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LIMac was established in 1984, when the Mac was introduced. Annual dues for membership are $36. (*The first meeting is free.*)

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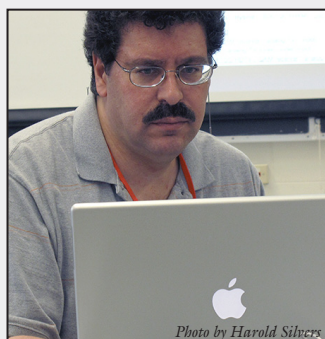Impact*

July Meeting *Bradley Dichter*

Photo by Harold Silvers

At the July meeting, we had to do without the PA this evening, but that just delayed our start of the Q&A thanks to Kym Newborn's extension cords. Bradley Dichter demonstrated the usage of *CleanApp 3* by Synium Software which can make it easy to delete disk space wasting applications with their associated support files, old files you haven't opened in years, preference panes you don't need and waste memory and cache files taking up hidden megabytes of disk space. The visual map of the disk space usage of the Documents folder alone showed us easily what files were taking up the most space. On the user group's PowerBook G4, he freed up 11 GB of disk space without having to dig though countless folders in the Finder. It has a logging service to watch for future installations of software to be sure it can remove all the installed bits. We all download and install stuff, try it for a while and forget it, and all this stuff slows down the computer by filling the hard drive and taking system resources. Have you upgraded to Leopard but never threw out the folder and Applications (Mac OS 9) for example? This $13 program is definitely worth it. Bradley fielded many on and off topic questions as well. If he had more time, he could have expounded on trimming fonts and defragmenting after trimming the hard drive with either *iDefrag, TechTool Pro* or *Drive Genius*. The later two can also repair directory damage which can slow down the computer before it starts loosing folders and files.

August Meeting *Rick Matteson*

AUGUST
14
MEETING

Stop hunting and re-doing your searches. Get it right the first time. This month our own Internet search guru, Barbara Mehlman will demonstrate more Web search techniques which will yield the results you want on the initial search and how to evaluate whether or not the site is safe, accurate and authoritative. No more trial-and-error, shot-in-the-dark searches that return junk you don't want or can't use. Barbara will also show us useful resources for creating presentations (think iTunes U), planning a family vacation, sharing your bookmarks and other day-to-day Web-based social interactions (think Facebook and Twitter).

Of course Bradley will answer all your Mac questions and there will be a MacBasics Q&A session too. We'll also hold our ever popular raffle.

So if you don't want to waste time when you search the Web and you'd like to know more about how to use the Internet to your advantage, make sure you attend this meeting. It's sure to be very informative and entertaining.

SPECIAL NOTICE
This edition is made for viewing on your computer screen. If you want to print this version I have now compensated for some printers that don't print too close to the edge, if however, you wish a more printer friendly edition without all the colors just email me at *azygier@nyc.rr.com* and I'll be happy to send you one. *(Al Zygier)*

General meeting time schedule:
Meetings are held at The New York Institute of Technology, Building 300 (Anna Rubin Hall), Old Westbury, Long Island.

Meetings start promptly at **7:00** P.M.
Bradley's Q&A: **7:00 – 7:30** P.M.
MacBasics Q&A: **7:00 – 7:30** P.M.
Beginner Q&A meetings July & August.
Featured Presentation: **7:30 – 8:20** P.M.
followed by announcements and raffle drawings**.**

SIG Meetings: (*Special Interest Groups*)
DTP/Photoshop SIG: **8:30 – 10:00** P.M.
No SIG meetings in August.

▸ In bad weather, call (516) 686-7789.
▸ The next LIMac board meeting will be at the Plainedge Library, (516) 735-4133, on Wednesday, August 19th, at 7:45 P.M.

Directions to Meeting

Bradley's Tech Session

Bradley Dichter
Technical Advisor
bdichter@optonline.net

▸**I have a 15" MacBook Pro with a 5400 rpm drive that I have of course filled with stuff. What do you think about upgrading to a larger 7200 rpm drive? What brands do you like or should I stay away from? How hard is it to put in? I've done a iBook before.**
■ I prefer the Hitachi Travelstar brand for reliability and I see at OWC they have 320 GB drives from the 7K320 series for $88 and a kit where you can put your original drive in a quality mobile case with USB for $113. You can boot from your now external drive and format the new drive and clone everything to the new drive. They want $150 for the bundle with the FW800 case. Putting the original drive in a external case makes it easy to boot of the now external original drive and clone everything to the new drive (after a quick partition and format). Western Digital Scorpio drives run hot and Seagate have been troublesome and hot. The modern 7200 rpm drives use about as much power as the old 5400 rpm drives, so battery life should not be unduly affected by the trade up. Of course if you stick with a 5400 rpm drive, you can go all the way up to a 500 GB drive. There are some Seagate drives out there with the own built-in shock protection. These should be avoided as it conflicts with Apple's Sudden Motion Sensor. To be fair, if you look at the specs, the Hitachi are a tad louder than the Western Digital models. Apple is having a problem with their own custom build-to-order 7200 rpm Seagate drives where they pause and make a noise periodically. Before the unibody style, it was rather a involved procedure on par with the iBook. It's far easier now with the unibody design that came out last year. OWC has a series of install videos for the various model Macs at *http://eshop.macsales.com/installvideos/*.

▸ **How about a memory upgrade for the MacBook Pro? Can I go to 4 GB? What brands do you recommend?**
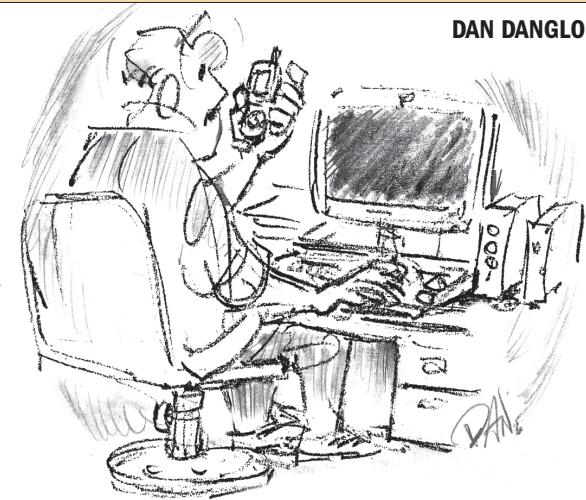■ You haven't told me what exact model MacBook Pro, so

President's Message

Bill Medlow
President
archbill@optonline.net

This is part of the real pay off. Last Month, Bradley made a presentation on how to speed up your existing Macintosh. In this month's FORUM Bradley goes over it again, in the FORUM's review, of the presentation and if you look in the Q&A you will also find some more tidbits. This is what we are all about. Helping each other to have the fastest Mac's possible. Have a great summer. ▸
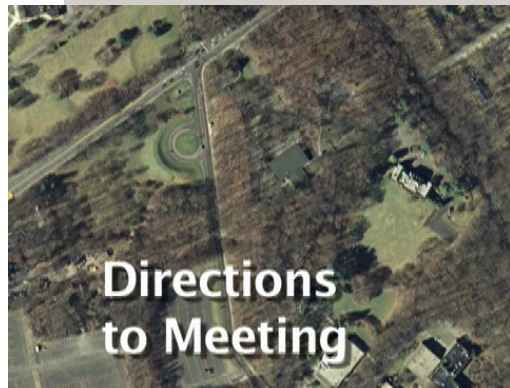*So come down and let us know what you think.*

DAN DANGLO

"Tech support...my powerpoint just ran out of power."

Bradley's Tech Session

I can't say. The first generation from 2006 maxed out at 2 GB. and the late 2006 2nd generation could go to 3 GB. The 3rd generation (mid 2007) and 4th gen. (Early 2008) could go to 4 GB officially, but you could in-fact upgrade them to 6 GB. The late 2008 unibody MacBook Pro also could go to 6 GB and the new 2009 models can go all the way to 8 GB. As for complexity, it's very easy on all models, again you can see the OWC web site for the videos. I generally go with Kingston brand first, often buying from newegg.com, but I currently have 12 GB from OWC in my Mac Pro. I've also recommended buying from TransIntl.com as they offer some kits beyond what Apple says you could put in a Mac. (I'd like to admit, after reviewing the recording the person asking the question did say he has a first generation MacBook Pro with 2 GB, so he cannot upgrade to 4GB of RAM, despite what I said during the Q&A session. Without the microphone I guess I couldn't hear clearly.)

▶ **Member Martin Vogel wanted to share his favorable experience with his $150 Elgato EyeTV Hybrid 2009 Edition and a new 24" iMac which replaced his iBook G4 and a small TV in his kitchen.**
■ The *EyeTV 3.1.x* software that comes with it allows your Mac to become a DVR. You can compress and encode the recorded show for your iPod. You can also export for editing in iMovie or right to iDVD for burning a DVD. That brought up much interest from other members as they can save money in the long run as compared to monthly fees for DVR capable set-top tuner boxes from either Cablevision or FiOS TV. I thought the space savings was sufficient. I also mentioned the limitation of the Clear QAM (unencrypted digital cable signals) tuner in that it won't let you watch any of the scrambled channels you pay for like HBO. If you don't need to have full DVR function on the Mac in conjunction with a set-top box, then you can buy the $100 Video Capture USB video adapter to watch the video on your Mac. It's not HD ready, as it's primary job is to copy video from your old VHS or analog Laserdisc player. Roxio has a similar unit for $20 less. Not a great name: "Easy VHS to DVD for Mac." The Hauppauge HD PVR box with EyeTV 3.1 or later software works with the Mac and your HD set-

top box. It has component video inputs and optical audio for HD capture. Another option for multiple Macs on a network is the SiliconDust HDHomeRun with twin tuners. No scrambled channels though. This market needs a HD digital tuner with a CableCard slot. FYI, there is the ATI TV Wonder™ Digital Cable Tuner but it's only for Microsoft Vista.

▶ **Marty also wanted to praise the i360° 24″ Turntable from Rain Design Inc. he uses.**
■ As Apple uses a similar stand, this fits also the 24" LED backlit Cinema Display and they also have another size for Apple's discontinued 20 and 23" Cinema displays as well as 15, 17 and 20" iMacs. (G5 and Intel models) They have a flat top, so you can still set your backup hard drive on it. The 24" model is $44.90 while the smaller one is $39.90 in white or aluminum.

▶ **I have a graphite Power Mac G4 running Netscape 7.2 and Internet Explorer. Can I upgrade and get the latest versions of these?**
■ *Netscape 7.2* and *Internet Explorer 5.2.3* are the last of these discontinued browsers. The last of the early generation Power Mac G4 with the graphite plastic front was only 733 MHz, which is below the minimum requirement for running Mac OS 10.5, but you can run Mac OS 10.4.11 which supports the latest Safari and Firefox (v3.5.1). You may have to update other software after updating to 10.4 Tiger, and it's possible your scanner or printer may be left behind too. You'd have to check the manufacturer's web site for a downloadable new driver that works with your equipment. For printers, Mac OS 10.4 Tiger already includes printer drivers for a wide assortment of printers, see *http://support. apple.com/kb/HT1468*. Hamrick's *VueScan* supports many scanners abandoned by their companies. See *http://www.hamrick.com/ vuescan/vuescan.htm#supported*. If you do upgrade to newer version of the Mac OS and your applications, you may need more RAM then you had before, as the newer software needs a bit more than the older versions. The old Power Mac G4's could be upgraded to 2 GB, but could have shipped with as little as a paltry 128 MB. They used PC100 or PC133 RAM, but you can find 512 MB Kingston RAM for $62.49 at newegg.com You can't go

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New MacBook Pros Boot From SD Cards
by Doug McLean

When Apple announced the swapping of the ExpressCard slot on the 15-inch MacBook Pro for an SD (Secure Digital) memory card slot, the few users of ExpressCard-compatible peripherals - at least those other than SD card readers - were understandably disappointed. (Apple claimed that only a "single-digit" percentage of MacBook Pro users used the ExpressCard slot.) For most people, the addition of the SD slot is welcome, since the majority of consumer-level digital cameras use SD cards for storage. Nevertheless, it didn't seem like that big of a deal either way.

However, a recent Apple KnowledgeBase article reveals an extremely useful and previously unmentioned feature of the SD card slot: users can boot the Mac from an SD card with Mac OS X installed on it.

To make a bootable SD card, you must first change the default partition table to GUID using Disk Utility, and format the card to use the Mac OS Extended file format (as opposed to the FAT32 file format). You can then install Mac OS X onto the device, enabling it to boot the Mac, which could be very handy in a troubleshooting situation.

The MacBook Pro SD card slot accepts cards that conform to the SD 1.x and 2.x standards. This includes Standard SD cards, which hold between 4 MB and 4 GB; SDHC cards, which hold between 4 GB and 32 GB; and the older MMC cards. MiniSD, MicroSD, MiniSDHC and MicroSDHC cards can work if used with adapters that enable the

cards to conform to the necessary physical configuration. While the MacBook Pro can read (but not boot from) cards that use the FAT32 file format (the standard for most SD cards), cards that use the exFAT system will not work.

Apple Releases General Support Update 2009-001
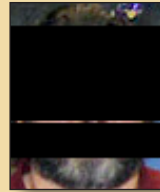*by Matt Neuburg*

Apple today released General Support Update 2009-001. According to the predictably terse release notes, the 401.9 MB download "provides various usability and compatibility improvements and fixes several minor issues." This is the only information we have at this time as to what this update may do; there is no word on whether it affects certain aspects of the system, the system as a whole, or particular Apple-installed applications. Nor are we told what improvements it includes or what issues it fixes. Some have speculated that it could in fact be a new version of Mac OS X, but we're not sure, since the About This Mac window no longer shows version information after you apply the update. Apple describes the update as "Recommended for all users," so we suggest that everyone obediently download and install it like good little boys and girls, and leave the thinking to the higher life forms at Apple. The update is available via Software Update and should be on the Apple Support Downloads page later today.

User Group News

George Canellis
User Group Ambassador & Vice President
gwc11713@optonline.net

Eltima Software is a global software development company, specializing in *Flash* software development for Mac users. All flashers will see the true value of *Flash Decompiler Trillix* for Mac, *Flash Optimizer for Mac* and *SWF & FLV Player for Mac*. With these products, managing Flash files is easy: decompile, compress or just play them back! Regular prices for Eltima's Flash software range from $19.95-$99.95.

http://mac.eltima.com/

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Bradley's Tech Session *continued from Page 3*

to the Apple Store to buy the discontinued Tiger install DVD, but I found a mail order place that advertises it: *http://www.fad-fusion.com/selection.php?product_item_number=10266204129* You could check eBay listings but check to make sure you buy the Retail version and not a OEM version that came with some more modern Mac. The DVD should look like the image to the left.

top of the user group savings you receive by entering the coupon code at checkout.

http://www.peachpit.com

Prosoft is dedicated to creating professional quality software designed to be easily used by both novice and expert users. Prosoft adopts the role of being data advocates, fighting to preserve data and prevent data loss. Their products include: *Drive Genius* - Maintain, Manage and Optimize Your Hard Drive; *Picture Rescue* - Digital Picture Recovery; *Data Backup* - Backup Made Easy; Data Rescue - Emergency File Recovery; and *TuneTech* for *iPod*® - Maintain, Manage and Optimize your iPod. *http://www.prosofteng.com*

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Adam and Tonya Engst of TidBITS are continuing their sixteen years of supporting user groups with a special 10% discount for all orders in their new Take Control electronic book series. Take Control ebooks provide highly practical, tightly focused, inexpensive help from leading Macintosh authors. Titles are delivered in PDF layout with active links, and are optimized for viewing and printing.

http://www.takecontrolbooks.com

Do you own or work in a Mac-based small business that has grown out of it's computerized checkbook? Have you grown tired of creating invoices using *InDesign* or *Word*?

User Group News

If you think you are ready to move beyond your shoebox, MYOB has the right tool for you at a great MUG discount. MYOB , Inc., the leader in Mac small business management, has just released *MYOB FirstEdge*, a new Mac only product that will help you run your business quickly and easily. MUG members get $25 off the regular price of $99 on *FirstEdge* or $100 off *AccountEdge*. *http://www.myob.com/us/*

Actoris Software's *Xpress Schedule* is THE Macintosh tool for preparing employee work schedules. Create better schedules in less time, print schedules and even send them to your staff by email or text message. *Food Cost Manager* is a complete back office solution for food service businesses. Manage your inventory, calculate recipe and menu costs, and prepare nutritional information for your customers. *Xpress Schedule*, regularly $99, is available for a special Apple User Group price of $74, and *Food Cost Manager*, regularly $249 is available at $185, that's a 25% discount. ████████████████ ████████████████████████████████████

Mushkin PerfectMatch products for Apple are specifically designed for Mac users. They have been creating enhanced memory for more than a decade, and believe in providing the highest quality products at the best value. Mushkin PerfectMatch upgrades are the smart choice. They carefully select components and program each module to match the manufacturer-installed memory and provide guaranteed compatibility. A user group web store is now available with the same pricing given to resellers (discounts of 20-40%) insuring the best possible price for all Mushkin Mac products. ██ ████████████████████████████████████

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Photo by Harold Silvers