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NEWSLETTER OF THE LONG ISLAND MACINTOSH USER GROUP A not-for-profit, volunteer, member-supported organization The LIMac January 2014 www.limac.org

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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.) For information, contact any of the following:

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December Meeting Scott Randell

On Friday December 13, we had our monthly meeting and our annual holiday party. After the Q & A and before the festivities, four of our members presented some gift ideas, most of them tech oriented.

First up was Victor Sussman. He presented 2 items.

- 1. The iOttie HLCRIO102 One Touch Windshield Dashboard Universal Car Mount Holder for iPhone 4S/5/5S/5C, Galaxy S4/S3/S2, HTC One. This is a very well made car mount for the smart phone models listed. Victor pointed out that it has a very strong grip on the phone, and a very strong suction cup grip, so you don't have to worry about your phone getting damaged due to a fall. This item is price at \$19.99 at Amazon. For more info go to: http://www.amazon.com/iOttie-HLCRIO102-Windshield-Dashboard-Universal/dp/Boo7FHX9OK
- 2. The PowerLine PowerCup 200/400 Watt Mobile Inverter with USB Power Port 90309. This power inverter is cup shaped so it will fit and remain in your car's cup holder. It has two AC plugs and a USB power port. The inputs are positioned on the top of the unit for easy access. It is priced at \$28.22 at Amazon. For more info go to: http://www.amazon.com/qp/product/Boo42X8XQE/ ref=ox va os product

Next Rick Matteson showed 2 gifts for iPad Air owners.

2. The LK Apple iPad Air Slim TPU Gel Rubber Soft Skin Case Cover. This is a very nice and very protective case for the new Pad Air. At the present time it is a real bargain at

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January Meeting Rick Matteson

MEETING

2014 begins in the cloud, Adobe Creative Cloud, that is. Larice Addamo, Adobe Product Specialist at Video Guys, will tell us what Adobe Creative Cloud is and how you can use it in your video editing projects and incorporate it into your video processing workflow.

Larice has over 14 years of experience in broadcast technology with HBO and joined

Video Guys in June of last year as an Adobe Certified Product Specialist for Pro Video Sales. Larice will be joined by her colleague, Sales Associate Eric Newman. Eric has been an Audio and Camera Operator as well as a Camera Operator and Producer for Public Access Television.

Video Guys is a Glen Cove, New York, family owned and operated business who has served videographers and producers on Long Island for the past 25 years. Videoguys.com has been a web presence since 1997, participating in on line discussion groups, message boards and user groups all over the web, offering free advice and technical support to digital videographers all over the world.

The meeting will begin with the usual two Q&A sessions, Bradley's in the main room, and the MacBasics across the hall. The Video Guys/Adobe Creative Cloud presentation will follow at about 7:30 in the main room. Then after the important announcements for the month and our raffle, Scott Randall will launch our brand new Music SIG, in the main room. The MacBasics SIG will not meet.

If you've always wondered why Creative Suite turned into Creative Cloud, here's your opportunity to find out. In addition, musicians should come to this month's meeting to get in on the initial session of the Music SIG! Come join us, one and all, for an informative and fun meeting.

Bradley's Tech Session



Bradley Dichter
Technical Advisor
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► I have been considering upgrading the memory in my Late 2008 (aluminum

Unibody) MacBook. Apple says it can go to 4GB of RAM, but someone else says it can go to 8GB. What's the real deal?

■ It can be upgraded to 8GB if you are running Mac OS X 10.6 or newer and you also performed the firmware update to Boot ROM Version MB51.007D.B03 otherwise known as the MacBook EFI Firmware Update 1.4, which is available at http://support.apple.com/kb/DL974. That came out in Dec. 2009. Which also brings up the question, did you also update the SMC Firmware to version 1.2? That's available here: http://support.apple.com/ downloads/MacBook SMC Firmware *Update 1 2.* That's a whole year older. You can check what versions you have now by looking at your Hardware Overview, the first page of the System Profiler. As the MacBook as shipped came with OS X 10.5.5, it could not and Apple didn't have any of the higher capacity PC8500 RAM to certify for use with the MacBook. OWC has a 8GB kit to max out your old MacBook for \$97.50. Found the Kingston 8GB kit for \$80 at a unfamiliar vendor. No sales tax and available free shipping. That's the oldest MacBook (not MacBook Pro) that can be upgraded to OS X 10.9.1 Mayericks.

▶ I have three desktops and a MacBook Prorunning *Mountain Lion*. When I move the

cursor on them, the windows move out to the sides often times. Is there anyway to stop that?

■ Sounds like you defined a hot corner for the Show Desktop option of what used to be called Exposé and now set in the Mission Control System Preferences panel when you click on the Hot Corners... button. I'd tend to guess the top-left corner as that is closest to the Apple menu which a user would use the most. As you can see in Mission Control, there is a keyboard shortcut for this too, but I rather doubt you are hitting that accidentally. You can of course turn off that keyboard shortcut if that is the case by selecting the hyphen in the pop-up menu instead of a function key or left or right modifier key. Of course selecting a modifier key as the trigger would be highly annoying if you didn't know it was set that way. The only hot corner I tend to endorse is the lower left corner to put the display to sleep.

- My 15" MacBook Pro is now stuck on a low brightness. Pressing the keys on the keyboard won't change it like it should. Now what do I do?
- Assuming you have been pressing the F2 key to increase the brightness (F1 should decrease the screen brightness), do you see the on-screen indication near the bottom center each time you press the key? It's possible you have changed the default keyboard behavior and that

Bradley's Tech Session continued on Page 3

President's Message



Bill MedlowPresident
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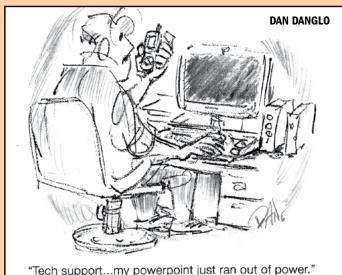
This coming year is a milestone for LIMac and Apple. It has been 30 years since Apple Computer introduced the Macintosh Computer in 1984. Members who started

gathering around the original 9" B&W screen to start LIMac. Some of our charter members, such as Donald Hennessy, Bradley Dichter, Bernie Flicker, Don VanHolt, Max Rechtman still participate.

This will be an exceiting year for us, with presentations by Dave Marra, Adam and Tonya Engst, as well as some special events to commerate our 30th year.

Also watch our newsletter, the FORUM, and our web site for some fun and we want to hear about how you first learned about LIMac and what brought you to your first LIMac meeting. This applies to everyone and it does not have to be long. It can be as brief as you would like.

Happy New Year Bill Medlow



key is now a true function key, instead of it's alternate screen brightness changer. You can temporarily change it's function by pressing the fn key in conjunction with the F2 key which should get it back to it's special function. You can change the default behavior of those dual-purpose keys by changing the setting in the System Preferences - Keyboard pane. You probably have checked the "Use All F1, F2, Etc. keys as standard function keys" option, so uncheck it to use the keys as special purpose without having to additionally use the fn key. You can also use the Displays panel to drag the Brightness slider. On your MacBook Pro, there will also be a checkbox for "Automatically adjust brightness as ambient light changes" which is probably checked. Not necessarily but you may find things better without that checked depending on the light shining on your MacBook Pro's screen where the sensor is buried left of your iSight camera. On the older pre-unibody MacBook Pro's the sensor was inside the speaker grill. Of course, you could have a burnt out backlight. If the MacBook Pro is under five years old, you can bring it to a local Apple retail Store for service. If it's older, it may still be possible to have it serviced from one of the service shops that advertise on the Internet. IResQ comes to mind. They offer LCD screen repair going all the way back to the white iBook G3. Sorry PowerBook 180 users. 21 years is too old.

- ▶ I'm still using *Adobe CS5* and I know it works with *Mountain Lion*. How do I look to see if it works with *Mavericks*?
- The crowd sourced way is to check out http://roaringapps.com/ where people

post their experience with many apps and operating systems. Of course the real answer is to search the manufacturer's web site for their official statement. In Adobe's case, that should bring you to http://belpx.adobe.com/x-productkb/global/mac-os-mavericks-compatability.html where they report that Adobe Drive could be a problem, but otherwise nothing major as long as you have the latest updates.

- ▶ Is it possible to play Blu-ray disc on a iMac if you buy an external device?
- Yes. Both Macgo's Mac Blu-ray Player which was the first and Aurora Blu-ray Player, both \$40 play them. Macgo gave the software away free for Black Friday. With a few add-ons available at http://vlcbluray.whoknowsmy.name/, the free VLC 2.1.2 can also play blu-ray discs. As for the external Blu-ray drives, OWC sells quite a few options. The cheapest is just \$49 and plays Blu-ray discs and burns CDs and DVDs. It's limited to USB 2.0 speeds. I tend to suggest the \$165 model that burns BD-R as well and has USB 3 and FireWire 800. These are just the drives - you have to supply the software. There are various disc copy and ripper applications for Blu-ray discs. There is a \$20 HD/BD plug-in for Roxio Toast 11 to support burning discs. Single layer BD-R media hold 25GB while dual layer are 50GB. Great way to free up space on your hard drive loaded with old files. If you do edit HD video in Final Cut Pro X, you can select Share from the File menu, add a new Destination and drag over Bluray, perhaps under DVD. Perhaps with HEVC video compression, that comes with DivX 10.0.1, we will see UltraHD video on a triple layer 100GB

Blu-ray disc. Of course a Blu-ray video movie should be 1920x1080 resolution, which happens to be exactly the resolution of a 21.5" iMac. The 27" iMac and the 13" and 15" Retina MacBook Pro's of course have far more. The old-school 13" non-Retina MacBook Pro and neither MacBook Air do not have enough resolution to show a Blu-ray in it's full glory. If you really must get the best experience, you can connect your digital optical audio output to a home theatre receiver with Dolby DTS 5.1 channel support.

- ▶ I have *Adobe CS6* on two computers. I'm paying the subscription for the new *Creative Cloud*. Two questions: Is there a much of a difference between *CS6* and the new *CC*, and can I run both or just one?
- You can have both releases installed at once and they can both run at the same time. Don't get misled by the "cloud" name. It's more like Creative Suite 7 except instead of perputual licenses, you have to buy a yearly subscription. The programs still get installed on your Mac and save files to your hard drive. The Creative Cloud app will check for updates for both generations. In fact the two personal machines could both be desktops according to Adobe regarding CC apps. As for what's new in Photoshop CC over PS CS6, check out http://www.adobe.com/ products/photoshop/features.html and look for the little red NEW flag. Also, for the new Illustrator CC, see http://www.adobe. com/products/illustrator/features.html and for Dreamweaver CC, see http://www. adobe.com/products/dreamweaver/features. html. I think you see a pattern. It's up to you to decide if the new features are worth upgrading, but if you are paying the

subscription, it would seem you do think it's worthwhile.

- Is there a way to leave my iMac running and pointing into the house and remotely view what the iSight camera sees?
- First you have to change your System Preferences - Energy Saver to never sleep. You will also need to leave a light on in the room for the iSight to see things. It doesn't work in the dark. There is a free option to do just this, the AtHome Camera. Download and configure this software on your Mac: https://itunes.apple. com/us/app/athome-video-streamer-video/ *id579486923?mt=12* and for the iPad: https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/athomecamera-free-remote/id305567000?mt=8. Create a free account and log into your computer's ID as shown. Pretty cool. Good use for an old Intel MacBook or Android phone, turning them into a nanny cam. With the streamer app running on more than one Internet connected Mac and one web cam per Mac, you can watch many streams from various locations.
- ▶ Getting back to the Blu-ray player. If you connect it up to your MacBook Pro, how would you then connect that up to say a 70" HDTV?
- First off, I probably wouldn't bother if your goal is just to watch blu-ray discs on the big TV, as you can get a normal consumer electronics BD/DVD player for about \$35 and connect that up via a HDMI cable, assuming of course the TV has a HDMI input. A set of component video and stereo audio cables would do. A current model MacBook Pro with Retina has a built-in HDMI port. Older model MacBook Pro, back to Mid-2010

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have a Mini Displayport or Thunderbolt port that also carries audio, so if you get the right adapter with a HDMI female jack, you can cable that up to the big screen, set up display mirroring and select the right input on the TV and you are good to go. See <a href="http://sup-port.apple.com/kb/HT4241?viewlocale=en_US&locale=en_U

cable to carry the video, such as this 10′ one: http://www.monoprice.com/Product?c id=1025°cp id=10231°cs id=1023104°cp id=2405°cseq=1°cformat=2 and then a ½°s stereo plug to dual RCA cables for the audio, like this one: http://www.monoprice.com/Product?c id=1025°cp id=102185°cs id=1021817°cp id=9769°cseq=1°cformat=2. The audio connection may be paired with a DVI connection, not HDMI which typically will already have audio, so you would need a DVI-DVI cable, such as this: http://www.monoprice.com/Product?c id=1025°cp id=1020902°cp id=2759°cseq=1°cformat=2



Your Board Members at Work

User Group Offers



George CanellisUser Group Ambassador &
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gwc11713@optonline.net

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Bring back the familiar feel and sound of a clickety-clack keyboard with the Das Keyboard Model S Professional for Mac. It sports best-in-class, Germanengineered mechanical gold-plated key switches which provide a tactile and audible click that makes typing pure joy. It also has a two-port USB hub as well as Mac specific special keys. The Das Keyboard Model S for Mac allows

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5-key rollover, i.e. 5 keys pressed simultaneously. Great for gamers and fast typist. Visit:

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You know that you're ready to install more RAM in your desktop or notebook, but you're not sure which memory module is right for your particular Mac. Crucial has the tools to make

finding the right memory upgrade fast and easy and Crucial memory has a limited lifetime warranty and comes with free shipping! Receive 5% off DRAM upgrades by visiting:

Boston Acoustics' MC200Air is a high performance wireless speaker system for AirPlay. AirPlay wireless technology lets you stream your favorite music from your Wi-Fi connected PC or Mac using iTunes, or your iPad, iPod Touch, or iPhone device to your MC200Air Speaker System. Normally \$399, save \$200 when you visit:

Founded in 2002, Big Fish is the world's largest producer of casual games; dedicated to bringing engaging entertainment to everyone, anywhere, on any device. Through its proprietary, data-driven platform, millions of consumers seeking engaging entertainment easily discover and play computer and mobile games created by Big Fish's network of more than 600 development partners and its in-house Big Fish Studios. Big Fish offers a new game every day for Mac, PC and Big Fish Unlimited players. There are over 350 games available on iPad and iPhone. Big Fish has a library of 3,000+ premium downloadable games. Get 70% off your first game. Visit:

Tech Armor Ballistic Glass Screen Protectors are the clearest protection available for your Apple iPhone 5 Retina displa and Apple iPad mini. Made of hardened

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MacGameStore was launched in April 2005 and since then has grown into the leading Mac-only distributor of digital download games with over one million Mac games sold. Their goal is to provide the best shopping experience that Mac gamers deserve with hot new selections every day, excellent customer service, daily specials, great bundles, and useful information to make purchasing decisions easier. MacGameStore's special department is rolling out the amazing savings up to 75% on nearly 15 games, as low as \$2.99. Visit: and enter coupon code

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Too many passwords to remember? *IPassword 3 for Mac* is a password manager that goes beyond simple password storage by integrating directly with your web browser to automatically log you into websites, enter credit card information, fill registration forms, and easily gener-

ate strong passwords. As an Apple user group member, you are entitled to get the single user <u>IPassword</u> on the Mac for \$29.99, well below the normal retail price of \$39.99 (\$52.49 for the 5-user family version, which is usually \$69.99). You also get a 25% discount on everything in the Agile store. <u>IPassword</u> is separately available for the iPhone or iPad (\$9.99) and iPad/iPhone combo (\$14.99) from the Apple iTunes Store. Get yours today:

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PowerMax.com, the engine behind The Apple MUG Store, is pleased to announce a new process for Apple user group members. Instead of going to the Apple MUG Store website to view a limited selection of items, members can now go directly to the PowerMax website to peruse and purchase almost 50,000 products. By identifying the user group you belong to (either on an online order or over the phone), PowerMax will continue to accumulate points for LIMac to use. In addition to great deals, free UPS shipping is offered on any order over \$50. Be sure to take advantage of this win/ win deal: http://PowerMax.com

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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*? If you think you are ready to move beyond your shoebox, MYOB has the right tool for you at a great MUG discount. MYOB,

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Amazon. The regular price is \$25.99, but now you pick it up for a mere \$8.99. For more info go to:

2. The Belkin Qode which is a new keyboard/case combo for the iPad Air. It is \$129.00 direct from Belkin, but can be had at Amazon for \$90.82. PC Magazine calls this the iPad ACCESSORY OF THE YEAR. For a complete description point your browser to:

Next up was your truly. I showed the new PDFpen Scan+ for iPhone and iPad. This is an app that allows you to use your device's camera as a scanner. PDFpen Scan+ also has very accurate OCR so you can make the text in any scanned document editable. At present this handy app is only \$4.99 on iTunes. If you are interested (and could not attend the meeting) I encourage you to view the demonstration video at:

Lastly, Geoff Broadhurst showed several gift ideas. The most interesting were:

- 1. Power Bank Smart Mobile Power Source. This is a small charger that can be used to recharge any USB device. You charge it in your home AC and then carry it with you in case your phone, tablet, etc. needs to be recharged. To learn more go to:

 The retail price of this is \$100.00, but can be found for as low as \$79.00.
- 2. Next he showed the TDK Life On Record Portable Wireless Weatherproof Speaker. This item is \$119.99 at Amazon. In reading the reviews of this speaker, I found most people seem quite impressed with its sound. For more info look here:
- 3. On item he showed really impressed me as being a very good value. If you use a stylus with your iOS device you should check out the Capacitive Touchscreen Stylus Pens. A 20 pack is just \$10.00.
- * It should be noted that these prices are time sensitive (holiday specials) and may not be the same as the time of this writing.

I always like to thank members who give their time to prepare a presentation. This time is no exception, many thanks to Victor, Rick, and Geoff for the great job the did.

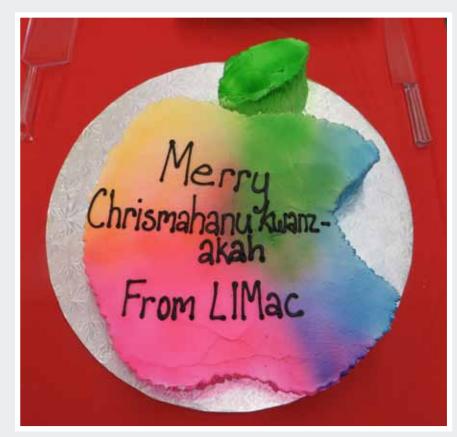
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Inc., the leader in Mac small business management, has just released MYOB First-Edge, a new Mac only product that will help you run your business quickly and easily. MUG members get \$25 off the regular price of \$99 on First Edge or \$100 off AccountEdge. http://www.myob.com/us/

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Political Correctness at Work





General meeting time schedule:

Meetings are held at
The **New York Institute of Technology**,
Building 300 (Anna Rubin Hall),
Old Westbury, Long Island.
For more detailed information about this location go to *limac.org*

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.

No MacBasics

Featured Presentation: 7:30 - 8:20 P.M.

MacBasics SIG: Q&A session only

- ▶ In bad weather, call (516) 686-7789.
- ► The next LIMac board meeting will be at the Plainedge Library, (516) 735-4133, on Wednesday, January 15th, at 7:30 P.M. For more detailed information about this location go to *limac.org*

Renewal

Membership renewal for 2014 takes place from now onwards. A bonus discount was passed by the Board of Directors a few years ago: Bring in a new dues-paying member and get a \$12 discount off your membership renewal. Bring in three new members and your renewal is free!

Bringing in a new member also includes getting a past member back into the group.

Make your **\$36** check out to LIMac and bring it to the next meeting, or mail to LIMac, Post Office Box 2048, Seaford NY 11783-0180

How to better visually enjoy the *Forum*: Your Editor prefers you to use *Adobe Reader 9* as long as your Mac meets the requirement of Mac OS 10.4.11 or newer. *PostView* 1.8 (\$22) works from Mac OS 10.2 all the way up to 10.5 for PowerPC and Intel based Macs.

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