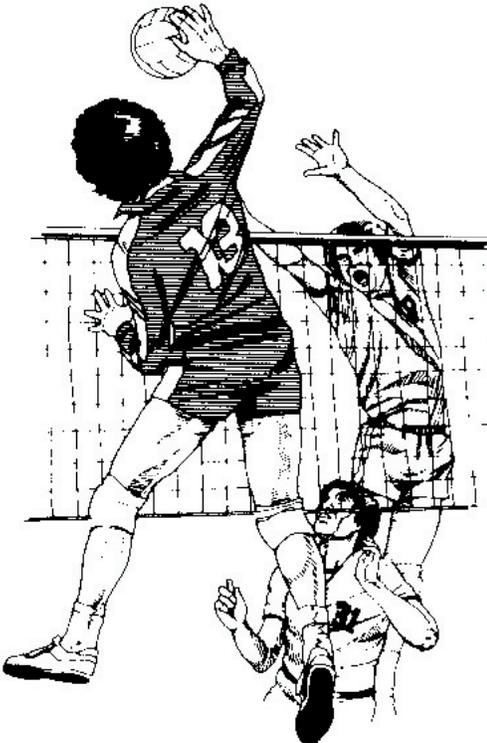
The first BRMUG Picnic was in 1994. The tradition has continued every year since.

The BRMUG Picnic is a chance for Macintosh users to get together, enjoy good food, get to know each other, and participate in the annual Volleyball Match (more about that later).

Menu:

- BBQ Chicken
- Baked Beans
- Potato Salad
- Corn on the Cob
- Rolls
- Colas and water
- Hotdogs for the kids

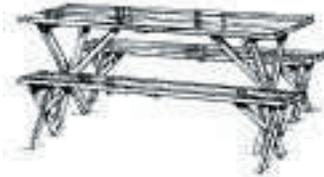
The picnic has always been a family event (in fact some children are growing up with the picnic). The picnic has seen members and guests come and go. At times the picnic seems like a reunion. Other times it becomes a chance to meet new people. It helped hold us together



in Apple's tough times and is a place to celebrate Apple's successes (like the iPod and iTunes!).

Please try to join us at the picnic! It will be a great time! Invite any Macintosh users you know. Invite any potential switchers. The food is always great. The companionship is wonderful. Bring the whole family -- kids are welcome.

The menu will include BBQ chicken, baked beans, and potato salad. The chicken will be grilled fresh that afternoon. Don's baked beans are amazing. Kathy's potato salad is as good as it gets. We usually have corn on the cob and rolls. Don will probably bring a watermelon (like he usually does). We will have colas and water. We always have plenty (so far we have never run out). We will have hot dogs for the kids.



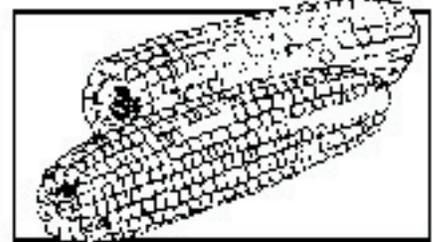
And the best part is yet to come. Each year we have a volleyball match. After the food has settled some, we play volleyball. After each game we mix up the teams. The first year Don and I happened to be on opposite sides. As the teams mixed, we always wound up on opposite sides. Ever since then it has been a rivalry -- Don and I competing. Really funny how the players keep switching sides and in the end my side always wins more.

My broken leg is just a memory and I am ready to return to the volleyball court. After all, this will be the twelfth

annual BRMUG picnic. He needs all the help he can get. Of course I am offering extra helpings to everyone who is on my victorious side!

As you see, the picnic has grown into quite an event. Be sure to join us this year and become part of the tradition.

Please drop me an e-mail at picnic@brmug.org to let me know how many to expect (so we have plenty of food).



Driving directions:

Join us on Saturday, September 18, 2004 at 3:00 PM until dark. We will be at the NE corner of Highland and South Stadium at LSU (get off the Interstate at Acadian going South, turn right where the road splits and the picnic will be on your right when you see the next traffic light).

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/>

generation it can tell if you are pushing on the right or left side and sends a corresponding left click or right click. Simple. Elegant. Just what you would expect from Apple. The top of the mouse is different though. Right where a scroll wheel would be on many modern mice, Apple has inserted a small trackball that acts as a vertical, horizontal and diagonal scroll wheel. Preliminary reactions have been phenomenal. And yes, the trackball can be pressed down to act as a third button. But Apple went a step further. Remember those odd semi-circle plastic pieces on the sides of your mouse? I remember spending quite a bit of time trying to figure out what they were before giving up and writing them off as an odd way to mesh the two halves together. Apple has turned the pair into a 4th button -- squeezing them (either one or both) produces a 4th click that can be configured to perform an action.

The early response is very positive. In fact, the only complaints have been a desire for a more flexible utility to associate actions with each button press (a shareware solution already exists) and a universal question of when the Bluetooth versions arrive. Most assume that after the USB Mighty Mouse sales slow, Apple will unveil a Bluetooth version.

At \$49, the Mighty Mouse is flying out of Apple Stores. You might wonder what I think (since I seem to have an opinion on everything). The idea of the Mighty Mouse is much more important than the mouse itself. Apple has supported multi-button mice for years (I have been using a Logitech scroll mouse for a long time -- I never even used the mouse that came with my G5). The fact that Apple redesigned a scroll mouse and did such a great job is not surprising (but it is very welcome).

What the Mighty Mouse means to me is the future of the laptop. iBooks and PowerBooks should be revamped to include multi-button trackpads (the trackpad already does scroll-wheel emulation). This is exciting to me. The biggest single complaint I have about the PowerBook (applies to iBook also) is the dexterity required to properly use Safari (and other applications). I command-click or control-click more than I click (or would if my fingers were more coordinated). Apple has

Other Macintosh User Groups

SMUG

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

NOMUG

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

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	Epson CX6400	Isaac Traxler	Bluebonnet Library
June 16	Software Gems	Isaac, Don & Glenn	Bluebonnet Library
July 21	Garage Band	Glenn Matherne	Bluebonnet Library
August 18	iChat A/V	Don & Isaac	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.

finally done something to help those of us who are not officially handicapped -- just clumsy and awkward. Thank you Apple and Steve Jobs!

iChat A/V and CNN

CNN plans to use iChat A/V to conduct face-to-face interviews for its new show "Situation Room" that will be hosted by Wolf Blitzer (good timing).

Japan iTunes Music Store

It took four days of operation for the Japan iTunes Music Store to sell a million songs. Not bad at all.

Podcasting

Podcasting is really taking off. A London group provided coverage of the 2005 Tour deFrance via podcasts.

Dashboard Widgets

Dashboard and its widgets have continued to grow. Over 1000 widgets have now been released.

And for those of us that have memory concerns, solutions have come out that disable Dashboard or minimize its

impact on system performance.

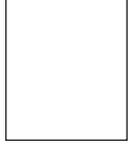
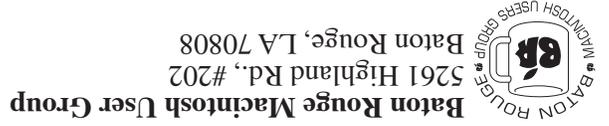
First, you can disable all widgets and then restart the Dock. This reduces the cpu and memory resource consumption of Dashboard.

Macosxhints has a number of articles about Dashboard including a script to enable and disable Dashboard (search on dashboard).

Applix - Used Computers

Looking for a used computer? Applix Computers (273-3461) is at 12191 Florida (across the street from Big Lots). They specialize in used computer equipment.

When I dropped by there the other day, I was surprised to see a number of Macintoshes. I saw G3s, iMacs and G4s. I talked with the folks there for a while. Even though Macintoshes are not their primary income source, they are Macintosh friendly and have a quite a few. In particular, if you want a first generation iMac, drop by there. They appeared to very reasonable prices on them and they had a lot of them.



This Month:
 !Chat A/V
 by Don Ballard and 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 8/2005

Name: _____

Address: Street, City, State, ZipCode

Home Phone: _____

Office Phone: _____

Things the club should do: _____

My interest areas: _____
