The LIMac FORUM

JUNE 1998

NEWSLETTER OF THE LONG ISLAND MACINTOSH USERS GROUP

May's Meeting

The May meeting which featured Macromedia's *Freehand 8* was presented by Sandee Cohen, an independent consultant and author associated with Macromedia and graphics publishers – and one of the finest speakers that we have had to date. Sandee showed some of the outstanding features of the redesigned Freehand which was for many years a runner-up to Illustrator.

Freehand 8 offers precision vector drawing and typography, as well as animation, and boasts an innovative transparency lens which allows for some amazing effects.

Its versatility is highlighted by ability to import and export a very large group of file formats, including *Photoshop, Illustrator,* DXF, *CorelDRAW* GIF, JPEG, etc. On a comparison chart, this application seems to challenge both Adobe *Illustrator* and *CorelDRAW* handily.

In addition to *Freehand 8*, Sandee took us through a tour of Macromedia *Fireworks,* which creates GIFs, JPEGs and animated GIFs. She not only demonstrated complete mastery of the programs, but was an engaging and highly competent speaker.

A fast, easy, and inexpensive way to learn the complexities of *Freehand 8* is THE FREEHAND 8 VISUAL QUICKSTART GUIDE. It's clear and concise with hundreds of examples of exciting text, design, and illustration techniques you can create in just minutes. Anyone, beginners or advanced graphic designers, will find a thorough groundwork of the program in this handy reference format. ∎

June's Meeting

Photoshop 5 is alive and well at LIMac at 7 P.M. on Friday, June 12, when Adobe will demonstrate their new version. This exciting new product has received rave reviews. Come to the meeting and see why!

Adobe® *Photoshop*® software is the de facto standard for digital image enhancement, photo retouching, and image compositing, commanding the loyalty of more than 3 million designers worldwide. This version delivers the four most requested features in one elegant upgrade: multiple levels of undo and redo, editable text with character-level formatting, flexible and precise color management controls, and built-in support for spot-color channels. This new version answers the needs of longtime users, while packing more power into its toolset for new users.

Exciting new features include:
▸ Multiple undos for tracking image editing.
▸ Editable text for creating high-quality typography.
▸ Enhanced color management, including ICC support.
▸ Spot-color channels for incorporating specialty colors into print jobs.
▸ Broad range of new workflow and automation tools for greater productivity.
▸ New tools for increased precision and control over measurement and selection. ∎

Also Busting Out in the Month of June

Beginners SIG: Friday, June 19, 7:00 p.m.
The topic will be Draw & Paint.

DTP SIG: Friday, June 12, at 9:00 P.M.
More *Photoshop 5*.

Ed-SIG: Friday, June 12, 9:00 P.M.
See *Ed-SIG Notes* on page 2.

We are still collecting the annual dues ($24) for 1998. Please pay at the door or send checks to: Donald Hennessy, LIMac Inc., P.O. Box 518, Seaford, New York 11783

Internet SIG: Monday June 15, 7:30 P.M.
Further exploration of the Internet. The Internet SIG will meet in the auditorium of the Bethpage Public Library.

LIMac Meetings, unless otherwise noted, are held at the New York Institute of Technology (Building. 500), at Northern Boulevard, Old Westbury. To see if school is open in bad weather, call (516) 686-7789.

The next LIMac board meeting will be held at the Plainedge Library on Tuesday, June 16, 1998

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BillMedlow
President
ArchBill@aol.com

A *Photoshop* SIG?

People have been asking me about a *Photoshop* Special Interest Group (SIG) for the past year. Now, with Adobe coming to demonstrate the newest version of the program, the timing is perfect!

For those *PS* users who are interested in starting a SIG, or better yet, willing to teach or demonstrate any aspect of the program, please let me know at the June General Meeting or e-mail me at *ArchBill @aol.com.*
–Bill Medlow

Get Discounted MACWORLD Tickets!!

This July MACWORLD is coming to New York City and we will have discount tickets available at our June 12th meeting. *Exhibits:* $20. *Conference:* $150. Just another benefit of being a LIMac member!
(With this coupon you can pay at the door.)

President's Message

In 1984 Apple came out with the original Mac. Here was this all-in-one computer with an awesome 68k chip and a unique Operating System. Aside from the keyboard, it was a new way to work with a high-resolution, bitmapped user interface, breaking new ground with a very small footprint.
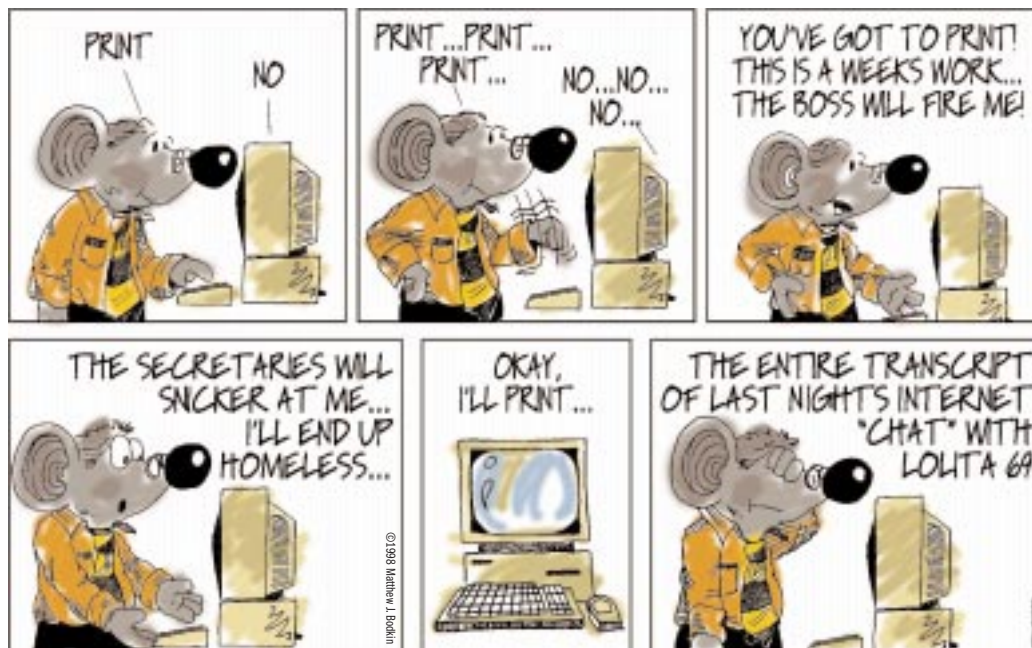
Well, here we are waiting for Blue and Yellow Boxes – Apple is at it again. An all-in-one computer based on another awesome chip, the G3.

OK, we've discussed speed. Now let's look at how we will conduct business in the future – over the Internet and your network/intranet, no matter how big or small your organization. I can hear all the I.S. managers yelling "bingo." They need their control, and we need our Macs on which we can run OS.x or Rhapsody.

I wouldn't know FTP from *Anarchie,* or *AppleTalk* from *TCP/IP,* or *ADB* from *USB,* but I do know we are talking about the future. For the price, we are talking very fast and it *is* very cool looking.

You constantly hear that speed isn't everything, but when I'm in my office under a deadline, I know one thing: Speed is life and I welcome the iMac. ❚

Technical Corner

▶ **I get a *Recovered Items* folder in my Trash, and I can't delete it.**
Restart with *Extensions* off and hold down the *Option* key and empty the *Trash.* If it won't empty, run *Norton Disk Doctor* and try again. Your Mac must have crashed while running some program that puts temporary files in the *Trash.* It will reappear until you restart.

▶ **PowerMac *G3* running *OS 8.1* on a *LocalTalk* network. It won't see any other Macs on the network at startup, and after a few restarts, it will see them.**
Throw away the *LocalTalk PCI* Extension. It's new to *OS 8.1* and it was supposed to improve performance, but it usually causes problems.

▶ **My *Chooser* keeps defaulting to the *Modem* port instead of the *Printer* port where I have my Epson Stylus color printer. I have to reset it every time I boot up.**
Use Apple's *ImageWriter Driver* – install it, or enable it if you have tuned it off in your *Extensions Manager.* In the *Chooser,* select *ImageWriter* on the left, then select *printer port* on the right. Close the *Chooser.* This will set the PRAM to use the *printer* port – something Epson's software fails to do. Then open the *Chooser* again, select the *Stylus Color (EX)*

Q&A

Bradley Dichter
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From Matt's Mac *by Matt Bodkin*

city. The morning and afternoon session are the same so choose only one when registering. Exhibitors will be exhibiting before, during, and between the seminar sessions.

Registration and Vendor Showcase Seminar.
Morning Session:
7/22 Marriott Eastside
525 Lexington Avenue
New York, New York.

9:00–9:30a.m. 9:30–12:00p.m.
Afternoon Session:
1:00–1:30p.m. 1:30–4:00p.m.

To register, fax your name, company name, address, city,state,zip, telephone number, fax number, and e-mail address to (212) 446-3802.

Adobe will confirm your registration by fax or e-mail within one week of the seminar for which

you registered. Please do not register multiple times, and be sure to register each attendee from your company separately.

If you have any questions you can contact Adobe at *www.Adobe.com.*

More Technical Corner

Driver and the *Printer* port, close the *Chooser* and everything will be fine, even after you turn off your computer. You may want to upgrade your software. Follow the Epson Software update link on the *Websites of Interest* page on the LIMac Website.

▸ *Costar* software can't find the printer through an A/B switch on the *Modem* port. The *Costar* is rather particular. Try not using the A/B switch. Try a simplified Extension set, there may be something locking up the Modem port, like fax software, for example.

▸ **How does one network the PC side of a Mac with a DOS card?** *LocalTalk*?
The DOS card supports multinode support for simultaneous network connection using Novell *NetWare IPX/SPX, TCP/IP,* and *NETBEUI* protocols via the *Ethernet* connection. You cannot network from the PC side via *LocalTalk*. You can connect to and print through the *MacOS*, to an Adobe *Postscript* laser printer via the *Ethernet* or *LocalTalk/PhoneNET* connections.

▸ **Is Apple introducing a new cheaper G3 model? I heard something recently.**
Apple introduced, and will ship in August, the iMac. For $1299, it has a 233MHz G3 processor, 512K Backside Cache at 117MHz, 32MB of RAM (upgradable), 4G IDE Hard Drive, 24x max. CD-ROM, 2MB SGRAM (upgradable), 2 USB (Universal Serial Bus) 12Mbps ports for the Keyboard and Mouse. In a new twist, it has no Floppy drive, no SCSI port and no PCI expansion slots. It comes with a built-in 15" monitor in a transparent blue and white case. Steve Jobs said the iMac's rear looks better than some WinTel machine's front. It does come with 10/100 Mbps *Ethernet* and a internal Modem (Should be 56K V.90 when it ships). It has surround sound stereo speakers too. It comes with *AppleWorks* (Formerly known as *ClarisWorks*). USB Floppy, Zip, printers and other peripherals are forthcoming from third parties. The USB connections are hot-swap and allow dozens of devices to be connected over long wires. Apple will be introducing USB on their mainstream models in the near future. The low price including display for such great performance makes the unusual design attractive to schools and network workstations. The lack of floppy and SCSI limit the

iMac's usefulness as a stand-alone computer. User data must be transferred via the Internet or a local LAN/Intranet. Apple figured nearly all software comes on CD-ROM and floppies are on the way out.

▸ **Running** *Mac OS 7.5.5* **on a 5300/75LC. I want to** *Speed Disk* **it. Apparently I need an updated** *Norton Utilities.* **The one I have was for** *7.5.* **I don't want to have to buy a new** *Norton Utilities.*
If you do want to optimize your HD, you can purchase, at a discount from full retail, the upgrade to version 3.5.3 which comes on a CD-ROM with which you can startup your 5300. Alternately, use your *Disk Tools* floppy and the *Startup Disk Builder* program that comes with *Norton Utilities* to create a custom startup *SD Startup Disk* for your Mac. One other option would be to startup the 5300 with the bootable Apple CD-ROM and run *Speed Disk* off the distribution floppy.

Look Back at this!

Adobe Photoshop 5.0 will be demonstrated at the next LIMac meeting, Friday, June 12th at 7 P.M.

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**Helen and
Sheldon Gross**
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Note: These sites are referred to by us for your information only and neither we nor LIMac endorse any of the products or sites.

TIP!

Desktop Printer Tip:
Moving the printer icon to the *Apple Menu Folder* helps to clear more Desktop space while still allowing access to it. And the hierarchy menu will display the document that is printing! (works in *MacOS 8*, anyway.)
–Steve Kaminsky

Sore Eyes

The cyber classroom is nearing reality with the convergence of simultaneous voice, video and data transmissions. Business organizations are leading the way. "Distance learning" is very cost effective. Databeam's Learning Server (Databeam Inc. *www.databeam.com*) includes tools enabling students to "raise their hands" electronically to ask questions or to contribute to the discussion. Their software can also be configured to permit a student to interrupt in a study group or even to permit a student to lead the discussion or deliver a report. For some, this alleviates the fear of public speaking.

Elementary and secondary schools and universities are exploring Internet based education as a means of eliminating some of the many problems of a face to face situation including, but not limited to, racial or gender prejudice as well as disciplinary problems at the elementary and secondary levels.

Traditional face to face instruction has its advocates for good reasons we all know, but for businesses the impetus to cyber learning is cost effectiveness. It is apparent that if a staff is scattered across the state, if not the country, hotel bills and travel costs will be substantially reduced with cyber training. A laptop and a telephone is all the equipment necessary to attend the training session, workshop, or conference. The advent of cable modems transmitting this information at greatly enhanced speed will bring the cyber class into (virtual) reality.

The CyberCampus will offer its first online degree program, a Master's in Public Administration beginning with the fall 1998 semester.

Apparently the future is now. ⌸

User Group News

It's that time again – Macworld.

For the first time, Macworld will be held in NYC at the Javits Convention Center, July 8-10. The deadline for early registration savings is June 8! You can register by calling: 800 645-EXPO, or on line at *www.macworldexpo.com* (through July 1, only). Readers of MACWORLD magazine should have received a registration booklet that they can use to sign up for the Expo. Additional Macworld information will be presented here in the next issue of the FORUM.

The User Group Survey Results Online
Apple recently completed a User Group Online Survey and I want to share some of the results with you. 2000 people participated, from around the world. The following information comes from Brighid Brady-de Lambert, Apple User Group Program Manager. This survey focused on collecting some indication of where user group members were in what marketing folks call the "upgrade cycle"– what computers they were currently using, when they had last upgraded their hardware and their *Mac OS*. Take a look at the full results, now posted at:
http://www.wmotion. com:159/ugs_results.html

Here's a brief recap of some of the overriding themes. We have to take into consideration that the results are probably biased slightly toward upper end users that have internet access, but nonetheless these results confirm my belief that user group members are early adopters of new technology, and on the ball.
▸ Most (53%) reported owning 1-2 computers.
▸ 65% are using *Mac OS 8.0* or *8.1*
▸ 52% have purchased a new computer within the past year, and
▸ 76% have purchased a new computer within the past two years! ⌸

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