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The LIMac



October 2011  
[www.limac.org](http://www.limac.org)

**LIMac Inc.**

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

**President**

Bill Medlow  
[archbill@optonline.net](mailto:archbill@optonline.net)

**Vice President**

George Canellis  
[gwc11713@optonline.net](mailto:gwc11713@optonline.net)

**Treasurer**

Donald Hennessy  
[aboutlimac@aol.com](mailto:aboutlimac@aol.com)

**Secretary**

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

**The LIMac Forum:**

**Editor/Graphics**

Al Zygier  
[azygier@nyc.rr.com](mailto:azygier@nyc.rr.com)

**Proofreader**

Bradley Dichter

**Board of Directors:**

Geoff Broadhurst  
George Canellis  
Al Choy  
Bradley Dichter  
*(Technical Director)*  
Bernie Flicker  
Donald Hennessy  
Richard Hickerson  
Rick Matteson  
*(Program Coordinator)*  
Bill Medlow  
Scott Randell  
Brian Revere

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:

**Membership**

Donald Hennessy  
[aboutlimac@aol.com](mailto:aboutlimac@aol.com)

**Technical Adviser &  
LIMac Webmaster**

Bradley Dichter  
[bdichter@optonline.net](mailto:bdichter@optonline.net)

**Program Coordinator**

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

**Photoshop SIG**

Brian Revere  
[brevere@optonline.net](mailto:brevere@optonline.net)

**MacBasics SIG**

Geoff Broadhurst  
[gahoof@optonline.net](mailto:gahoof@optonline.net)

**Multimedia SIG**

Al Zygier  
[azygier@nyc.rr.com](mailto:azygier@nyc.rr.com)

**Produced using:**

Adobe's InDesign CS3,  
Photoshop CS3, Illustrator CS3,  
Acrobat 8

**Fonts are:**

ITC's Officina Sans  
and Galliard Pro, Impact,  
Kidprint

## September Meeting *Scott Randell*



For our September meeting we were treated to an excellent presentation on Canon Digital Cameras. The presenter was Diana Bowe, a Sales Engineer from Canon. She is a very knowledgeable, and personable young woman.

She started out by giving us some background on Canon's EOS (Electro-Optical System) line of DSLR (Digital Single Lens Reflex) cameras. She mentioned some of the advantages of the EOS system, such as:

- Full electronic communication, which makes it easier to integrate new technologies
- The ability to mount larger lenses
- More light transmittance, which will always give you a better image

*September Meeting continued on Page 2*

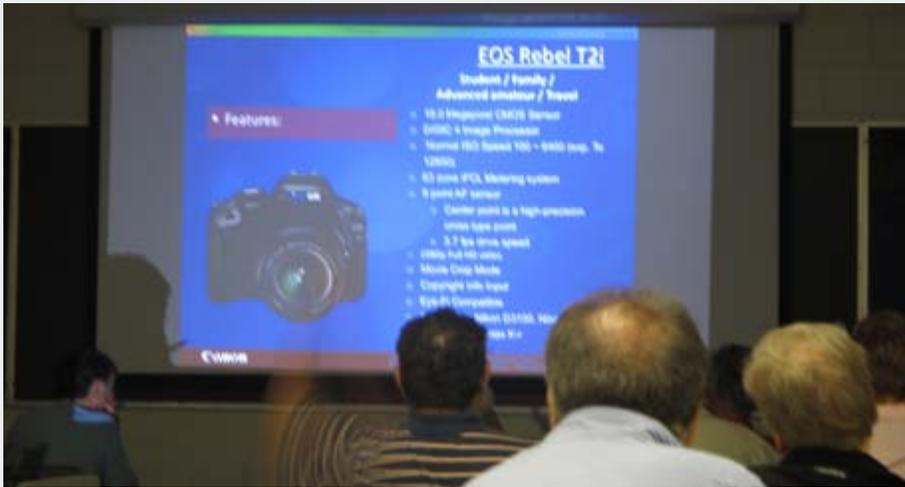
## October Meeting *Rick Matteson*



It's time for more iPad apps on the big screen! This month, five of LIMac's board members will demonstrate some of their favorites. You'll have the chance to see a variety of apps from many categories: news readers, entertainment finders, information guides, photography, and more. To inject an air of mystery, you'll have to come to the meeting to see exactly which ones are our favorites.

Of course the meeting will begin with the two Q&A sessions, followed by announcements. Next comes the main presentation on iPad apps, then the raffle. And we wind up the evening with our two SIG sessions: MacBasics across the hall and DTP/Photoshop in the main room. ↗





There are three sensor sizes, and all these cameras can yield high megapixel images. The cameras are classified as follows:

- The professional series which includes the EOS-1Ds Mark III full frame sensor 24mm x 36mm and 21.1 MP, and the EOS-1D Mark IV APS-H sensor 27.9mm x 18.6mm and 16.1 MP
- The advanced amateur series which includes the EOS 5D Mark II full frame sensor 24mm x 36mm and 21.1 MP, and EOS models 7D, 60D and Rebel T3i which have the APS-C sensor 22.3mm x 14.9mm, and 18 MP
- The entry level DSLR cameras include the EOS Rebel T2i, and the EOS Rebel T3. These also have the APS-C sensor 22.3mm x 14.9mm. the EOS Rebel T2i is an 18 MP camera, while the Rebel T3 is 12.2 MP.

Diana then spoke about what each of these cameras can do from image quality, to focus, to speed. All of these cameras use DIGIC Processors which make for faster performance, higher image quality, and superior auto focus. She pointed out that the more expensive cameras have more auto focus points. Diana pointed out the advantages of the DIGIC 4 Processors, (the most recent) which are as follows:

- Superior Performance
- Fast frame rates with high pixel count cameras
- Large burst rate
- Long battery life
- Fast responsiveness
- High image quality
- Superior high ISO performance
- Built-in image correction tools
- Highlight tone priority
- Auto Lighting Optimizer
- Lens Peripheral Illumination Correction

She then went on to describe some of the built in firmware, and included software. EOS Utility, can control off-camera actions from the camera. This can be done wired or wireless. Even though my knowledge of cameras is quite limited, I can see situations in which this would be useful. There is also Digital Photo Professional or DPP for working on RAW files. The link below provides more information on this free software.

[http://www.learn.usa.canon.com/galleries/galleries/tutorials/dpp\\_tutorials.shtml](http://www.learn.usa.canon.com/galleries/galleries/tutorials/dpp_tutorials.shtml)

Also discussed was the great video capability in all these cameras. They are all capable of producing high quality videos. She informed us that many professionals are using these to shoot video.

Diana completed her presentation by showing (at the request of the audience) the various point and shoot cameras in

Canon's line. Among those were the G12, which has a optical viewfinder, and a hot shoe interface enabling use of an external flash. The camera has many DSLR features at a point and shoot price. Also showed was the ultra compact PowerShot S95. With this camera, you give up some features to get a very light weight portable camera, however, it is still quite capable. Both of these cameras are an upgrade to the average point and shoot, and in addition to the other features I mentioned, they are both capable of taking (actually recording) pictures in Canon's .CR2 RAW format.

All those in attendance agreed that Diana did a stellar presentation. She explained everything in a manner that was easy to understand, even for a person like myself, who has a limited knowledge of cameras. She fielded the many questions with ease. Many thanks to Diana for her wonderful presentation. 🐭



## Bradley's Tech Session



Bradley Dichter  
Technical Advisor  
bdichter@optonline.net

► **I have a Mac Pro and several times a day it switches to Japanese or Korean. Is there some preference file I can toss to avoid this?**

■ You probably set the keyboard option to switch input source to command-space or some other common shortcut. For starters I disable all but English from the list of languages from the Language & Text System Preference panel and then from the Keyboard System Preference panel - Keyboard & Text Input, I turn off the options for Select the previous input source and next input source. Command-space happens to be the same one to show the Spotlight search field. Besides this possible conflict, the command key is adjacent to the space bar, so it's easy to press both accidentally. I like to shut off all keyboard shortcuts I'm not likely to use like most of the Universal Access category.

► **I have a problem with *iWow*. I don't know how I got it. It opens with *iTunes*. In the middle of the night, *iTunes* will start playing and I see an error message that it can't put something in my menu bar. I can't find it with *Spotlight* and I thought it should be in the Applications folder from what I did find. Help!**

■ For starters, it won't be found in your Applications and *Spotlight* is programmed to not search your /Library nor ~/Library folders (nor your /System/Library folder or the various hidden folders like /var or

etc. You can find it in your /Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/HAL/ You can just drag it to the trash. The problem is you updated *iTunes* but did not update the *iWow*.plugin. You should use version 3.3 if you want it's normal function restored. It enhances the sound in *iTunes* playback. For more info, check out the SRS Labs web site.

► **Can you recommend a portable printer? I saw online a Canon PIXMA iP100. Need letter size printing.**

■ I have not shopped for one in quite some time. As I recall the battery life was pretty bad as expected. There is also a HP Officejet 100 for about 10% more. Both are supported by Mac OS X 10.7 Lion but the Canon produced finer detailed images, is much quieter and weighs less and costs less. Do buy spare inks as they don't last long. And the Canon offers 5-color (CMYK and pigmented matte black for text) which makes it better and more economical for mixed printing. Be aware that the external LK-62 lithium ion battery pack is an extra \$100 cost option, but I read a positive comment on that. Epson makes the PictureMate Charm but it's only for 4x6 prints. An even more slender and lighter (1.3 lbs with battery) form-factor (still printing letter size paper) is the Brother PocketJet 6 thermal printer. Passable for letter sized invoices or text at 203 dpi. I don't see a *Lion* driver for it though.

► **Do the Fujitsu scanners also scan in color?**

*Bradley's Tech Session continued on Page 4*

## President's Message



Bill Medlow  
President  
archbill@optonline.net

*For the last few years LIMac has tried to make considerations for those LIMac members who have been adversely affected by our troubled economy. Generally, our Board meeting discussions emphasize providing the best information, the most interesting presentations and all in the best venue with the best equipment. The most important thing we have is the members that come to our meetings. I understand that everyone can not make all the meetings but those that come provide a life and vitality in their own way. We will still do the best we can and we are still looking for membership to help by becoming more vocal, possibly joining our Board of Directors. We need to hear your suggestion. What can we do for you? 🐭*

DAN DANGLO



"Who gave you my number?"

■ Yes, all the Mac compatible sheet-fed ScanSnap models scan in color or gray-scale. The little slender ScanSnap S1100 only scans one side of the original, called Simplex mode, but the better S1300 and S1500M offer Duplex mode, or both sides at the same time. They are meant to create OCR processed PDF files of whole pages and are not well suited to scanning images for DTP programs.

► **What about the descreen process to eliminate a moiré patten from a magazine scan?**

■ That would a function of a flatbed scanner's software. Most magazines are printed at 133 lpi. A few glossy magazines use 150 lpi. Newspapers tend to use 85 to 100 lpi. Fujitsu don't make any Mac compatible flatbed scanners and *VueScan*, which is a generic scanner driver, doesn't support any of the ScanSnap Mac-compatible scanners. You could try the *Neat Image v7 Photoshop* filter to descreen something already scanned without this benefit. A magazine is screen printed with four colors at different angles, so each dot is a rosette of 4 colored dots. What you capture at high resolution would not be a continuous tone image, so the descreen process should help blur things together like it should be, so you could rescale and repurpose the image. You'll find a Canon CanoScan LiDE series or Epson Perfection series photo scanners. *Photoshop* does not have a "descreen" filter but you could try a gaussian blur and perhaps a little unsharp mask.

► **I bought a Epson Perfection V500 Photo Scanner refurbished for \$125 after a instant rebate. It has a great**

**descreen function.**

■ I bought the same thing. The same software comes with the V330 lower end model available for \$100 or the lowest model, the V30 which is \$80 new. It's lower resolution is still fine for magazines, the lid opens 180 degrees, perfect for books and magazines. Doesn't scan slides, but you probably don't get any of those.

► **Thunderbolt has been out for a few months now and nothing but the Promise RAID boxes has been out now. Do you see more mainstream or lower priced drives with it?**

■ The R4 and R6 four and six bay hot swap direct attached RAID mini-tower boxes start at \$999 for a 4TB box. Considering the high speed potential of Thunderbolt input/output, only high performance systems need it. Barefeats.com tested a 6 drive system running RAID 5 and got 462 MB/s read speed and 551 MB/sec write speed. A 4 drive Thunderbolt array got 350MB/sec read and 546 write. Considerably lower than the theoretical limit of 1000MB/sec. Still you save \$500+ on a hardware RAID controller card and these connect to a much cheaper iMac or MacBook Pro instead of a Mac Pro. A FireWire 800 interface supports a theoretical 800Mb/sec or 80MB/sec transfer rate. That's as long as you keep your partitions 1TB or smaller. eSATA doesn't have that volume size limit and supports 250MB/sec. Most Macs don't offer an eSATA upgrade option, but a few do. Check the benchmarks on OWC's web site, their 2TB HD gets 75.6 MB/sec peak write speed via FireWire 800 and 193.4 MB/sec via eSATA. By the way, the same

drive gets just 32.2 MB/sec via USB 2.0, less than half of FireWire 800. So, consider for a moment that Apple charges \$49 just for a Thunderbolt cable, you won't see single drives taking advantage of the bandwidth limit and folks won't spend more money for a Thunderbolt connected drive that's no faster than a FireWire 800 one. I see most home users buying cheap USB drives from Western Digital or Seagate and regretting it over time. The highest performance comes from 15,000 rpm SAS drives, or SSD drives. SSDs are about 30 times more expensive per TB than regular 7200 rpm drives. One 3Gb/sec SSD can actually deliver 271 MB/sec Read and 263MB/sec write. The .1ms access time versus an average 13.66ms to 13.8msec (write average seek) you see with typical 7200 rpm drives from Hitachi or Seagate. The best option is to use a SSD for the system and applications and a hard drive or array of drives for your documents. I copy the whole home folder to the 2nd drive off the SSD and set the home folder to that in the System Preferences - Accounts. This way your e-mail, your music, your video capture, your pictures, your desktop and documents and all the downloads go to the spinning hard drive. That should leave the relatively small SSD free for your applications which shouldn't fill it up. Splitting up the read/write tasks should speed things up very nicely all by itself. You can order a iMac with both SSD and HD now. It's a powerful combination. A Thunderbolt external array would make things even faster if you can afford it. As they are RAID 5, you are protected from a single drive failure. But the Mac mini home user or basic office worker crowd won't be buying

any of these expensive options that cost more than the computer itself.

► **What about the Thunderbolt to FireWire adapters? I haven't seen any of those yet.**

■ I saw Sonnet advertising assorted Thunderbolt items but not shipping them yet. Even their Echo ExpressCard/34 slot adapter is a month and a half away. The only folks interested in such an adapter are those with a MacBook Air and legacy FireWire hard drives and the MBAir lacks any FireWire. But mose FW drives also had a USB port as well, and the Air has USB, so very tiny market. The MacBook Pro, Mac mini and iMac which also have Thunderbolt and FireWire 800, so don't need this adapter. They also showed Thunderbolt to Ethernet which again would be useful to only a MacBook Air, but most Air users are not going to be tethered to a desk, and will use a wireless connection. So again we have limited application. Thunderbolt will be more useful for servers and only the low end Mac mini server currently offers it. When a Mac Pro gets Thunderbolt or a resurrected xServe gets it, then we should see more high-end Thunderbolt devices. It makes a nice high speed inter-server link too. Perhaps a future docking station for a laptop could use Thunderbolt as a pathway for multiple interfaces. You should also see high end audio and video capture devices use Thunderbolt.

► **Is there anyway to play a Blu-ray disc on a Mac yet?**

■ Yes there is. Macgo Inc. has *Mac Blu-ray Player VI.8.3*, \$40 but of course you need

## User Group Offers



**George Canellis**  
User Group Ambassador &  
Vice President  
[gwc11713@optonline.net](mailto:gwc11713@optonline.net)

FreeHandMusic.com provides the most extensive selection of fully licensed legal Digital Sheet Music Downloads available for musicians online. You can download and print Legacy Edition sheet music instantly, or download and Solero (transposable) files. Their catalog includes thousands of titles from the world's leading artists, composers, and publishers like Sony, Disney, and EMI with top titles from the latest Pop to Classical, Jazz, R&B, Standards, Showtunes and much more. The special Apple user group price is 15% off any of their products. Discount code: [REDACTED] Order online: <http://www.FreeHandMusic.com> This offer is valid through December 31, 2011.

Small business people can finally create their own high-response SMS text marketing campaigns from their Mac with MobileMarketing for Mac. The most powerful and newest way to grow your small business is now as simple to accomplish as getting this new program. SMS messages get up to a 90% open rate; this means that 90% of the people who receive them will open them. Compare that with the 15%-20% who open email messages. And now for Apple user group members, the exclusive price is \$23.98, which is 40% off the regular price of \$39.97. Coupon code: [REDACTED] Order

today: <http://www.mobilemarketingformac.com> This offer is valid through January 31, 2012.

Casauri designs stylish and colorful cases for MacBooks, iPads, and iPhones, as well as travel accessories. These cases are sleek, lightweight, water-resistant, and perfect for back-to-school and back-to-work. Casauri is where "style + technology" click with bags that will meet all your needs without compromising your style, and puts the fun in functional. Join us on [www.facebook.com/casauri](http://www.facebook.com/casauri) and [www.twitter.com/casauri](http://www.twitter.com/casauri). For Apple user group members, 40% will be taken off any product. Coupon code: [REDACTED] Order today: [www.casauri.com](http://www.casauri.com) This offer is valid through November 30, 2011.

Dolly Drive backs up your entire Mac in the cloud using *Time Machine*, Apple's auto-archiving software that comes installed on every Mac computer. Named Mac|Life's "Best of Show" at Macworld 2011, this versatile application even lets you create a bootable clone on a local external drive for a complete, redundant, all-in-one backup solution for Mac. Apple user group members receive 20% off for one year of Dolly Drive (data centers in U.S. and Europe) which is available in sizes from 50 GB to 2 terabytes, starting at \$5 a month. Coupon code: [REDACTED] Backup today: [www.dollydrive.com](http://www.dollydrive.com) This offer is valid through October 1, 2011.

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 generate strong passwords. As an Apple user group member, you are entitled to get the single user *iPassword* 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. *iPassword* is separately available for the iPhone or iPad (\$9.99) and iPad/iPhone combo (\$14.99) from the Apple iTunes Store. Get yours today: [REDACTED]

If you find the volume on your Mac too low, Global Delight has the perfect app for that. With just a click, the *Boom* Volume Booster not only amplifies the audio of your system, but also enhances your experience while watching movies, listening to music, on a *Skype* call or listening to songs on your iPhone/iPod. With a regular retail price of \$8.99, the Apple user group special price is only \$4.99 for this Macworld 2011 Best of Show winner. Coupon code: [REDACTED] Link to the Global Delight Online Store: <http://www.globaldelight.com/Store> This offer is valid through December 31, 2011.

*Disk Drill* protects your files from accidental deletion with *Recovery Vault* and recovers lost data from Mac disks. It features a number of advanced scanning modes for data recovery of FAT, NTFS, HFS/HFS+, other file systems and formatted (initialized) drives. It is a profes-

sional, but extremely simple, Mac data recovery software that helps rescue data on Mac disks, external or internal hard drives, memory cards, cameras, iPods Classic, and others. The usual price of \$89 has been reduced to only \$62 for this limited-time user group offer. Coupon code: [REDACTED] Recover your files now: <http://www.cleverfiles.com/> This offer is valid through April 1, 2012.

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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 Op-*

*User Group Offers continued on Page 6*

User Group Offers continued from Page 5

imizer 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. Using the coupon code gives user group members 20% off. Get your Flash products here: <http://mac.eltima.com/> Coupon code: [REDACTED]

Freeway gives you all the legendary ease-of-use and features that launched the desktop publishing revolution. You can quickly and effortlessly lay out your website, embed images and content, then publish your work as standards-compliant HTML. Upload to your server, MobileMe or to a folder. You supply the creativity, Freeway handles the code. LIMac members can buy Freeway Pro, regularly \$249 for \$186.75, and Freeway Express for \$59.25, a 25% discount. Build your website now. <http://www.softpress.com/Store> Promo code: [REDACTED]

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>

RadTech manufactures and distributes an array of best-in-class accessory solutions for Apple computers, iPhone, iPod and Cinema Displays, all designed to keep you connected and protected in style. Experience the RadTech difference through their unique product line and legendary customer support. LIMac members get 20% off all products. Start saving now: <http://www.radtech.us> Discount Code: [REDACTED]

Apple user group members receive a 35% discount when they shop at peachpit.com. Just enter the user group discount coupon code at checkout. Ground shipping is free! (This discount cannot be used in conjunction with any other coupon codes such as the Peachpit Club.) <http://www.peachpit.com> Coupon Code: [REDACTED]

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ebooks. Purchase Take Control books at a discount with this coupon-code-loaded URL: [REDACTED] TidBITS: <http://www.tidbits.com>

Do you own or work in a Mac-based small business that has grown out of its 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, 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/>

You don't have to put up with unwanted junk email. Spamfire from Matterform Media removes unwanted commercial and pornographic email from your in-box. It works with any POP3 email account and any email program (support for IMAP, Hotmail and AOL is still in development). Spamfire uses intelligent,

fuzzy-logic filtering to identify spam and protect messages you want to keep. Automatic internet updates ensure you always have the most advanced spam protection available. Spamfire works in OS 9 and OS X and is a Mac-only product. Mac User Group members can purchase Spamfire for just \$23, more than 20% off the regular price. Box & CD version's regular price is \$39, user group price is \$31. Downloaded version's regular price is \$29, user group price \$23. [REDACTED]

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a internal or external player or player/burner mechanism. You CANNOT use an existing SuperDrive in your Mac. OWC has a selection. The cheapest playback only external is \$107 and the cheapest external burner and playback drive is \$190. Mac Pro users can use an internal SATA burner in there lower drive bay, and the cheapest one is \$98. 2006-2008 Mac Pros need to snake a cable to the spare SATA cables on the motherboard. USB external drives may not support enough bandwidth and use too much CPU interaction, so if you are going external, I'd step up to the FireWire 800 (quad interface actually) Mercury Pro models starting at \$160 for playback only, but if you're going to spend \$160 for playback only, I'd suggest spending a little more

for the burner model and get an option for archiving 25 or 50GB of data and burning a HD video you can share with your friends with a blu-ray player. Their \$208 kit has the Pioneer drive inside. The new Final Cut Pro X can burn blu-ray discs. Again I suggest Verbatim brand BD-R 25GB and BD-R DL 50GB media. Theirs is rated at 6X but can burn at much higher speeds. I see MAM-A also has 6X rated BD-R. At 12X, (54 MB/s) the fastest burn speed, it takes about 16 minutes to burn a dual layer disc. This is why you want to avoid USB connected drives, you would be limited to slower burn speeds. You can get about 100 minutes of HD video onto a 25GB single layer disc. ↵



**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](http://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.

Beginner Q&A meetings

Photoshop SIG: After general meeting

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

followed by announcements and raffle drawings.

**Mac Basics**

**Finder \*Quick\* Review:**

Review of Finder navigation and basic Finder operations.  
A look at System Preferences: what's in there?  
Customizing preferences to fit your needs.  
Word processing with TextEdit.app

**A look at System Preferences**

Just what's in there?, Customizing your preferences

**Some basic software included with the Mac:**

TextEdit.app

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

► The next LIMac board meeting will be at the Plainedge Library, (516) 735-4133, on Wednesday, October 19th, at 7:30 P.M. For more detailed information about this location go to [limac.org](http://limac.org)

## Renewal

Membership renewal for 2011 takes place from October 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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