



BRMUG

Baton Rouge Macintosh User Group

News and Views

July 2007

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
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 Richard Johnson m1@brmug.org
 William Sellers 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 **July 19th**, the 3rd Thursday of the month, at 6:30 P.M. The meeting will be 6:30 PM at the Bluebonnet Library. Last month we had several iPhone commercials inserted into the opening session. Guess what -- This month's meeting topic is **iPhone Mania** by Don Ballard and William Sellers (both are proud new owners of an iPhone). These two iPhone owners will give us the scoop on this wonderful new device. If you have been thinking about or you are just curious, this will be a perfect time to get all of your questions answered (many of them anyway). If you know folks interested in an iPhone, bring them along. This should be a fun and 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 | Frequently Asked Questions |
| 8:30 PM | Adjourn to Brewbachers |

Meeting is at Bluebonnet Library!

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

June Meeting

Thanks to William Sellers for his hard work preparing for last month's meeting. Our goal was to answer a lot of questions for beginners and advanced users. I hope you feel we did. For a recap, visit <http://www.brmug.org/meeting-notes/20070621.php>. Thanks again William. That was fun. Hopefully we can add more questions and answers and make this FAQ a regular section of the BRMUG web site.

AAPL

Good news is fun to deliver! Again! And again! At last month's meeting Apple was at just under \$120 (which was pretty nice). We were all wondering what would happen as the iPhone got close to shipping and after the excitement wore down.

It appears that it was all pretty good news. The price did not jump up 50 points or anything. It had a basic steady incline to just over \$138 for a market cap of just under \$120 billion.

HP, Intel and IBM have had good months also. Pretty much they have paced Apple over the last month. Apple

still needs \$5 billion more to overtake HP, \$30 billion to overtake Intel and \$43 billion to overtake IBM.

I was expecting Apple stock to go up more if the iPhone did not tank. Apparently folks are still waiting to make final judgement.

For me, I can say the iPhone as been a great success so far (no I do not have one). But the press on the iPhone has been surprisingly positive (almost exclusively). Sales for the first weekend are estimated between 200,000 to 7000,000 units. Unfortunately, no solid numbers are known. The majority believe sales were in the 500,000 to 550,000 units over that first weekend. About 2/3s of the Apple Stores have iPhones in stock currently. The 8 GB model was much preferred over the 4 GB model even at \$100 more. Pretty much everyone agrees that Apple will have no trouble selling their target of 10 million in the first year.

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Several have said Apple may sell 50% more than that.

And the rumor is that a lower priced phone that is more iPod Nano like will be released. Rumors of new iPod models with some/any of the iPhone features are very common.

Looks like the \$150-\$200 price per share is not so crazy after all. Several systems still have feature bumps to come. And Leopard is due before Christmas with rumors of a major improvement in iLife. Just think, Apple may soon be the biggest microcomputer company in the world soon...

BRMUG Picnic

It's almost that time of year again! Ac-



tually, you still have plenty of time. We have been waiting until September to have the picnic so that the temperature will not be so high. Due to the LSU Home Football schedule, September Saturdays are all home games. So we are going to have the picnic on **Sunday** this year -- September 16, 2007. I hope everyone puts it in your calendar.

The picnic is great fun. We have BBQ chicken, baked beans, potato salad, corn on the cob, hot dogs, water and colas. Typically we wind up with a watermelon for dessert.

After all of this great effort, we then relax will with a spirited game of volleyball. It is all great fun. I hope everyone can make it.

For now, the date is tentative. Keep looking at the newsletter and/or the web site in case anything changes.

Apple Updates

Apple has released a number of updates in the last month or two. My wife recently applied latest updates. Included among them was the Quicktime 7.2 update.

This should have been painless (as it nearly always is). But it wasn't. She noticed that Microsoft Office applications would not work. No problem, she used Neo Office for the day. And then Parallels would not work. Once again, she could live without it. But when Snood (her favorite game) failed to work, it was a problem to be reckoned with.

So she gave me her laptop and said "fixit". So we talked a little and she

remembered that things started going wrong after the upgrades.

The first thing I tried was running these applications from my account on her machine -- no luck. So it was probably system wide. I tried rebooting -- no luck. I tried Disk First Aid -- it just hung. I rebooted her machine into target mode (held t down while booting) and hooked it up to my laptop via a firewire cable. I drug Microsoft Office over (was not installed on my computer). I double clicked Excel. After filling in the registration stuff, it worked fine. I tried dragging over several other applications that would not work on her computer. All of them worked fine on mine. I ran Disk First Aid from my computer on her disk -- no problems.

At this point, I know nothing is wrong with the applications and the hard disk structure, but that certain applications will not run.

So I rebooted her machine and started looking in log files. After a bit, I determined that the console log had a grouping of 5 lines every time I tried to run a non-working application. I took a subset of the error message (RO mapping #0 not in segmentshared region) and searched via Google.

It turns out quite a few people had noticed that Microsoft applications, Rosetta applications and other things did not work after upgrading to Quicktime 7.2.

More investigation implied that nothing was wrong with Quicktime, but that the problem was probably related to pre-binding not completing correctly after the upgrade (that point after install where it says optimizing).

A little more digging and several folks recommended reinstalling the last security update by getting the combo updater and running it. I did this and magically her Mac worked (because running the updater made her Mac to redo the prebinding step). So if you have odd problems, looking at the console logs may help (with Google's assistance of course).

by Isaac Traxler

GarageBand 3

I've been a guitar nut for 30 years or so going back to junior high in the 1970's. It was a glorious time to be fascinated with guitars, even if the music wasn't always great or that it was a tough time for domestic musical instrument manu-

facturers. Anyhow, I became fascinated with recording technology around 1974 or so when cassette recorders became cheap. I never got good sound until years later when I'd started using my dilapidated 5300 CD Mac to record with SND Sampler and with a Fostex 8 track cassette recorder. It failed a few years later.

A few years ago my frustration was reaching boiling point as I always had hissing problems recording no matter how I recorded to my iMac G3. I used a Behringer mixer, Marshall and Fender Amps and Pro Tools Free. The sound still suffered.

Then I took the plunge this year and bought a Mac Mini and started to embrace GarageBand 3 fully as my all in one recording, mastering and mixing solution. It was a revelation to find software that did everything well and didn't max out my Mac. Cool.

So here's my two bits about GarageBand 3.

GarageBand 3 is the latest incarnation of the audio software portion of iLife '07. GarageBand 3 is a full featured recording, mixing and mastering software. It interfaces with iDvd, iMovie, iPhoto and iTunes with ease. You can make Soundtracks, Podcast Audio and of course Garageband Music. It's the little brother to Apple Logic Pro and much easier to master.

There are several ways to record tracks in Garageband, You can plug an instrument into your Mac with a mini to 1/4 inch cable like the Monster Cable Studio cables or the Griffin adapters. You can also use an analog to Firewire Adapter



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like The Presonus Aspire. USB adapters are still kind of iffy.

You can also just select software instruments for backing. This comes in handy if you're not a drummer or can't figure out keyboards. Basically these software instruments are audio loops. That's what people are talking about when they mention loops. They're snippets of musical instruments playing like the loops of taped used in old audio studios that can be manipulated to fit in your music.

Garageband like many audio programs looks like an old analog recording mixer. Think you're in a garage band with a less than zero budget. To get started you select an instrument and click the big red record button at the bottom of the console. There is a chronometer to record your time in musical beats. This doesn't translate to minutes and seconds exactly. You add backing to you recorded tracks by either selecting loops at the bottom of the screen and dragging them or by recording additional tracks.

You have controls at the left of each track to set volume and fade in points of each track. You can also pan each track to the left or right in varying degrees to give the impression of you own orchestra. This comes in handy when your sounds become mushy or too loud sounding.

Each instrument of each track has controls to the right for setting options such as echo, reverb, distortion, amp type and even the ability to decide the ambiance of the room in which the music could have been recorded live. The panel for ambiance is at the top right. You can shift the type of instrument family played on each track with out disturbing the track recorded also from this panel.

There is even an editor at the bottom of the console to tweak each track to play in harmony together, You can even change the tempo, speed and pitch of each instrument to suit your needs. Each track is denoted by time signature and frequency for easy mix and match.

The loops are named by family to enable you to recreate the music you love to hear, but can't always play every instrument. So if you match Jazz piano, bass, horns and drums, you might get something good sounding. You can just sing along.

If you need more loops, Apple sells several collections of instruments for Classical, Rock and Jazz at \$99 each. Many other companies also loop collections to add to your instrument collection. You can make your own and trade with friends also.

When you finish, just send your mix to iTunes and you're done. Save your creation and you can import it into iPhoto slideshows, iMovie projects and even iDvd projects.

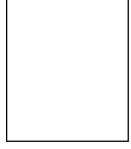
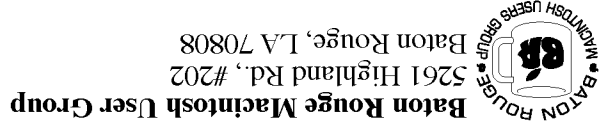
| 2006/7 Meeting Calendar | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| August 16 | Garage Band Overview | Glenn Matherne | Bluebonnet Library |
| July 19 | iPhone Mania | Don Ballard & William Sellers | Bluebonnet Library |
| June 21 | FAQ -- Frequently Asked Questions | Team | Bluebonnet Library |
| May 17 | Tale of a Switcher | Glenn Young | Bluebonnet Library |
| April 19 | Intro to Pages | William Sellers | Bluebonnet Library |
| March 15 | Airport Extreme & Mac Wireless | John Quebedeaux | Bluebonnet Library |
| February 15 | Inkscape and Vector Graphics | Isaac Traxler | Bluebonnet Library |
| January 18 | MacWorld Recap | Don Ballard | Bluebonnet Library |
| December 21 | Holiday Gathering | N/A | Brewbachers |
| November 16 | Mac Extras & Gadgets you want! | Everyone | Bluebonnet Library |
| October 19 | iTunes And iTS | William Sellers | Bluebonnet Library |
| September 21 | Software Choices | William Sellers & Isaac Traxler | Bluebonnet Library |
| August 17 | Podcasting 101 | William Sellers | Bluebonnet Library |
| July 20 | GarageBand | Glenn Matherne | Bluebonnet Library |
| June 15 | Backup Up Your Mac | Richard Johnson | Bluebonnet Library |
| May 18 | Accessorize Your Mac | Team | Bluebonnet Library |
| April 20 | Mac OS X Maintenance | Don Ballard | Bluebonnet Library |
| March 16 | Automator | Arne Christiansen | Bluebonnet Library |
| February 16 | Overview of iPhoto | Isaac Traxler | Bluebonnet Library |
| January 19 | Buddy, Where did you put the Start Button? | Don Ballard | Bluebonnet Library |
| BRMUG's Meetings at a Glance Send ideas to newsletter@brmug.org . | | | |

All in all, I found this incarnation of GarageBand to be the best, yet. It's really easy to use and tweak your favorite sounds and even your new creations. I just plug in my guitar select an effect and go. It's just that simple. . . No amp, no pedals, no band . . .no hassles.

I do recommend a good pair of audio speakers from a reputable music store,

not those computer av speakers and a good pair of reference headphones, not the boomy ones. To make good music, you have to hear clear uncluttered sound. Use your iPod to play back the finished product and then you can go boom boom boom wah wah zing til the police pull you over.

by Glenn Matherne



This Month:
!Phone Mania
 by Don Ballard and William Sellers

*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 7/2007

Name: _____

Address: Street, City, State, ZipCode

Home Phone: _____

Office Phone: _____

Things the club should do: _____

My interest areas: _____
