



# NEWSLETTER OF THE LONG ISLAND MACINTOSH USERS GROUP

LIMac was established in 1984, when the Mac was introduced. Annual dues for membership is \$36. First meeting is free. For information, contact any of the following:

**Membership**

Donald Hennessy  
(516) 541-3186  
[aboutlimac@aol.com](mailto:aboutlimac@aol.com)

**Technical Advice**

Bradley Dichter  
(631) 348-4772  
[bdichter@cdr.net](mailto:bdichter@cdr.net)

**Program Coordinator**

Rick Matteson  
[rgmlimac@optonline.net](mailto:rgmlimac@optonline.net)

**Photoshop SIG**

Rich Scillia  
(516) 783-6622  
[rsclilla@optonline.net](mailto:rsclilla@optonline.net)

**Photography SIG**

Murray Hoffman  
[hoffmancamera@dav.net](mailto:hoffmancamera@dav.net)

**Beginners SIG**

Geoff Broadhurst  
[gahoo@aol.com](mailto:gahoo@aol.com)

**Internet SIG**

Al Choy  
[achoy@optonline.net](mailto:achoy@optonline.net)

**Multimedia SIG**

Bernie Flicker  
[twoflick@optonline.net](mailto:twoflick@optonline.net)

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## May's Meeting

We were primed and ready to hear a talk from Apple's SOHO store in Manhattan, but received a demonstration on the *iLife* suite by Tafari Cousins from the Walt Whitman Mall Apple Store, Apple's newest retail location that was opening the very next day!

Also dropping in at our LIMac meeting were at least a half dozen of the Apple people from the new store who invited us to drop by and take a look. I saw them again the next day on duty at the Walt Whitman Store and got a big hello as did many of our members when they also came by.

Thanks to Apple for a great evening.  
-Donald Hennessy

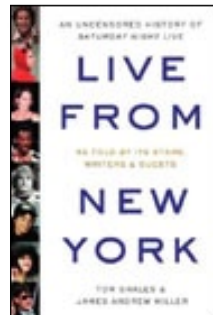


### Pay Your 2003 Dues:

Send your \$36 check to: Long Island Macintosh Users Group, Post Office Box 2048, Seaford, New York 11783-0180 or bring it to the next meeting!



## June's Meeting



June's general meeting will feature Audible Books, a means of listening to recorded books on an MP3 player. June's general meeting will feature Audible Books, a means of listening to recorded books on an MP3 player.

They answer the question, "What is Audible?" on their Website: "Audible digitally delivers a broad range of audio programming over the Internet, anywhere, anytime. At *audible.com*, you can choose from over 4,500 audiobooks and 14,000 other audio programs, download them to your computer, and listen immediately."

Audible uses an MP3 device or allows you to burn them onto a CD. There are thousands of audiobooks and audio editions of newspapers and magazines such as the WALL STREET JOURNAL, THE NEW YORK TIMES, and SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN. There is also a selection of radio programs.

-Joan Bernhardt

**Friday, June 13th at 7 p.m., Building 300, (Anna Rubin Hall), New York Institute of Technology, Old Westbury.**

**The Internet SIG:** Held at the Bethpage Public Library, (516) 931-3907, on the third Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

**Multimedia SIG:** *iMovie* 3 new features and finishing the movie in progress. Held on the third Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in Bernie Flicker's offices: ABC Industries, 100 Cleveland Avenue, Freeport, call (516) 867-8400, ext. 325 (send your e-mail address for details).

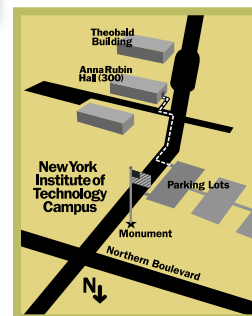
**SIGs immediately before or after the general meeting:**

**Beginners SIG:** 7 PM - Utilities, both Apple (*Disk Utility, Print Center*) and third party (commercial and shareware - *Snapz Pro, PopChar X*).

**MacSkills SIG:** 7:45 PM - *Extensis Suitcase*.

**DTP/Photoshop SIG:** (TBD)

**Photography SIG:** 6:30; Bring your camera.



◀ LIMac meetings, unless otherwise noted, are held in Building 300 (Anna Rubin Hall) at the New York Institute of Technology on Northern Boulevard in Old Westbury, L.I.

▶ In bad weather, call (516) 686-7789.

▶ The next LIMac board meeting will be at the Plainedge Library, (516) 735-4133, on Wednesday, June 18th, at 8 p.m.



LIMac Inc.  
P.O. Box 2048  
Seaford, NY 11783-0180

**President**

Bill Medlow  
[ArchBill@aol.com](mailto:ArchBill@aol.com)

**Vice President**

Al Choy  
[achoy@optonline.net](mailto:achoy@optonline.net)

**Treasurer**

Max Rechtman  
[maxlimac@optonline.net](mailto:maxlimac@optonline.net)

**Secretary**

Joan Bernhardt  
[newyorkjb@juno.com](mailto:newyorkjb@juno.com)

**The LIMac Forum:**

**Editors/Graphics**

Mo Lebowitz  
Loretta Lebowitz  
[MoLeb@aol.com](mailto:MoLeb@aol.com)

**Distribution**

Wallace Lepkin  
Donald Hennessy

**Printing**

Willow Graphics  
(631) 841-1177

**Board of Directors:**

Geoff Broadhurst  
Al Choy  
Bradley Dichter  
Bernard Flicker  
Donald Hennessy  
Rick Matteson  
Bill Medlow  
Scott Randall  
Max Rechtman  
Rich Scillia



**TidBITS Troubleshooting Primer, Part 1**

by Adam C. Engst (ace@tidbits.com)  
(Continued from the May issue)

- ▶ On your computer, you need properly installed file sharing client software.
- ▶ Your computer must have a working connection to the wireless access point.
- ▶ The access point must allow you to see a computer connected via wired Ethernet.

The wired Ethernet computer must have a

working connection to the access point.

- ▶ File sharing server software must be running on the wired Ethernet computer.
- ▶ A folder must explicitly be shared on the wired Ethernet computer.

You could certainly break these pieces into even smaller pieces, but this should be sufficient to get started.

Keep in mind that what I've just described is only one working system, which is important,

because if there are other working systems – other wireless computers that can see the file server – that can help you zoom in on the problem quickly.

Note all of the pieces of the system briefly in your notebook, and if you're a picture person, consider drawing yourself a diagram of how it all fits together; this can come in especially handy if you actually need to break the system apart by disconnecting cables or rearranging equipment.

**Ask Yourself Questions** Now that you've identified all the parts of the system, it's time to look carefully at each part, making up a possible reason why a failure at that point could be responsible for the whole problem. In our example, let's take each part and analyze it, asking questions that lead to tests.

File sharing client software is of course necessary, but since you were able to connect previously, it's a good assumption that it's installed.

## President's Message

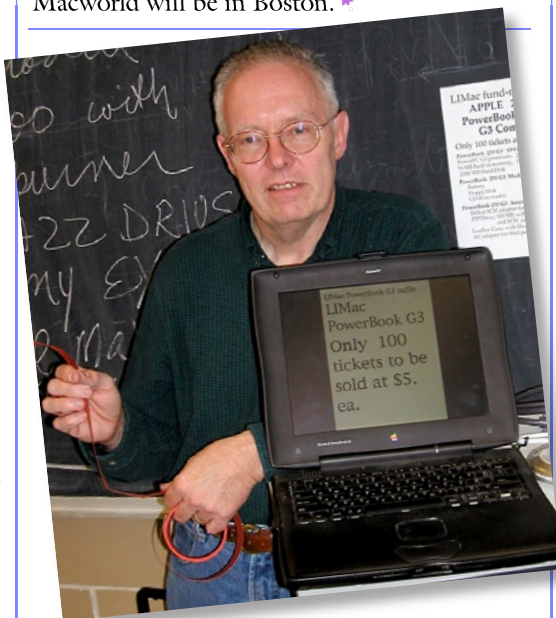


**Bill Medlow**  
President  
ArchBill@aol.com

MacWorld Creative Pro Expo will be at the Javitz Center in New York City on July 16–18, 2003. If you would like to volunteer half-day(s) at the LIMac booth, send me an e-mail at [ArchBill@aol.com](mailto:ArchBill@aol.com) and place *LIMac-Macworld* in the subject heading. Please include your name, telephone number and which half-day, you can participate: Wed. 10-2 or 2-6; Thurs. 10-2 or 2-6; Fri. 10-1 or 1-4.

You don't have to be an expert. Just show up with two things – a white shirt and black or dark pants and shoes. The other requirement is that you bring your smile with you. With this outfit, all you have to do is tell passers-by about our meetings and how we have a great and informative time. Anecdotes and personal experiences are always welcome.

Remember, this will be your last opportunity to be a participant, since the next year's Macworld will be in Boston. ▶



### PowerBook Tickets Going Fast!

Only a few tickets remain. Soon the winning ticket will be drawn for our special raffle. LIMac's first 233MHz Apple G3 PowerBook, with shoulder bag and accessories. Only 100 total tickets will be sold at \$5.00 each. You could be that lucky winner. Come to the June general meeting and buy another ticket: improve your chances. ▶

–Donald Hennessy

## Bradley's Tech Session



**Bradley Dichter**  
bdichter@cdr.net

### ▶ What external hard drive for my PowerBook do you recommend?

LaCie, SmartDisk or Other World Computing brands. LaCie's Data Bank stylish and tiny 20GB drive connects via USB or the 33 times faster than FireWire and is powered by the connection to the Mac. Next up is SmartDisk's FireLite drives in sizes from 20 to 60GB. Still just derives it's power from the Mac, but comes with an AC adapter if you need it. In a clear plastic case are the Other World Computing Mercury On-The-Go little drives. They use relatively high performance 2.5 inch drives at up to 80GB. They have a nice Toshiba-based 60GB drive with a 16MB buffer and 5400 RPM speed. Next comes the full size units, using high performance 3.5 inch 7200 RPM drives. LaCie's d2 FireWire drives come in a durable aluminum case and are very quiet. They start at 80GB and get to 250GB before switching to a double size case for the 400 and 500GB drives. For the newest PowerBook G4 models, Other World Computing has the Mercury Elite Pro FireWire 800 and USB 2.0 drives also up to 250GB. They use the latest Oxford 922 interface chip. The drive also accommodates regular FireWire 400 and USB 1.1. You want to avoid using USB-connected hard drives if possible, as they are extremely slow. Only the first generation iBook and iMac desktop Macs had USB but no FireWire.

### ▶ What is your experience with Verizon DSL? I'm told they are lowering their price. Cablevision tells me they are raising the price of Optimum Online next month.

They are lowering it by \$5 a month for home users and I think \$10 a month for small businesses. They seem increasingly more competent in setting up the switch-over, but not competent in helping Mac users, particularly Mac OS X users, how to set things up. Not that it's in fact hard to do – they just don't seem to have any prepared notes. Regardless, as I've set it up in Mac OS X in less than five minutes, it's been my experience that the DSL users have a much slower connection than cable modem users. Now I know individual users will have slower or faster connections, depending on their distance to the phone company's switching equipment, and cable modem users' speeds will be affected by the

The fill and stroke color of the sampled text will also be applied, unless you otherwise specify in the Eyedropper Options dialog box for it not to be. To access this dialog box, double-click on the Eyedropper tool in the Toolbox. Deselect any of the option check boxes for the attributes you don't wish the the Eyedropper tool to sample. Then, click OK.

### Ensuring the pages in your Adobe InDesign document are imposed properly:

If you're laying out an InDesign document that contains page spreads and will be sending the document as a PDF file to a service bureau for output, don't select the Reader's Spreads check box in the Export PDF dialog box. Selecting this option will prevent the document from being properly imposed. Each page, whether or not part of a spread, should be exported to PDF as a separate page.

–Element K Journals



## TIPS!

### Another way to format text in Adobe InDesign:

Most designers associate the Eyedropper tool with its ability to sample color from images and objects. However, this tool can also sample text attributes, providing you a quick and easy way to format text. For example, let's say you have a text block of formatted text and you just added several pages of unformatted text that you want to format the same as the preexisting text. Simply select the text you want to format with the Type tool (or click the Type tool in the text and press Command-A to select the entire text block) and then click on the formatted text block with the Eyedropper tool. The text that's selected will then become formatted with the character and paragraph attributes applied to the formatted text you sampled.



Is it turned on? Has anything changed since you last connected successfully that might provide a clue? Have you restarted (it's always worth trying)? What about other computers, both wired and wireless? Can their file sharing client software see the wired computer?

Is the wireless connection to the access point working from your computer? Is it working for other network-related tasks at the same time you can't connect to the wired computer?

Can other wireless computers connect to the access point?

Is the access point configured correctly so wireless computers can see the wired computer? Since it worked properly before, this likely isn't the source of the problem. Has anything changed on the access point since you last connected that could be related?


Can the wired computer connect to the access point via its Ethernet cable? (Never

underestimate the trouble a broken or flaky cable can cause.)

Is file sharing turned on and configured properly? Has anything changed on that computer that might have resulted in it being turned off or reconfigured? Have you restarted the wired computer recently?

Is the shared folder still shared? Could someone have changed which folders were shared? Has the folder been moved or renamed

or otherwise modified in some way that might have changed its state?

I mentioned the difference between reproducible and intermittent problems above; if you have an intermittent problem connecting to the wired Ethernet computer, that generates additional questions. Does the problem happen at all times of day? Does it happen right after you've done something else? 

(Continued in the July FORUM)



## QUOTES

### Advice to Software creators from

Adam C. Engst :

([ace@tidbits.com](mailto:ace@tidbits.com))

"Finally, support Mac OS X's standard folder organization.

Store preference files in `~/Library/Preferences` (unless

your software requires a system-wide license or preferences file, in which

case it should go in `~/Library/Preferences`).

Other support files belong in

`~/Library/Application Support` or `~/Library/Application Support`.

Don't create new directories in

`~/Library` or `~/Library` just for your application.

Mac OS X's folder hierarchy may seem confusing

at first, but that's only because it's

so different from Mac OS 9. The more

developers adhere to this organizational

scheme, the easier it is for users to

understand Mac OS X - consistency is

the first step towards comprehension. In

addition, it makes product support

easier if all programs adhere to Mac OS X's

organizational design, users will

start to learn where to look for particular

types of files.

"We all should be aware of these rules

of location in Mac OS X."

## More of Bradley's Tech Session

number of users in a development, but even the slowest cable modem connection I've witnessed was a bit faster than the DSL users. For Mac OS 9 users, Verizon DSL relies on a program called MacPOET for dialing the PPP over Ethernet connection. If you use something like Apple's Software Update, it wants to quit all other running programs during the download and install procedure. This would sever your Internet connection and thus the upgrades. For this situation, I recommend interposing a hardware cable/DSL router. It will do the PPPoE for the DSL modem and offer the Mac a DHCP connection which does not rely on an application. One other thing for people to consider when thinking about moving from dial-up to broadband: if your computer is a fairly old model, less than a G3 model, then you may not see an appreciable improvement in your Web browsing and downloading experience because the computer is just too slow to take advantage of the faster net connection. Quite a bit of the whole is the Web page rendering speed of your computer.

► **I want to get a webcam for video-conference/video phone Mac to PC. Logitech doesn't have anything for the Mac. I found a possibility, ClearPhone. Any comments?**

ClearPhone Pro for Mac has not been updated in three years and never was even updated to work with Mac OS 9.1, let alone OS X. There also used to be (for Mac OS 9) CU-SeeMe and Freewebphone. Check out iSpQ VideoChat at [www.ispq.com/index.html](http://www.ispq.com/index.html). It works for Mac OS 9, X and Windows '98 to XP. Try it free for 30 days and only \$40 fee. Mac OS X users can try the free *obphoneX* which works via H.323 protocol to work with Microsoft NetMeeting or GnomeMeeting. Mac OS 9 users should give *iVisit* a look, as it also works with a Windows client. I've tried using the only commercial product of the bunch, Smith Micro Software's *VideoLink Pro*. No Mac OS X support, though. It does work with NetMeeting or any other H.323 client. Rumor has it that a future version of Apple's *iChat* will support video. As for a Mac video source, check out the ADS Technologies Pyro 1394 FireWire Webcam for Mac OS 9. For Mac OS 9 and X, look at Orange Micro's *iBOT* and the *iBOTpro* which includes

a copy of iSpQ *VideoChat* and *BTV Pro* for video captures. The same Web cam works with Windows machines if they have a FireWire port. See [www.orangemicro.com/ibotpro.html](http://www.orangemicro.com/ibotpro.html). Avoid the pathetic USB Web cams and the old serial Web cams are long discontinued. The *iBOTpro* sells for \$99.99 at [buy.com](http://buy.com) or \$100.69 at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) where you can get free Super Saver Shipping. If you have a DV camcorder, that makes for a much better quality source, as the optics on these little Web cams are pretty bad.


► **I have Mac OS X (Jaguar) version 10.2.4. I see they are up to version 10.2.6. Do I have to upgrade to 10.2.5 first and then 10.2.6?**

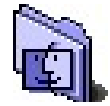
You can go directly to version 10.2.6 by either making use of the Software Update System Preference or downloading the Combo Updater. See <http://docs.info.apple.com/article.html?artnum=70174>. The combo updaters are always preferred to the incremental updates as it makes sure you have every updated file in place. Of course, the download is rather large at around 80 megabytes.

► **Is there a way to change the number of recent items in the Apple menu?**

Sure. Just use the General panel in System Preferences. You have independent control of the number of applications and documents. You just select from the available choices in the pop-up menus.

► **Is it safe to keep the old version of an application after an upgrade? Should you uninstall the old version before installing the new version?**

Very often that's not an option as the updater replaces the old version with files of the same name. You could *Stuff* a copy of the application folder and restore it if the updated program does not work as well for you as the previous one. Roxio's *Toast Titanium's* updater can leave behind the old version, for example, which takes up disk space - but it can be a plus if the newer version doesn't work. If it's a whole new version, say *Quicken 2003* and *2002*, then I would still keep the old version around until I was sure the new one was stable. Make a *TextEdit* file to log the old versions and to remind yourself to get rid of them when you're sure it's OK. 

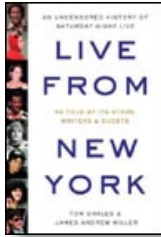


## TIP!

### Let the proxy icon make things easier for you:

Every so often you may notice an icon to the left of a window's name in the title bar. Apple calls this a proxy icon. Though overlooked by most people, it actually is a quick way to work with a folder. For instance, to move a folder to another window, drive, or the Trash, simply drag the folder's folder icon to the desired location. In addition, you can use the proxy icon to duplicate a folder. To do so, hold down the Option key as you drag the proxy icon to a new location. You can even save the copy in the original folder if you like.

You can also create an alias of the folder using the proxy icon. Just hold down Command-Option as you drag the proxy icon to the location for the alias.



Next month's general meeting will feature *Audible Books*, a means of listening to recorded books on an MP3 player.

"Audible digitally delivers a broad range of audio programming over the Internet, anywhere, anytime. At *audible.com*, you can choose from over 4,500 audiobooks and 14,000 other audio programs, download them to your computer, and listen immediately."

Friday, June 15th at 7 p.m., Building 300, (Anna Rubin Hall),  
 New York Institute of Technology, Old Westbury.

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**Helen and Sheldon Gross**  
 shel9  
 @bellatlantic.net

**Note:** *Sore Eyes* site referrals are for your information only. Neither the Grosses nor LIMac endorse any of the sites or their products.



**TIP!**

**Getting the most out of annotations:**

*Acrobat's* annotations are a handy way to keep track of your thoughts as you review a PDF document. To get the most from this feature, try these tips:

- ▶ In *Acrobat 4*, choose *Tools > Annotations > Filter*

## Sore Eyes

You never know all the angles. We've been using Macs since they began (1984). We've gone through all the options, and all the ideas and are now using *Mac OS 10.2.6*. I'm not trying to brag; just to point out how some things still escape us. I received an e-mail from a friend who uses a Mac. He attached a three-column address list written in *MS Word*.

We have *Word*, so it shouldn't have been a problem. But when the list appeared, it was in *mime*. Now, we have been translating all kinds of items from one system to another. We started by translating material from five-inch floppies to three-inch disks, and even from eight-inch disks to five-inch disks BM (before Macintosh). We even went from Apple to DOS and CPM. We were the experts. But this one had us stumped. First, I tore my hair out. Then I went to The Source: Bradley was able to set me straight. All I had to do was use *StuffIt Expander*, but I forgot to save the attachment as *plain* text instead of *Rich Text Format* (RTF). I love it when things work as they should.

Which brings me to the main part of this commentary. When we started with computers, back in the olden days, during the Civil War, we joined APUG, the Apple Power Users Group, which met at the New York Institute of Technology. It was first a sub group (SIG), and then a spin off from LICA, the Long Island Computer Association. When we switched to Macs, we found LIMac and have felt at home here. My point is, that although the purpose of User Groups has changed, we still find that we cannot really manage without one. I guess most of the members feel the same. It's a place to find friends and help. ↵

## User Group News

Who says that evolution does not take Place? Macworld Expo evolved into Create and now Create has evolved into Macworld CreativePro Conference & Expo. LIMac will be hosting a User Group Booth and we are still looking for a few volunteers to help us man it. If you can give us a few hours any morning or afternoon on one of the Expo days, please e-mail us at [aboutlimac@aol.com](mailto:aboutlimac@aol.com).

The LIMac Executive Board is in the process of developing programs for our future meetings. If there is a program, software, or hardware topic that you would like to see presented please e-mail us at the same address.

The following vendors have special offers for user group members only. Check their Web sites:

- ▶ Watson – use to get information from the Web. [www.karelia.com/usergroup/](http://www.karelia.com/usergroup/).
- ▶ Avondale Media – instructional DVDs. [www.avondalemedia.com](http://www.avondalemedia.com)
- ▶ Mariner Software – word processing and spreadsheets. For more info go to [www.marinersoftware.com](http://www.marinersoftware.com) To order, go to [www.marinersoftware.com/shopproduct.php](http://www.marinersoftware.com/shopproduct.php).  
 1. At the bottom of the page look for *Enter other Promotional Codes Here*.  
 2. Type in promotional code: *MAR5103*  
 3. Click *GO* and discounted prices will now be reflected.
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**Max Rechtman**  
 maxlimac  
 @optonline.net

*Manager* to choose the type of annotations you want to view. You can also view annotations by author.

- ▶ To see a list of all the annotations in a document using *Acrobat 4*, chose *Window > Show Annotations*. Click the button at the bottom of the *Annotations* pane to scan the entire document for annotations, then double-click the list to go to that page.
- ▶ If you want to review just the annotations in a document, open the document and choose *Tools > Annotations > Summarize Annotations*. This command creates a separate document listing the annotations on each page, along with creation times and authors.