

Mouse Times

President's Message

By Bob DeLaurentis

"And now, for something completely different."

With respect to the Pythonesque title of this message, we are at the start of something new. It will take several months before all the new goodies bloom, but the seeds have been planted. In February I met with the SBMUG board for the first time since I was elected President. Each and every SBMUG member should know what a first-rate group of people they have working on their behalf. Not me of course, my job is to write messages like this, which isn't really work. Digging ditches, now that is work.

The real work of SBMUG is being done by our program chair, the newsletter editor, the people who keep the list running, the kind souls who make sure we have refreshments at every meeting, the publicity and SIG leaders, and each and every one of the other people working hard behind the scenes to enrich the SBMUG membership. I was proud to watch everyone in action at the board meeting last night, and our members should be just as proud. All of us are the fortunate beneficiaries of dedicated, hard working people who will help make this a great year for SBMUG.

And this coming year will deliver plenty of excitement. A new version of OS X is coming from Apple. The cost of first-rate hardware has never been more affordable. Technology continues to create new opportunities, and SBMUG is going to be working hard to help its members take full advantage of these developments. I am a firm believer in the policy of not announcing something until it ships, so this message is not going to devolve into a laundry list of things we hope to do this year. Nevertheless, I promise you that more than a few surprises are already in the works.

In fact, you are reading one of them!

In addition to the changes we have been making at our monthly meetings, this newsletter is a big part of our plan to help SBMUG grow and thrive. Along with keeping our membership informed, the newsletter is an essential part of helping the local community learn about SBMUG activities.

2005 is going to be the best year yet!

Thank you, —Bob DeLaurentis

Next SBMUG Meeting

Thursday, March 17, 6 pm, at the Goleta Library. The topic is "Genius Bar," where Bob DeLaurentis, Ian Lessing, and Brian Carlin will do many quick demonstrations on a variety of topics.

Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

The **Beginners'** Special Interest Group is open to members and non-members alike. Headed by Dale Lowdermilk and Harold Adams, the group meets the first Monday of each month from 7-8:30 at the Goleta Public Library. For more information contact dale@sbmug.org.

The **Scripting** Special Interest Group meets on the last Tuesday of every month at 6 pm at the CompUSA store in Goleta. Contact brian@sbmug.org for more info.

Jeffery Morse, who is a certified Final Cut Pro instructor, has organized an e-mail list and special interest group for **Final Cut Pro**, Apple's Professional video editing software. E-mail jefferymorse@mac.com or visit www.sbfinalcut.org to sign up.

SBMUG Meeting Schedule

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Location</i>
March 17	6 PM	Goleta Library
April 21	6 PM	TBD

Recent meetings

January: Dirk Reynolds and Mike Bishop presented news about new Apple products and impressions of the MACWORLD convention in San Francisco. The raffle prize was a new iPod Shuffle.

February: Dirk Reynolds introduced us to Pages, the new word processing application from Apple. Raffle prizes were a copy of iWork, donated by the MacMechanic store, and products from the Apple company store in Cupertino.

Computers for Families

If you would like to help refurbish older Macs so they may be used by Santa Barbara County Schools Computers for Families, please contact Dale Lowdermilk, 805-969-6217. Details of the Computers for Families program can be found at www.sbcff.org

Visit the SBMUG web site

Webmaster Robert Winokur does a good job of keeping up-to-date news, photos, and information at the SBMUG web site, <http://www.sbmug.org>. Recent issues of the Mouse Times are archived there as PDF files.

Many members have changed their e-mail addresses and forgot to tell us. You will find a membership form in a link from our home page. Fill it out and send it in, even just to confirm your e-mail address.

Mouse Times (this document!)

This newsletter is a good reminder for general meetings, but if you prefer to read the Mouse Times online and don't need a printed copy (saves postage!), then please e-mail Brian Carlin at brian@sbmug.org.

E-mail List

Subscribe to our e-mail list at the web site. The e-mail list is free to join for anyone, SBMUG membership is not required. The list features help and discussions on any Macintosh topic. List members love to answer novice questions. You may choose to receive messages as they arrive, or grouped in a daily digest format.

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President	Bob DeLaurentis	bob@sbmug.org
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SANTA BARBARA MACINTOSH USERS' GROUP

P.O. Box 60922

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Check the mailing label above for your membership renewal date.
Please help us by renewing your membership. We sincerely appreciate your support!