

\$3



mini'app'les newsletter

the minnesota apple computer users' group, inc.

Volume 30, Issue 4

A P R I L 2 0 0 7

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3 OS X 7:00	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23 Q&A 7:00	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

2
3 OS X
4

Board of Directors
mini'app'les members welcome
Merriam Park Library
1831 Marshall Avenue St. Paul
Tom Gates 612-789-1713

OS X SIG
The Foundation
219 Second Street North Suite 200
Minneapolis, MN 55403

AppleWorks SIG
Augsburg Library 6:30 PM
7100 Nicollet Ave S, Richfield
John Hunkins, Sr. 651-457-8949
hunkins@mac.com.

10
11
19

VectorWorks SIG
CJR Office
Charles Radloff 952 941 1667

Microsoft Word SIG
Eagles Lodge
9152 Old Cedar Ave. Bloomington
Tom Ostertag, E 651-488-9979

Macintosh Consultants SIG
Perkins 7:00 AM
6920 Wayzata Blvd
Golden Valley
Bob Demeules, 763-559-1124

23 Q&A
26

Macintosh Q & A SIG
Questions & Answers
Merriam Park Library
1831 Marshall Avenue St. Paul
Les Anderson 651-735-3953

FileMaker Pro SIG
Partners
2250 Terminal Road
Roseville, MN
Steve Wilmes 651-458-1513

For the latest information please visit <http://www.miniapples.org>



mini'app'les

The Minnesota Apple Computer Users' Group, Inc.
P.O. Box 796, Hopkins, MN 55343

Board of Directors:

President	Tom Gates 612-789-1713 tgates@isd.net
Vice President	Bert Persson 612-861-9578 skallgang@yahoo.com
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Treasurer	Don Walz 651-426-5602
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Publications Director	John Pruski 952-938-2818 johnpruski@aol.com
SIG Director	Kevin Strysik 651-489-4691 Strysik@mac.com
Director at Large	Les Anderson 651-735-3953 anderslc@usfamily.net
Membership	Erik Knopp
Apple II	Owen Aaland

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Questions – Please direct questions to an appropriate board member. Users with technical questions should refer to the Members Helping Members section.

Dealers – mini'app'les does not endorse specific dealers. The club promotes distribution of information which may help members identify best buys and service. The club itself does not participate in bulk purchases of media, software, hardware and publications. Members may organize such activities on behalf of other members.

Advertisers – For information, see Newsletter Ad Rates box within this issue.

Newsletter Contributions – Please send contributions directly to our Post Office, Box 796, Hopkins, MN 55343, or tostertag@usfamily.net

Deadline for material for the next newsletter is the 1st of the month. An article will be printed when space permits and, if in the opinion of the Newsletter Editor or Manager, it constitutes material suitable for publication.

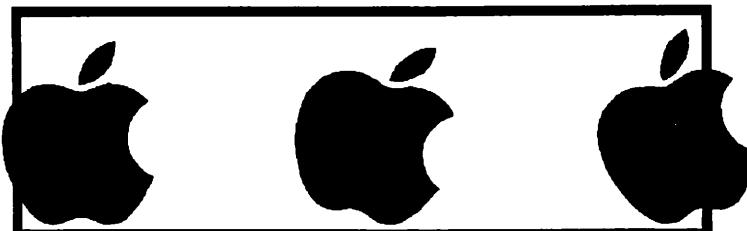
Editor/Publisher: Tom Ostertag 651-488-9979

Newsletter Layout: John Pruski 952-938-2818, Bert Persson 612-861-9578

mini'app'les BBS – Internet only access

mini'app'les WWW site: <http://www.miniapples.org>

mini'app'les e-mail: miniapples@mac.com



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CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Moving? Going to be away from home and leaving a forwarding address with the Post Office? Please send us a Change of Address when you are informing others. By using a moment of your time and a few cents to drop us a card, you save the club some money and you get your newsletter delivered promptly to your new address. If you don't inform us, the Post Office puts your newsletter in the trash (they don't forward third class mail) and charges the club for informing us of your new address. Change of Address should be sent to the club's mailing address: mini'app'les, Attn: Membership Director, Box 796, Hopkins, MN 55343.

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May 2007 Preview

Here is the tentative calendar of our Special Interest Group (SIG) meetings for May 2007. Please pencil these events on your calendar. As always, when doubtful of a SIG date, time, or location, confirm with one of the following:

- At www.miniapples.org
- The cognizant SIG Leader

Tuesday	May	1	OS X SIG
Wednesday	May	2	AppleWorks SIG
Tuesday	May	8	VectorWorks SIG
Wednesday	May	9	Microsoft Word SIG
Thursday	May	17	Macintosh Consultants
Monday	May	23	Mac Q & A SIG
Thursday	May	24	FileMaker Pro SIG

Members Helping Members

Need Help? Have a question the manual doesn't answer? Members Helping Members is a group of volunteers who have generously agreed to help. They are just a phone (or an e-mail) away. Please call only during the appropriate times, if you are a member, and own the software in question.

Apple II / IIgs Software & Hardware	1, 3, 4
AppleWorks / ClarisWorks-Draw	4, 5
Classic Macs	
Cross-Platform File Transfer	3
FileMaker Pro	
FirstClass	
iMacs	6
iPhoto / iTunes / iMovie	
Mac OS Classic	4, 6
Mac OS X	
MacWrite Pro	
Microsoft Excel	2, 3, 7, 10
Microsoft Word	3, 10
MYOB	7
Networks	9
New Users	1, 6
PhotoShop	
PowerBooks / iBooks	6
Power Macs	
QuarkXPress	10
Quicken	2, 7
QuickBooks and QuickBooks Pro	7
WordPerfect	
VectorWorks	8

1. Les Anderson	651-735-3953	DEW
2. Mike Carlson	218-387-2257	D
3. Tom Ostertag	651-488-9979	EW
4. Bruce Thompson	763-546-1088	EW
5. Pam Lienke	651-457-6026	EW
6. Richard Becker	612-870-0659	EW
7. Ardie Predweshny	612-978-9774	DEW
8. Charles Radloff	952-941-1667	D
9. Chuck Hauge	612-963-5064	DEW
10. Ron Heck	651-774-9151	DEW

D: Days, generally 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

E: Evenings, generally 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

W: Weekends, generally 1 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Volunteers needed for members helping Members.

Please call at reasonable hours, and ask if it is a convenient time for them. By the way, many of these volunteers can also be contacted on our BBS. We appreciate your cooperation.

If you would like to be a Members Helping Member volunteer, please send an e-mail message to John Pruski on our BBS, or call him at 952-938-2818, with your name, telephone number, contact hours, and the software or hardware areas you are willing to help others.

Newsletter Ad Rates

1/12 page	2.25" Width x 2.5" Height.....	\$5
1/6 page	2.5" Width x 5" Height.....	\$10
1/3 page....	2.5" Width x 10" Height Vert or 5.5 H...	\$20
1/2 page.....	7.5" Width x 5" Height (save 5%)....	\$30
2/3 page.....	5" Width x 10" Height (save 7%)....	\$40
Full page ...	7-1/2" Width x 10" Height (save 15%)..	\$60
Outside back cover ..	7-1/2" Width x 7-1/2" Height ..	\$50
Inside back cover ..	7-1/2" Width x 10" Height ...	\$60

All ads must be prepaid and submitted on electronic media. Ads of \$20 and under must run for a minimum of three months.

mini'app'les will accept all ads for publication that do not affect our nonprofit status, or the postal regulations dealing with our nonprofit mailing rates. Examples of ads that will be rejected are; but not limited to, ads that:

1. endorse a political candidate or cause

2. attack a person or cause

3. are in "bad taste" (x rated or similar)

4. expound or demean a religion or practice.

Ads should be for a product or service. Because of our nonprofit mailing rates we must limit ads that are not related to computers.

Mail inquiries to: PO Box 796, Hopkins, MN, 55343

Phone inquiries to: John Pruski, 952-938-2818

Growing number of extensions boost Firefox browser's usefulness

By Julio Ojeda-Zapata
Submitted by Les Anderson

The Firefox Web browser is more than a navigator - it's a veritable online ecosystem that is continually expanding and evolving.

This is largely due to software plug-ins called "extensions" that turbocharge Firefox with additional capabilities. I have access to hundreds of the modules, which typically work on both PCs and Macs, and I use several of them daily. More extensions are continually being developed and released to the public, usually for free.

I wrote about Firefox last year (to find "The Web-browser race is heating up," go to twin-cities.com and click "Columnists"), but I'm taking a closer look at extensions for a couple of reasons:

The Minnesota-based company Syntactica has released an iReader extension (also available as an add-on for Microsoft's Internet Explorer browser) that analyzes and summarizes text in Web pages.

Firefox creator Mozilla Corp. is revamping its extensions directory to make the plug-ins easier to find, install and improve. The new extensions portal is due to go live in the coming days (go to <http://addons.mozilla.org> for the current directory as well as the coming one).

The nonprofit Mozilla also is launching a publicity campaign focused on its "add-ons" and pointing users to extensions it sees as best-of-breed. It's enlisting the help of Firefox fans to help spread the word, too. (Count me in!)

So why should you care? If you're like most people on Windows PCs, you use Internet Explorer instead of Firefox. On the Mac, Apple's Safari is the default browser. In either case, you have to go look for Firefox, download it and install it - a bit of a bother, right?

Extensions are the reason I take the

trouble. They've made my endless hours on PCs and Macs so much easier. Extensions give me at-a-glance weather forecasts, add integrated music-player controls, synchronize bookmarks and other data across multiple computers, help me upload files to Internet servers, allow me to better juggle multiple Web-mail accounts and more.

Internet Explorer users do have a variety of browser plug-ins. So do Safari users. Those using Opera have a flashier option: "widgets" or miniprograms that hover on the desktop, separate from the browser window, to perform a range of useful functions. (Apple and Microsoft provide widgets, too, but separate from their browsers.)

But for sheer plug-in volume and variety, Firefox extensions have the competition beat.

Syntactica iReader

Syntactica's iReader delighted me because it's a variation on a technology (also called Syntactica) I covered a decade ago. In a May 1996 piece about the inventor, Arnold Schultz, I described his brainchild as software "that understands English well enough to assemble summaries and back-of-the-book indexes with ever-increasing accuracy and speed."

This essentially describes iReader, which Schultz had a hand in creating, but the new software cleverly integrates Syntactica's text-distilling wizardry into routine, everyday Firefox use.

Once iReader is installed, it produces a pop-up window every time users' cursors hover over a link to another Web page. A text-based "intelligent summary" that appears in the pop-up is the result of near-instantaneous background analysis of that page's contents. The text lets users decide whether to click through to the page or disregard the link.

The iReader extension (www.syntactica.com) isn't the only one to use pop-up trickery. When users of the Cooliris extension hover over a Web

link, for instance, the software throws up a big window containing the full corresponding page, graphics and all. Users can then click any links in that window, e-mail it, "stick" it to keep it visible, or open it in a full browser window.

This differs from iReader's succinct text-only approach, but I can see where either would be useful. In fact, with a bit of fine-tuning, Cooliris (www.cooliris.com) and iReader can be used side-by-side on the same computer and in the same browser window - you just have to hover in a different way for each extension.

Cooliris, like iReader, is available in a version for Internet Explorer on Windows PCs. Unlike iReader, Cooliris also works with Safari (or should work; I had trouble with this on my Macs).

Kodak Companion

Mozilla has just released its own extension, dubbed the Kodak EasyShare Gallery Companion, in a ploy to popularize extensions and spur other extension creators to redouble their efforts.

The Kodak plug-in, the first in a series of Mozilla-branded extensions, is a great convenience for digital-photo fans. It worked flawlessly for me on PCs and Macs, and I plan to keep using it.

Once installed, it adds an easy-to-access sidebar-style browser window that lets you log in to any of several photo-hosting sites, from Kodak EasyShare Gallery and Flickr to Tabblo and SmugMug. (Tip: If you have an old Ofoto account, use that login to access the Kodak EasyShare site via the extension.)

Once logged in, photo uploading takes just a few clicks. The images are then immediately viewable. You can also create new albums within the extension window, and then upload photos into that album (or into any other album).

This approach does have limitations.

The Kodak extension lacks photo-editing capabilities, for instance, so you're uploading pics as-is. Uploading is all it does. You can't use it to organize online photos, or delete ones you don't want.

EasyShare Gallery users who crave more sophisticated picture handling should install just-upgraded EasyShare standalone software. It's free (go to www.kodak.com/go/downloads), and you needn't own a Kodak camera to use it.

Other Extensions

If I've piqued your interest extension-wise, there is much more to see. Start with Mozilla's short list of recommended extensions. These include:

Foxmarks. I swear by this one. If you use more than one PC and/or Mac, as I often do, the software will keep your bookmarks in sync transparently and flawlessly on all machines. It does this better than the Google Browser Sync extension, but I depend on the latter to sync secure-Web-page usernames and passwords across multiple computers.

Del.icio.us Bookmarks. This is another bookmark-type extension that integrates Firefox with Yahoo's popular online bookmark-sharing service.

StumbleUpon. I don't use this extension, which helps users find sites related to their interests, but a co-worker raves about it. He writes, "Man, I'm having so much fun with it. I've discovered a plethora of amazing, useful, quirky and beautifully designed Web sites."

AllPeers. This one lets you swap files privately and securely with other users.

Pronto. Need to comparison-shop? This extension can come in handy by providing pricing on roughly 50 million products from more than 50,000 merchants, partly via little message windows.

FireFTP. For those needing to upload files using File Transfer Protocol, this terrific extension transforms Firefox into a full-featured FTP program.

For more Mozilla recommendations, go to <http://addons.mozilla.org/firefox/recommended>.

Julio Ojeda-Zapata covers consumer technology. Reach him at jojeda@pioneerpress.com or 651-228-5467. Read his past columns at www.twincities.com (click "Columnists"). Get more personal tech at www.yourtechweblog.com.

More Info

Firefox add-ons <http://addons.mozilla.org>

Internet Explorer add-ons www.windowsmarketplace.com

Opera widgets

<http://widgets.opera.com>

Safari add-ons

<http://pimpmysafari.com>

For more links related to this story, go to www.yourtechweblog.com.

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mini'app'les

The Minnesota Apple Computer Users' Group, Inc.
P.O. Box 796, Hopkins, MN 55343-0796

Membership Application, & Renewal Form

Name: _____
Company (if mailed to): _____
Address: _____ _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Phone # (Home): _____
Phone # (Work): _____
Phone # (cel-phone): _____
Occupation (if Applicable): _____
Membership ID # (if Renewal): _____
e-mail: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Check if OK to contact you by e-mail. <input type="checkbox"/> Check if this is a change of address notice. <input type="checkbox"/> Check if you are interested in volunteer opportunities. <input type="checkbox"/> Check if you want your name added to Members Helping Members List. <input type="checkbox"/> Check if you want your name withheld from commercial and other non-club mailing lists. <input type="checkbox"/> Check if you were referred by a club member (if so give members name).

New Members & Renewing Members

Specify your level of support:

- \$25.00 One Year
- \$45.00 Two Year
- \$60.00 Three Year
- \$15.00 Student One Year* (must be a full-time student at an accredited institution)
- \$100.00 Corporate One Year

Please Make
Your Checks Payable to:
mini'app'les

Please address
Your Payment to:
mini'app'les
P.O. Box 796
Hopkins, MN 55343-0796

Thank You for your support!

Dear mini'app'les
Please direct this to the:
 Membership Director
 Software Director
 Other _____

1st fold

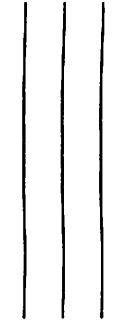
2nd fold

3rd fold

mini'app'les
P.O. Box 796
Hopkins, MN 55343-0796



Last Fold - Seal with Tape



Ballot

For Election of mini'app'les Board of Directors 2007-2008

Nominees as of 3/20/07

Instructions:

<input type="text"/> is for write-in votes;		
(I) indicates incumbent.		
President	<input type="checkbox"/> Tom Gates (I)	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Vice	<input type="checkbox"/> Bert Persson (I)	
President	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Secretary	<input type="checkbox"/> Harry Lienke (I)	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Treasurer	<input type="checkbox"/> Don Walz (I)	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Marketing	<input type="checkbox"/> Chuck Hauge (I)	
Director	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Publications	<input type="checkbox"/> John Pruski (I)	
Director	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
SIG	<input type="checkbox"/> Kevin Strysik (I)	
Director	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>

1) Vote for one and only one candidate per office. Please use an X.

2) If you wish, use the blank space to write in another candidate. Be sure to fill in the with an X.

3) When you have completed your ballot, fold the bottom edge up to the line indicated and flatten the crease. Fold the top edge down and flatten the crease. Tape top edge please.

5) The **mini'app'les** address should now be facing you. **Fill in your membership number.** No ballot will be valid without it. Fill in your name and address. Tape where indicated. Note: Your membership number is listed on your mailing label on the last page.

6a) Place a first class stamp where indicated, and mail. Mail early because only ballots received in our P.O. Box on or before April 28, 2007 will be counted.

OR

6b) Bring your ballot to any **mini'app'les** SIG meeting scheduled to be held on or before April 26, 2007.

Thanks for Voting!

Membership Number
Name:

Address:

Tape at Top Please

**mini'app'les
P.O. Box 796
Hopkins, MN 55343-0796**

.....
Fold Here

.....
2nd fold on this line

.....
Fold Here

.....
1st fold on this line

.....
Thanks for Voting!

mini'app'les bylaws

NAME OF ORGANIZATION

The name of the organization is Minnesota Apple Computer Users' Group, Inc. hereafter called "mini'app'les."

PURPOSE

The purpose of the organization is to promote the dissemination of information concerning the use of Apple Computers and products related thereto, and to share the knowledge of members at large concerning their talents and information pertaining to computers in general.

MEMBERSHIP

Members of mini'app'les are required to pay annual dues, which will be due on the anniversary of the month they joined.

The actual amount of dues will be set by the board. A application fee may be charged at the discretion of the board.

Annual dues must be received by anniversary date or membership shall be terminated.

Membership rights will be extended to the immediate household upon receipt of dues from the household.

Each membership shall have the right to cast one vote.

Membership will not be denied because of race, creed,

color, sex, or national origin.

Members are expected to abide by these bylaws.

Benefits of membership shall include:

A subscription to the mini'app'les newsletter.

Eligibility to purchase mini'app'les software.

Eligibility to participate in mini'app'les sanctioned activities.

LEADERSHIP

The officers of mini'app'les, shall consist of the following positions:

President

Past President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Publications Director

Interest Group Director

Marketing Director

These eight officers are the governing board of the mini'app'les and all mini'app'les business will be conducted by this board.

Except for the Past President, officers are elected for term of one year. The term runs from June 1 to May 31. The office of Past President will automatically be given to the retiring President. If a President is elected for sequential terms, the incumbent Past President will remain in office. If Past President resigns or relinquishes office, the President shall appoint a Director at Large to complete Past President term and duties.

If an officer resigns or relinquishes office, the President shall appoint a replacement in a timely manner subject to board approval.

If the President resigns or is unable to perform the duties of the office; the Vice President shall assume those duties.

In the absence of the President and Vice President the officers may appoint an acting President.

Board members may be removed from office by a two-thirds majority vote of the board. A recall election shall be held within 60 days of presentation of an impeachment petition bearing the verified signatures of at least five percent of the membership.

The President, Vice President, or Secretary may call a general membership meeting. Membership shall be notified of time, place, and purpose of meeting through the mini'app'les newsletter or a special mailing.

Election of Officers.

Nominations will be made by a nominating committee. Further nominations from members will be accepted at a general membership meeting to be held in February.

The subsequent list of nominees with such statements as they may wish to make pursuant to their candidacy shall appear in the April newsletter.

The election will be by means of a written ballot as published in the April newsletter. Ballots will be accepted at mini'app'les meetings or by mail. All ballots must be received by April 28th. A simple majority of those voting is necessary for election. Results of this election shall be published in the newsletter not more than 60 days following the election.

Board members must be paid up members of the mini'app'les. If a board member's membership lapses, they have effectively resigned from the board of directors, and the board shall so notify them and make record in the minutes.

No member or membership may hold more than one board position or vote except as noted in bylaws.

LEADERSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES

General Duties. The duties of the elected officers are in general to:

Promote the purpose and membership of mini'app'les.

Administer the bylaws of the mini'app'les.

Attend and report at each board meeting.

Carry out decisions of the board in a timely manner.

Appoint staff and committees as necessary, subject to board approval.

Communicate to the board the needs of appointed staff and membership in general.

Duties of the President. The President will:

Provide leadership and direction to the general membership and to the board of directors.

Prepare an agenda for each board meeting.

Chair mini'app'les board and general membership meetings at which business is conducted.

Assign duties to board and staff members.

Establish goals to be reached during the term in office.

Duties of the Vice President. The Vice President will:

Assist the President with the duties of that office and in the absence of the president, assume the duties of that office.

Organize the program, facilities and equipment for general membership meetings including meetings for nominations or voting by membership.

Coordinate participation in events, such as trade shows and seminars.

Duties of the Treasurer. The Treasurer will:

Maintain the mini'app'les financial records and records of mini'app'les assets.

Prepare a written financial report to include income, disbursements, current account balances and assets, at each board meeting. This report will be included in the minutes.

Prepare an annual budget.

Be cognizant of and act upon requirements of the IRS and Minnesota State Department of Revenue in a timely and efficient manner.

Administer the collection of all monies due the mini'app'les.

Establish and maintain bank accounts in the name of the mini'app'les.

Deposit all monies in the mini'app'les bank account(s) in a timely and efficient manner.

Pay all bills and demands as authorized by the board.

Duties of the Secretary The Secretary will:

Record in a permanent form the minutes of all board and general membership meetings at which business is conducted.

Record the results of elections.

Archive and maintain all mini'app'les records other than those kept by the Treasurer.

Keep a mini'app'les calendar.

Assist the President and Vice President in correspondence as required.

Duties of the Past President. The Past President will:

Provide continuity in the leadership of the mini'app'les.

Assist the President with the duties of that office.

Provide historical references for decision making process.

Duties of the Publications Director. The Publications

Director will:

Oversee publication of the newsletter.

Appoint with consent of the board:

Newsletter Editor and assistants

Advertising Coordinator

Marketing Director. The Marketing Director will:

Oversee the maintenance and processing of membership records and materials

Promote membership

Duties of the Interest Group Director. The Interest Group

Director will:

Oversee all matters related to the development and maintenance of Special Interest and Community Interest groups

Encourage and assist in the formation of new interest groups

Act as spokesperson to the board for group representatives

FINANCIAL

The mini'app'les will maintain an account(s) at a local financial institution. Such accounts shall bear interest as the law allows.

The Signatories on the account(s) shall be:

President

Vice President

Treasurer

One signature will be required to disburse funds from the account(s).

The authorization of expenditures will be accomplished by the board approving an annual budget that covers the

mini'app'les budget year. The budget year shall run from August 1 to July 31. Those expenditures not budgeted items, or budgeted items which exceed the budgeted amount by more than \$25.00 will require majority approval of the board.

Proper verification of expenditures will be required before the funds will be disbursed.

In the event of dissolution of the corporation, the entire net assets remaining after payment of any or all liabilities and obligations of the corporation shall be disbursed in a manner agreeable to a majority of the board members at a specially convened open board meeting and consistent with IRS and State regulations. Notice of this meeting shall be made known to all mini'app'les members through the newsletter or a special mailing 30 days in advance of the meeting.

A Surety Bond shall be obtained, naming the above signatories as principals.

BOARD MEETINGS

The business of the mini'app'les will be conducted at board meetings, except for general membership meetings or voting by the general membership.

The Board of Directors shall meet at least every other month at a place and time designated by the mini'app'les president.

A quorum shall consist of 4 or more officers and no business shall be transacted if a quorum is not present.

Notice of board meetings shall be published 30 days in advance of all regularly scheduled board meetings.

In emergency situations, officers may agree to meet at any time, but all business transacted will be subject to reconsideration at the next regularly scheduled board meeting. Minutes of the emergency meetings shall be made publicly available in the next issue of the mini'app'les newsletter and/or at the request of any member. The board of directors may designate three or more of its members to constitute an executive committee. To the extent determined by the board, the executive committee has the authority of the board in the management of the business of mini'app'les. The executive committee shall act only in the interval between board meetings and at all times shall be subject to the control and direction of the board. Any activity shall be reported to board at next meeting.

Minutes of the board meetings will be made available no later than 60 days following that meeting.

All meeting of the board will be open to the general membership of the mini'app'les.

All members are encouraged to bring issues to the board. This shall be done by submitting agenda items in writing to the president in advance of the board meeting.

Decisions will be made by a simple majority of the board members present, the President voting only in the case of a tie.

At least once per year, the board will examine these bylaws for needed changes following the procedure set forth in section H.

BYLAWS

Requests for changes in the bylaws will be made in the mini'app'les newsletter at least four months prior to the election of officers.

The board will act on this request and on other items pursuant to changes in the bylaws at a board meeting at least three months prior to the election of officers.

Changes to the bylaws suggested by the board will be published in the mini'app'les newsletter.

The ratification will be by means of a written ballot as published in the mini'app'les newsletter. Ballots will be accepted at mini'app'les meetings or by mail. All ballots must be received by the 28th of the month in which vote is taken. A two-thirds majority of those voting is necessary for ratification of the changes to bylaws.

Changes to these bylaws become effective the first day of month following publication of notice of ratification in the newsletter. Such notice shall appear not more than 60 days after the closing date for receiving ballots.

MISCELLANEOUS

mini'app'les will support the copyright laws.

In the event of meeting cancellation, the officers will make every effort to contact the local members through the media or other means as appropriate.

All Books and Records will be audited not less than once per year by a committee of members, not including officers, appointed by board.

All applicable Federal and Minnesota laws and statutes apply and supersede where bylaws do not comply with said laws and statutes.

Where a physical address is required (i.e.) State of Minnesota, the Treasurer's home address shall be used.

The nonprofit corporation papers must be re-filed yearly.

Print Explosion Deluxe Version 3

Submitted by Pam Lienke

Print Explosion Deluxe Version 3 by Nova Development (www.novadevelopment.com) is a fast easy way to create a variety of print projects including business cards, t-shirts, banners, greeting cards, and much more. This easy-to-use product can be used by young children for such projects as cards and crafts but can also be used for professional-quality projects for business use. There is built-in support for the iLife application suite including iPhoto, iTunes, and Apple Address Book.

When Print Explosion Deluxe launches, the user is given the choice of beginning with a ready made template, beginning a project from scratch, or going through a tutorial. The tutorials include Customizing a Greeting Card, Making Scrapbook Pages, Creating a CD/DVD Label, and Personalizing T-Shirts. Inserting and manipulating images and text works the same as in many other programs. Although users may discover how to use the program simply by plunging into it, it is worth some time to look through the tutorials and, yes, even the manual, to take advantage of the many features.

To create a greeting card, for example,

launch Print Explosion Deluxe and select Choose a Template—I find it easier to start with a pre-made template and make changes to personalize it, taking advantage of someone else's thinking and creative endeavors to jump start my project. From the Choose a Template window, select Greeting Cards. By clicking on the triangle next to Greeting Cards you open the submenu containing an assortment from Anniversary to Special Occasions. Click on one of these to reveal the many choices there. You are given thumbnails of the ready-made options. The thumbnails increase in size to fill the allotted space if you drag the slider on the bottom right to the right. Click on the template of choice and select Finish. Now you are able to see all four panels of the card by clicking on the desired panel in the side drawer. Here is where you personalize the card. You can change the graphic by using one of the more than 100,000 pieces of clip art or by adding your own pictures. Change the message to one that says, "It's you." The font color, size, and style, as well as the font itself, can be changed to meet your specifications. If you are printing a card that has images on both sides, place one card in your printer and

press print. A dialog box opens instructing you to reinsert the card after the first side has printed. When you have done that, click on Print Second Page. It's always a good idea to try your project on plain paper first to be certain it prints as you want and to be assured you know which way to reinsert the paper. It's a great way to get the perfect card.

To give your projects a more professional look, you can purchase specialty papers including half-fold or quarter-fold for greeting cards, business cards, CD-DVD labels, t-shirt transfers, and postcards.

If you, like me, use a slower machine (an iMac with an 800 MHz processor and 512 MB RAM), Print Explosion Deluxe can be frustrating; the program slows down with large projects such as scrapbook pages.

Print Explosion Deluxe version 3 requires Mac OS X (version 10.2 or later), 128 MB RAM (minimum), and a DVD-ROM drive. If you don't have a DVD-ROM drive, you can order replacement CDs to install Print Explosion using a CD-ROM drive.

Print Explosion Deluxe version 3 sells for \$49.95, but can be purchased directly from Nova Development for \$29.95.

Save a few pennies, spend millions

Submitted by Bert Persson

Penny wise and dollar fool, is an old expression that is also applicable to the computer industry. In a quote from Wired magazine we can see what happens when we try to save a few pennies.

"Reader Robert wrote into share the problems of his employed with faulty capacitors in a large crop of 1.25 Ghz eMacs, most purchased between July and Sept. 2004. About July/August of last year, we began seeing a pattern of failures - garbled video, system freezes (like in the OS 9 days - very uncharacteristic of OS X). We first troubleshooted this problem as software - reinstalling, reapplying combo updates, et. al. We found that leaving the screen saver turned off seemed to reduce, but not eliminate, the frequency of failures. One machine was luckily repaired a month out of warranty, but we've had 3 more fail since then (and I'm sure we'd find more defective machines if we took them apart and started examining motherboards.

At the same time, his company's Dell OptiPlexes started to fail; some searching uncovered that this was a known issue with Dells of the time. They popped open the broken eMacs, and the same problem with those machines.

We examined the afflicted machines, and sure enough, the capacitors were bulging or broken/leaking. Dell came right out and replaced all of the

afflicted machines, warranty or no. Apple does have a warranty extension program for iMac G5s but nothing for the eMac. It's a big problem when it's present, and judging from continued discussion at MacFixIt and MacInTouch, it's not uncommon, either."

From the University of South Carolina Macintosh Users' Group we can read the following

"I know that several vendors of which Apple was one used capacitors from a non-reputable source in Taiwan because they were cheaper; well it turns out there was a reason for that. I have not seen this effect eMacs I only know of iMacs that this has happened to and Apple is covering those under a recall repair program. The tops of the capacitors should be flat if they are bulging then your friends computer was in the unlucky bunch that the cheap capacitors were used in.

I just spoke with a Apple Authorized Repair place and they said that a new logic board not under warranty for eMacs with ATI graphics and a later model using USB 2.0 run from \$499 to \$519 excluding an hour of labor to replace it @ \$75.00."

In the competitive computer market you have to save every penny in order to keep prices down and performance high, but were do you draw the line? Is it a good strategy to sell computers

at a low price using cheap components? Since electrolytic capacitors are prone to leakage which could damage the motherboard, it would make sense to spend the extra few pennies for quality capacitors. Instead, many manufacturers save a few cents but spend millions in recalled products. This would of course result in a more expensive product, but the reputation and reliability of its products may be well worth the cost.

We can all relate to the Apple Powerbook 5300 that caught fire, but this was not due to cheap capacitors.

Finally another web quote:

"If you are experiencing freezes on your 1.25Ghz eMac, purchased approximately, May-Dec04, open the inspection hatch and look at the 2 capacitors on the right hand side, just under the RAM slots. If either of them are either swollen, or leaking (brownish substance... there's another 12 or so capacitors inside the eMac that you can't see that are probably the same) then you indeed are affected by this problem."

And that ladies and gentlemen is my 2¢ worth.

If you have any problems with Apple computers, software or related equipment please share them with our members by submitting an article to the newsletter. We have plenty of space for individuals willing to share their experiences.

Thank You,

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Communicate with other mini'app'les members plus get up to date information on mini'app'les events and meetings. Get assistance from other members.

Eligibility for frequent drawings of free equipment, software, and books.

Just a few of the many items given away free in the past include: Connectix QuickCam, Quickeys, Books from Peachpit Press , MacSoft Games & Software, T-shirts and software including Apple OS 10

Periodic special User Group discount offers on equipment and software.

In the past, Apple, Hayes, Brøderbund, and APC Power Protection (Business Security Products), among others, have offered mini'app'les members significant discounts.

Plus, you're supporting all of mini'app'les' special interest group (SIG) meetings that you can attend each month.

It's easy to recoup your cost of membership with the above benefits.



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