

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 57 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: wysiwyg

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting-57-minutes

DATE: 08/27/2008 06:48:01 AM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p><p>

The ACN South Florida Chapter shook off its summer rust last night as

Meeting 57 took place as scheduled. In attendance, founding member

Jonathan Piccolo and stalwarts Charlie Carlon and Mike Strum.</p><p>

The meeting began with an iChat AV visit from Lisandro Madrigal, our

Territory Manager for the Small and Medium Business Group at Apple,

Inc. Many of us have already had the pleasure of working with

Lisandro in leveraging mutual business opportunities, and as Apple

continues to increase its market share in the SMB space ACN members

will derive even more value from our relationship with Lisandro's

group. Lisandro may be reached at lmadrigal@apple.com, or at (800)

854-3680 x2531.</p><p>

The evening continued with an expanded Cool / Lame new stuff

presentation, which admittedly included stale material from the early

summer, but also a couple of gems which possibly made up for it. We

did omit, however, our traditional "dessert" trivia contest and prize,

both of which will hopefully reappear during Meeting 58.</p><p>

The Meeting Notes as well as these minutes are online at our Chapter

website, and Meeting 57 is but a fond memory. We thank those who

eschewed all sorts of exotic activities to join us last night, and we

look forward to seeing you at Meeting 58, scheduled for Tuesday

September 30th.</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 56 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: 0

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting-56-minu

DATE: 05/02/2008 06:26:33 AM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>

Meeting 56 was an intimate affair, with founding member Jonathan

Piccolo and stalwarts Barry Porter and Charlie Carlon joining us for

an evening of Cool / Lame new stuff and Hot / Fresh pizza and wings.

We made plans to reactivate our technical training series, though,

with Jonathan generously volunteering to present a topic of interest

during Meeting 57, scheduled for May 27th.</p>

<p>

We hope to see you then!

</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 55 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: 0

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting-55-minu

DATE: 03/27/2008 10:39:00 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>Only 4,124 spectators attended the meaningless, late season NBA game between the New York Knicks and the Philadelphia Warriors on March 2, 1962. For one thing, this was one of the three home games per year that the Warriors were obligated to play at Hershey, PA thanks to a deal made with a local promoter in exchange for a free-of-charge practice facility. The Knicks starting center, Phil Jordon, was injured and would not play. And, to top it all off, it was a cold, rainy night in Hershey. But a few thousand faithful trudged over to Hersheypark Arena anyway, expecting nothing more than a mediocre basketball game, and perhaps some stale peanuts.</p>

<p>That evening, Wilt Chamberlain scored an astonishing 100 points, demolishing the NBA's single-game scoring record, and in the process putting together one of the most spectacular individual performances in the history of sports. Wilt set six all-time NBA records that night, five of which still stand.</p>

<p>And so, forty-six years and a few weeks later, only Barry Porter and Jonathan Piccolo showed up for ACN South Florida Chapter Meeting 55, expecting little more than a few Keynote slides about new products, a couple of tips and tricks, and perhaps a slice or two of pizza and a couple of breadsticks. But as it turned out, they got much more than that, as Meeting 55's Cool / (Lame) New Stuff presentation broke new ground, with various products producing excitement even in the usually-jaded Piccolo.</p>

<p>It's all in the Meeting Notes, of course, which are online at our chapter website, so even if you weren't actually at our meeting you may still peruse and, indeed, benefit from the material, just as anyone may peruse the box score of that magical game in 1962. But only 4,124 lucky souls were actually there to see Wilt score 100. And only 2 were around tonight to see the best Cool / (Lame) New Stuff presentation of all time.</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 54 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting-54-minu

DATE: 02/26/2008 11:02:51 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>As South Florida (as well as the Gulf Coast, Orlando and other parts of the state) recovered from an afternoon power outage that affected, according to the Miami Herald, over 4 million people, ACN South Florida Chapter Meeting 54 took place as scheduled this evening, delivering,

as promised, an experience better than that of an ocular puncture wound inflicted by a lead-based writing instrument.</p>

<p>In live attendance: Founding Member Jonathan Piccolo, veterans Dario Desantes, Mike Strum (who generously contributed a twelve pack of Dutch green lizards for our drinking pleasure), Barry Porter and Charlie Carlon, first-timer Bob Jorritsma (welcome Bob!), and special guest Aaron Benedict of Kerio Technologies, who presented Microsoft Exchange alternative Kerio Mail Server 6.5. In virtual attendance: Dana Haynes, who graciously attended via iChat AV.</p>

<p>A fascinating technical glitch involving malevolent file syncing routines reduced the traditional Cool / Lane New Stuff presentation from its typical Keynote glory to a meager collection of links, and that sort of sucked, but Aaron's enlightening feature presentation easily made up for the loss by bringing Kerio's compelling collaboration solution to our attention. Far more than a rock solid mail server, Kerio 6.5 is also a cost effective, platform agnostic groupware solution that deserves consideration in any small to medium business application.</p>

<p>For dessert, Dario Desantes walked away with the evening's prize, an 80% functional PowerBook 145B, by naming the most company slogans of the five used by Apple in its history. Actually, Dario tied with Barry Porter, as both correctly identified two of the five, but Dario won the tiebreaker by naming the earlier slogan. The complete list of Apple's five company slogans is, of course, in the meeting notes, available at www.acnsf.com.</p>

<p>As always, we thank those who eschewed all sorts of exotic activities in order to spend the evening with us. The meeting notes, as well as these minutes, are online, and Meeting 54 is but a fond memory. We hope to see you at Meeting 55, on Tuesday March 25th.

</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 53 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: 0

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting-53-minu

DATE: 01/29/2008 10:48:14 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>All possible degrees of attendance were represented at ACN South Florida Chapter Meeting 53, which took place as scheduled this very evening. We had, of course, the live attendees, in this case Jonathan Piccolo, Barry Porter and rookie Dario Desantes (welcome Dario!). Then we had the video-chat attendee, in this case Trevor Misco. We had a remote presenter, Sara Ramos

of Volchok Consulting, who ably demonstrated their MAX IT Management Software as one of our Main Courses this evening. And we had Dana Haynes, who attended by audio chat only... but still was somehow able to walk away (figuratively, of course) with this month's Trivia Contest prize... a sort-of brand new BT Mighty Mouse. But wait... there's more! As we were saying our goodbyes in the ESI parking lot, who should show up but the inimitable Mike Strum, all revved up with no place to go... but home, of course.</p>

<p>We enjoyed the usual stuff, including twin Jackass of the Month awards, our traditional Cool / Lane feature, Sara's presentation and a Macworld recap, where we revisited our Meeting 52 keynote announcement predictions and found that Jonathan was pretty much right on... and Barry would have hit on every prediction had Apple not sabotaged him with last minute deletions from Steve's preso. For dessert, our Trivia question took us back to that fateful day in January of 1984 when Steve let the Mac out of the bag, to the tune of the theme from the movie... well, that was the question. The answer, my friend, is blowin' in the meeting notes, which are online at our Chapter website, as are these minutes.</p>

<p>So Meeting 53 is but a fond memory. We'd like to thank all those who attended (in all degrees, of course) despite all sorts of exotic alternatives, and express our hope that we may see you at Meeting 54, which, as our Chapter calendar duly notes, will take place on Tuesday February 26th.</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 52 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: 0

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting-52-minu

DATE: 12/20/2007 11:27:47 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>2007's final ACN South Florida Chapter meeting was held as scheduled this evening. In live attendance: Jonathan Piccolo, Barry Porter, Charlie Carlon, Mike Strum and Jorge Escala. Dana Haynes participated via iChat AV.</p>

<p>In addition to our usual stuff (and, I must say, the Cool / Lane portion of our evening was decidedly on the Lane side... we'll try to make amends next year!) we were treated to an eye-opening FileMaker developer's primer from Jonathan Piccolo. Cool stuff indeed! Our thanks to Jonathan for taking the time to prepare and deliver his presentation. Later on, we put together our annual Macworld Keynote Announcement predictions... all available for viewing on our Meeting Notes. For dessert, Mike Strum walked away with the evening's prize, a certified pre-owned Griffin iCurve. However, it must be said that the prize was actually awarded based on a "consolation" contest, since none of Meeting 52's participants was able to correctly identify the person who came up with the term "Reality Distortion Field" and the year when it was coined. For the answer, please see the aforementioned Meeting Notes (yes, you can look this up elsewhere, but hey, nothing beats a fun trip to the ACN South Florida Website!).</p>

<p>We decided on Tuesday evenings as the most convenient time for our future meetings, and we shall thus make that so for 2008. I expect to update the Chapter calendar with the full slate of 2008 scheduled meetings sometime before year-end.</p>

<p>And so, Meeting 52 is but a fond memory, as is, actually, the whole of 2007. I'd like to thank those of you who, despite all sorts of exotic alternatives, made the ACN South Florida Chapter a part of your lives during 2007, and wish each and every one of you health, happiness and success in the coming year.</p>

<p>So this is ACNSF signing off for 2007. Good night, and may the good news be yours.</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 51 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: 0

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting-51-minu

DATE: 11/30/2007 12:46:16 AM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>Perhaps in more ways than one, the ACN South Florida Chapter is one card short of a full deck, as Meeting 51 winds down this very evening. In attendance: founding member Jonathan Piccolo, stalwarts Charlie Carlon and Barry Porter, emerging stalwart Dana Haynes, and comebacker Mike Strum.</p>

<p>Audience reaction seemed to indicate that the cool outweighed the lame during the Appetizer portion of our program.... and the Leopard Implementation Main Course was instructive indeed. In fact, Mike Strum, working without a net, electrified the attendees with his sanity-defying demonstration of Leopard's easily accessible UID change functionality.</p>

<p>Dana Haynes made it 2 for 2 in the trivia contest department, walking away with a first generation Apple Wireless Mouse after nailing the evening's question: for how much did Ron Wayne sell his stake in 2-week old Apple Computer in April of 1976, a stake that would have been worth over \$500 million a mere twenty-four years later? (The answer is, of course, in the Meeting Notes, available at our Chapter website.)</p>

<p>So the aforementioned Meeting Notes, as well as these Meeting Minutes are online, and Meeting 51 is but a mere, albeit recent, memory. We heartily thank those who eschewed all sorts

of exotic activities in favor of spending the evening with us, and as we head into the official holiday season (yes Adam, put on your yarmulke... it's time for Hanukah!) we say, hey, hope to see you at Meeting 52 on December 20th!</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 50 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: 0

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meetign-50-minu

DATE: 11/02/2007 03:58:48 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>Yes, the ACN South Florida Chapter reached an important milestone last night... we got together for the 50th time. Present at this historic occasion: founding member Jonathan Piccolo (who, we must mention with deep appreciation, has attended each and every one of our 50 meetings), stalwarts Barry Porter and Charlie Carlon, and Dana Haynes, making his first personal appearance since Meeting 3, way back in the Panther days of June, 2004.</p>

<p>During the meeting we discussed the nominees and winner of the coveted Jackass of the Month award (for details please see the meeting notes), did our usual Cool / (Lame) New Stuff thing, enjoyed a Round Table discussion as our Main Course, and, for dessert, found out that yes, time is racing by at an alarming rate. For, hard to believe as it was, there were ACN members among us (adults, mind you!) not able to identify the Springsteen classic Born to Run, much less name the girl in the song (the girl's name was the trivia question). So the prize (a shrink-wrapped Apple Remote) went to one of the elder attendees, Dana Haynes (no offense, Dana... unfortunately I count myself in the same group).</p>

<p>We also specified the Main Courses for the remaining two meetings of 2007, as well as adjusted their dates, so please check out the chapter calendar for details. Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 29th.</p>

<p>Oh, and the Born to Run girl's name was.... well, check out the meeting notes!</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 49 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: 0

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting-49-minu

DATE: 09/20/2007 01:27:52 AM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>Will Meeting 49 be forever remembered as the last Leopard-free ACN South Florida Chapter meeting? Interestingly (well, interesting to me, anyway...), Mac OS X Version 10.4 ("Tiger") was introduced between our Meetings 20 and 21, making it the current Mac OS for our last 29 meetings. 10.3 "Panther", of course, was the OS du jour for our first 20 meetings, so the Leopard introduction will mark only the second OS transition in our young Chapter's history. Fascinating stuff, I'm sure, to some.... but probably a kinder, gentler alternative to Ambien to most. So I'll stop with the meaningless statistics... just after I mention that if indeed insomnia does ail you, the Meeting Minutes for each of our 49 meetings are available to you in unabridged

form at our website, as are Meeting Notes from Meeting 27 on forward (Meeting 27 was the first to boast Notes as well as Minutes).</p>

<p>Getting back on track here, Meeting 49 took place yesterday evening, with Charlie Carlon, German Gobel, Mike Strum, Barry Porter, Jonathan Piccolo and Jorge Escala in live attendance. Following our Cold Open Video, Jackass of the Month and Cool / Lane New Stuff segments, our featured main course was an Open Forum discussion which yielded all sorts of useful (and useless) information. For dessert, Charlie Carlon eked out a win by correctly answering the trivia question... and doing so just 120 seconds before German Gobel submitted his correct answer.</p>

<p>So Meeting 49 is but a fond memory.... but wait, we must take care of a bit of housekeeping. Please be aware that not only can you view the Chapter Calendar by clicking on the appropriate link on our Chapter home page, you can also add it to your Google calendars by clicking on the "add to Google" button on the calendar page. And you can also subscribe to the calendar on iCal by using this link:
<http://www.google.com/calendar/ical/ufh23ls94n6842rirr3vgbdnc8%40group.calendar.google.com/public/basic.ics>. Staying tuned to the Chapter calendar will be of particular importance during the next few weeks, as the date for our October meeting will almost certainly change due to a likely scheduling conflict.</p>

<p>OK, so now we can put Meeting 49 to bed... and perhaps do the same with ourselves. Once again we thank those who eschewed all sorts of exotic alternatives to spend yesterday evening with us, as we look forward to the magical five-oh. Maybe we'll even play something by The Ventures....</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 48 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: 0

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting-48-minu

DATE: 08/23/2007 12:46:34 AM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>Potpourri, smorgasbord, cornucopia... those are the words that come to mind when thinking back on Meeting 48, which featured varied and abundant content (as well as varied and abundant food... but a description thereof is perhaps beyond the scope of these minutes). The cold open (yes, we have adopted a Saturday Night Live-inspired tradition) was the hilarious "Internet Crash of 2007" video from The Onion (check out the link in our Meeting Notes), which was followed by an expanded edition of Cool / Lame New Stuff... featuring not 1, not 2, not 3, but FOUR Jackasses of the month, with another one added during the meeting for good measure!</p>

<p>Two Main Courses followed:</p>

<p>The first was a rare and telling glimpse into the work that ACN program management does to help promote the ACN program within Apple. We actually reviewed a presentation prepared by ACN Program Manager Mimi Basu and ACN Operations Manager Mark Feldman that was delivered as a webcast for Apple employees last month. Compelling content, to be sure, and an excellent example of ACN management's efforts to promote the program and its members to key groups in Cupertino.</p>

<p>The second Main Course consisted of a generous helping of Open Forum, where the topics ranged from Photoshop killers to killing website ads using the Hosts file to killing calls quickly on the iPhone... do I detect a common thread? Actually, much more was discussed; please make sure to check out the Meeting Notes as well as Jonathan's presentation, which is online at the Chapter FTP site.</p>

<p>For dessert, three meeting attendees got within one of the number of iMacs appearing in the most recent iMac commercial (for the answer please check out the Meeting Notes), and, after two of the three graciously withdrew, Jorge Escala walked away with the prize, a Linksys 8-port Fast Ethernet switch (plus vintage items donated by Mike Strum).</p>

<p>I'd like to thank Jonathan Piccolo, Charlie Carlon, Jorge Escala and Barry Porter for attending Meeting 48 in person, and Mike Strum for dropping in for a while on iChat AV. The Meeting Notes, applicable presentations and these minutes are online at our Chapter Website... and Meeting 48 is but a fond memory.</p>

<p>We look forward to seeing you at Meeting 49, on Wednesday, September 19th!</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 47 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: 0

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting-47-minu

DATE: 07/19/2007 12:06:38 AM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>Attendance at Meeting 47 was sort of like the coolest type of disk image... sparse. However, what the session may have lacked in quantity was vastly overwhelmed by the quality of its content.</p>

<p>Yes, the Cool / (Lame) Stuff appetizer was pretty much standard fare, but Jonathan Piccolo's Hard Drive Recovery presentation was truly outstanding; by itself more than worth the price of admission. A pdf version of the preso is on the Chapter FTP site for your downloading pleasure, alas it does no justice to the full experience. We deeply appreciate the time and effort that Jonathan expended in putting together the presentation. We will all certainly benefit from its content.</p>

<p>For dessert, we were forced to resort to a game of chance to award the featured prize, a geeky travel kit, since no one in attendance was able to recall the name of one Michael Kovatch, who (apparently) gazed into a crystal ball in 1995 and registered the domain iphone.com... Scott Gosik, who attended the meeting via iChat AV, was the evening's happy winner.</p>

<p>So Meeting 47 is but a memory. The Meeting Notes are available on the Chapter website, as is Jonathan's presentation and these minutes. To Jonathan, Scott and Jorge Escala, we say thanks for choosing to spend the evening with us at Meeting 47. To those who missed tonight's meeting, we say dude, you missed a good one!</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

COMMENT:

AUTHOR: Mark Taylor

EMAIL: mark@taylormark.com

IP: 71.159.140.3

URL: http://www.taylormark.com

DATE: 07/19/2007 09:58:48 AM

what is the ftp login info?

COMMENT:

AUTHOR: Jack S. Azout

EMAIL:

IP: 74.247.253.42

URL: http://profile.typekey.com/jsazout/

DATE: 07/19/2007 10:16:16 AM

I'll send it to you privately in a second or 2...

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 46 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: 0

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meetign-46-minu

DATE: 06/28/2007 08:39:07 AM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>Despite the impending launch of the "the most sophisticated, outlook-changing piece of electronics to come along in years." (David Pogue, reviewing the iPhone for the New York Times), we managed to somehow hold ACN South Florida Chapter Meeting 46.0 last night as scheduled. In attendance, jet-lag battling Jonathan Piccolo and under-the weather Barry Porter (via iChat AV), as well as Mike Strum, Charlie Carlon and new Chapter Meeting participant Avi Learner (welcome, Avi, we hope #46 is the first of many!). And stalwart Jorge Escala gamely joined us near wrap-up time on his way home from a work crisis. As always, we deeply thank those who eschewed all sorts of exotic activities to spend the night with us.</p>

<p>Meeting 46 featured the usual Cool/Lame New Stuff (including the now standard Jackass of the Month segment) and a bit of a disjointed and (far from) Round Table discussion on technical and business topics of interest. For dessert, Mike Strum walked away with an original Airport Card for being the first to correctly identify the recent speaker, audience and context of the phrase, "It's like giving a glass of ice water to somebody in Hell". If you don't know the answer... check out the meeting notes, which are, along with these minutes, posted on the Chapter website.</p>

<p>One last thing. As I write this on June 28, 2007, the last iPhone-less day on the planet, I feel compelled to offer up my speculation on the success of the so-called "Jesus phone". My take: iPhone will be an iPod-like juggernaut, capturing the world's imagination, forever changing the way we view portable electronic devices, and propelling Apple, Inc. stock over \$200 before the end of 2007.</p>

<p>You heard it here first, folks.</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 45 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: 0

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_45_minu

DATE: 05/17/2007 01:24:41 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>"If you have always done it that way, it is probably wrong."
Charles Kettering</p>

<p>Yes, Meeting 45 was all about change. Minor change, yes, in fact just a tweak, perhaps, but change nonetheless. After featuring a single-subject technical presentation as the "main course" of our meeting for over three years, Meeting 45 featured the genesis of the ACNSF Round Table, an open ended discussion of items of interest to our attendees. Now the terms "open ended discussion" and "items of interest" may sound like harbingers of dull, complaint-filled discussions... but although that may be the case elsewhere it is certainly not so inside the friendly confines of the ACN South Florida Chapter.</p>

<p>The inaugural Round Table featured technical questions and answers, new product demonstrations, business discussions and other fascinating, useful content. As has been evident to me since the inception of our Chapter, great conversations usually result simply from putting a few Mac geeks together and tossing in a positive atmosphere. And yes, fresh, hot pizza and chicken wings also help.</p>

<p>We did have, of course, our usual Cool / Lame New Stuff "appetizer", and for dessert, after our first question stumped the panel and was summarily discarded, Jonathan Piccolo was able to nail the speed of the processor (or processors, depending on the model) of the original Xserve to take home the remains of Paula, a noble 17" PowerBook, who selflessly donated her hard drive so that her colleague and fellow 17" PowerBook, Jennifer, may continue to live a productive life. I'm sure that Jonathan will find the parts needed to bring Paula back to life, and will lovingly nurse her back to health as she so abundantly deserves.</p>

<p>The answers to both the discarded question as well as the one nailed by Jonathan may be found on our Meeting Notes, one click away from our home page (www.acnsf.com). And in the Meeting 45 folder on our FTP site, also one click away from our home page, you will find "The Apple Boogie", an unofficial album actually released by Apple in 1986 as part of its 10-year anniversary celebration. Thanks to Barry Porter for contributing "The Apple Boogie" to our FTP treasure trove.</p>

<p>We'd like to take a moment to thank the aforementioned Piccolo and Porter, along with Jorge Escala and Charlie Carlon, for foregoing all sorts of exotic alternatives to instead spend the evening with us at Meeting 45.</p>

<p>We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday June 27th, when the number of meetings that we have had officially moves past the years that I have, at least in my present incarnation, inhabited our planet. Scary thought indeed (not that we have had that many meetings, but the other part...)</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 44 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: 0

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_44_minu

DATE: 04/19/2007 10:10:05 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>ACN South Florida Chapter Meeting 44 took place as scheduled yesterday evening, with Charlie Carlon, Jorge Escala, Mike Strum, Barry Porter, Jonathan Piccolo and Mathew van Wyk in live attendance. Meeting 44 featured what I must admit turned out to be a pretty lame Cool / (Lame) New Stuff appetizer (as was helpfully pointed out on various occasions by a slightly more cantankerous than usual Charter Member) as well as a way too obscure trivia question... but between the substandard appetizer and dessert came Jorge Escala's highly educational and entertaining workshop on Directory Services.</p>

<p>The last time Jorge led a workshop on Directory Services (Meeting 23, back on July 27, 2005), the event was likened, on these very pages, to Silk, Don Julio tequila, Sade's operator and any song by Barry White. In other words, it was smooth. Meeting 44's presentation somehow wound up more in line with a typical real-world experience, where missed checkboxes and services not started bring bewilderment and frustration at first, followed in quick succession by analysis, a moment of deeply pleasurable realization, and, finally, the unrivaled satisfaction of an up and running installation. Our thanks to Jorge for putting together the presentation and taking the time to set up and deliver his workshop.</p>

<p>Sadly, no one in our group was able to recall Apple's internal code word for the original scroll-wheel iPod, (October, 2001) so we were forced to resort to a game of pure chance to determine the evening's prize winner, Charlie Carlon, who went home with a brand-spanking new .mac subscription. Where was Scott Gosik when we needed him?? By the way, the answer to the original question is... in the Meeting Notes, which have already been posted to our Chapter website.</p>

<p>Anyway, we would like to once again thank those who attended Meeting 44 for choosing to spend the evening with us despite all sorts of exotic alternatives, as we look forward to Meeting 45, which will take place on Wednesday, May 30th (assiduous followers of the ACN South Florida Chapter Calendar will notice that Meeting 45 was originally scheduled for May 23rd, and

has been changed to May 30th).

So, once again the Meeting Notes and these Minutes have been posted to the Chapter website, Jorge's presentation will be on the FTP site shortly, and Meeting 44 is but a fond memory. We look forward to seeing you at Meeting 45!

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 43 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_43_minu

DATE: 03/22/2007 10:09:43 AM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>Just as Apple finally began shipping □TV, ACN South Florida Chapter Meeting 43.0 took place as schedule yesterday evening. In live attendance, Founding Member Jonathan Piccolo, stalwarts Mike Strum and Barry Porter and newcomer Matt van Wyk. And attending via iChat AV from Austin, Texas, loyal member Jorge Escala, who graciously gave up a couple of hours of hotel room movie-watching (PG, I'm sure) to be a part of Meeting 43. We'd like to take a moment to welcome Matt to our group, and express our hope that he becomes another regular at our meetings.</p>

<p>We had our usual Cool / (Lame) New Stuff appetizer, followed by Jonathan's presentation of Network Analysis, Part 2 (Jorge presented Part 1 during Meeting 42). During his presentation, Jonathan took an eye-opening look at packet sniffing for good and evil, and along the way provided us with fascinating, useful information. We would like to once again thank Jonathan for taking the time to put together and present this topic.</p>

<p>For dessert, Jorge Escala was the lucky winner of our grand prize, a state of the art (circa 1995) Linksys Dual-Speed Hub, perfectly suitable as networking gear in a pinch, as well as an outstanding doorstep. Jorge was closest in estimating the annual sales per square foot generated by Apple's retail stores. As we all now know, the answer is an astounding \$4,032, which seems all the more amazing when compared to Tiffany and Co.'s suddenly lackluster \$2,666, Best Buy's paltry \$930, and Neiman Marcus' sad \$611.</p>

<p>As those who attended Meeting 43 will recall, we captured audio and video with the intention of producing and publishing a video podcast of the meeting. And the result was pretty dismal, to say the least; actually dismal enough to preclude our posting it on our website because it would be, in Andy Ihnatko's legendary words, a Colossal Waste of Bandwidth. We may need to dip into the ACNSF resource fund to procure the hardware appropriate for quality video podcast production... or maybe just use Profcast to document our meetings. Anyway, please stay tuned.</p>

<p>Meeting 43's notes are up on our website, as are the few photos we snapped off at the end of the meeting, Jonathan's presentation and these meeting notes. So Meeting 43 is but a fond memory as we look ahead to Meeting 44, scheduled for Wednesday, April 18th.</p>

<p>Once again thanks to all who forewent all sorts of exotic activities (or interrupted them temporarily) to take part in Meeting 43. </p>

<p>We look forward to seeing you at Meeting 44!</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 42 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: 0

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_42_minu

DATE: 02/22/2007 02:42:53 AM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>Tonight the technology gods frowned upon us a bit, as were we inexplicably unable to host Regional Champion of the World Meredith Anton, who had planned to grace Meeting 42 with her (albeit virtual) presence. To make matters even more frustrating, our audio podcast recording of the meeting came to an unexpectedly premature termination (yes, I can hear the chorus, "that's what she said"), so the podcast (already available for streaming and/or subscription at our Chapter website) only includes the first hour or so of our 3+ hour meeting. We will work on these issues and hope to show major improvement on both fronts by Meeting 43!</p>

<p>Meanwhile, Meeting 42 did boast some outstanding content. After our usual Cool / Lame new stuff presentation, Jorge Excala presented Nmap, an amazingly flexible (and free!) network exploration utility. And for dessert, Barry Porter walked away with the trivia contest prize, being the closest in determining the original hardware requirements for System 7.</p>

<p>Please be sure to check out Jorge's presentation, which will hopefully be up at our Chapter FTP site by the time you read this. Also, as usual, the Meeting Notes and these minutes are available at our website, where you will also find Meeting 42's audio podcast.</p>

<p>We would like to thank Jorge once again for taking the time to put together and present Nmap. We'd also like to thank Jonathan Piccolo for his usual yeoman efforts with the iChat hosting duties. And, of course, we thank Mike Strum, Charlie Carlon, Barry Porter (live) and

Scott Gosik (iChat AV) for attending Meeting 42. And special thanks (and our apologies) go out to our Regional Champion Meredith Anton, who but for our inopportune technical difficulties would have been with us as well.</p>

<p>So, Meeting 42 is but a fond memory... and we hope to see you at Meeting 43 on March 21st!</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 41 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: 0

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_41_minu

DATE: 01/25/2007 11:07:18 AM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>Meeting 41.0 took place as scheduled last night. In attendance: Charter Member Jonathan Piccolo and stalwarts Jorge Escala, Mike Strum and Barry Porter, the former two live and the latter via iChat AV. Scott Gosik attended a good chunk of our meeting via cellphone (yes, I guess we at the ACN South Florida Chapter have great faces for radio!). Trevor Misco had excellent intentions of also attending via iChat AV... however due to technical difficulties ostensibly at his end, it was simply not meant to be.</p>

<p>There was, of course, Cool / Lamé New Stuff, actually a special Macworld Expo edition of our traditional appetizer. And Mike Strum, after setting the expectations about as low as they possibly could be, came through with an excellent overview / demo of the various remote tech support tools available today, exposing their strengths and weaknesses. I'd like to once again thank Mike for taking the time to prepare and deliver his presentation.</p>

<p>After that it was time to look back at our Macworld Expo Keynote Announcement Predictions, which, with hindsight, sort of reeked. However, in our defense, I think we did about as well as most of the pundits out there who are paid handsomely for their generally unenlightened efforts.</p>

<p>Our trivia contest brought a bit of controversy, as Wikipedia and MacTracker differed with regard to the image formats supported by the astonishingly ahead-of-its-time Apple QuickTake 100 digital camera (circa 1992). We were able to dig up an Apple article which gave what we felt was the authoritative answer (interestingly, different from both Wikipedia and MacTracker!) However, it turns out that Barry Porter, Renaissance Man that he is, actually owned a QuickTake 100 back in the day, and nailed the both the answer and the tiebreaker in a way that would have won him the contest regardless of which source we would have used. Of course, for details on the Trivia Contest as well as other facets of Meeting 41 please refer to the Meeting Notes.</p>

<p>The Meeting Notes and these minutes have been posted to the Chapter website, Mike's presentation is on our FTP server, the pizza and wings are all gone, and Meeting 41 is but a memory. As always we'd like to thank those of you who attended Meeting 41 for foregoing all sorts of exotic opportunities to instead spend the evening with us.</p>

<p>We look forward to seeing you at Meeting 42 on Wednesday, February 21!</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 40 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: 0

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_40_minu

DATE: 12/21/2006 12:52:15 AM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>As I write this it is 20°F in International Falls, MN. The temperature there is expected to drop to 15° overnight. New York is a bit warmer, 40° and fair. Chicago: a rainy 39°. And in Miami, gorgeous Miami, it's as if our thermostats control the outside temperature as well as the inside temperature, for there is no perceptible change as we walk out our doors. 73° outside, about the same inside. Yes, I've been through many holiday seasons in the Northeast, and I know exactly what a White Christmas feels like, but, unlike our late crooner friend Bing, I'm not dreaming of anything of the kind! They say Christmas is just not the same around here as it is up North. They are right, it's not the same. And that's a good thing, at least for those of us fortunate enough to be in South Florida. I'll take palm trees and shirtsleeves over shovels and frostbite every day of the week, and twice on Sundays.</p>

<p>Anyway, it was in that idyllic setting that ACN South Florida Chapter Meeting 40 took place yesterday evening as scheduled. In attendance: Charter Member Jonathan Piccolo, stalwarts Mike Strum, Barry Porter and Charlie Carlon, first time live attendee but longtime Chapter supporter Trevor Misco and special guest Christine Shih Sheau Yuean. Now, we deeply appreciate the fact that Barry and Mike habitually drive all the way from Delray and Weston, respectively, to attend our meetings, and we also gratefully acknowledge that usually consistent iChat AV participant Scott Gosik has, on occasion, driven over 300 miles from Apollo Beach to do the same. Many thanks also go to svelte Regional Champion of the World Meredith Anton, who has come from Atlanta, and to the positively effervescent Lisa Greenberg, who came live, from New York. Yet their efforts pale in comparison to those of Ms. Shih Sheau Yuean, who came from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (a distance of over 10,400 miles, in case you're wondering) to attend Meeting 40. In all fairness, we must admit that there may have been other reasons for Ms. Yuean to have found herself in South Florida yesterday evening, but hey, that's my story and I'm sticking to it.</p>

<p>Meeting 40.0 featured an expanded Cool / Lame New Stuff appetizer (or maybe it just

seemed to be expanded...), and a truly enlightening Wireless Security Main Course presentation by Jonathan. Maybe Wireless Insecurity would have been a more fitting name! Anyway, I'd like to once again thank Jonathan for taking the time to put together his presentation and delivering it to us with his characteristic flair. You can find Jonathan's presentation at our Chapter FTP site, linked on the home page of our Chapter Website at <www.acnsf.com>.</p>

<p>For Dessert #1, we all took a few stabs at predicting some of the tasty morsels that the almighty Keynoter will dole out on January 9th; our predictions are listed on our Meeting Notes, also linked at our home page. And finally, for Dessert #2, we had to come up with additional trivia questions to accommodate the last minute prizes generously donated by Mike and Trevor, so we wound up with three separate questions, for three different prize packages. The battles were close, in some cases so close that we had to use highly advanced methods of tie-breaking, but in the end I believe all were pleased with the results.</p>

<p>So, once again the Meeting Notes have been posted, as well as Jonathan's presentation and these minutes. Meeting 40, the last of 2006 and the last before Macworld Expo 2007, is but a fond memory. I'd like to thank all of those who forewent all sorts of exotic alternatives in order to attend Meeting 40, as well as all of our other Meetings during 2006 (that would be Meetings 29-39, in case you're wondering). I will publish our meeting schedule for 2007 sometime during the next couple of weeks or so, and look forward to another year of hot pizza, tangy chicken wings and warm Mac tech talk and comfortable banter among friends.</p>

<p>I wish you a Merry Christmas, or a Happy Hanukah, or a Cheerful [whatever holiday, if any, you chose to celebrate this time of year], and all the best for health and happiness in 2007. And as a parting thought, I leave you with this: there has never been a better time to be an Apple-affiliated consultant. Many years from now, we will perhaps remember these times as another "golden age". No doubt, these are the Good Old Days. We are fortunate to be around to enjoy them.</p>

<p>So that is it; there is no more. Happiness to all, and to all a good... morning?</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 39 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: 0

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_39_minu

DATE: 11/24/2006 11:51:57 AM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>If you missed ACN South Florida Chapter Meeting 39.0, held last Wednesday night as scheduled, no problem... you can catch the stream at your convenience! Yes folks, thanks to the efforts of our local Unix geek Jorge Escala, Meeting 39 was streamed live on the Internet, as well

as recorded for posterity. The stream is available on the new "Chapter Meeting Streams" section of our Chapter website, at <www.acnsf.com>. Meeting 39 was the beta test of our streaming service, so please do not expect a polished product, but instead a raw, unedited stream which begins with a seemingly interminable view of an empty stage and has truly atrocious sound quality. Streaming video represents perhaps the beginning of a new era for our Chapter, an era during which we will provide an alternate way for those who cannot make it to our meetings to still richly soak up the ACN South Florida Chapter experience.... or perhaps video streaming is something we will toy with for a while, tire of and abandon. But it sure is a lot of fun! We would like to once again thank Jorge for setting up and running our video streaming / recording service!</p>

<p>Meeting 39 featured the usual Cool (and Lame) New Stuff appetizer, followed by an genuine glimpse into the fascinating world of Macintosh development, as Developer Alfonso Guerra presented "Mac OS X Programming: Building Applications with Xcode and Friends". Al's method of instruction consisted of developing an audience-requested application in real time as we all watched in awe, gaining even more respect for those who make it their business to turn their visions into software applications that benefit all of us.</p>

<p>For dessert, Charlie Carlon joyously walked away with two (2) 10-foot Cat5e ethernet cables for being the first to correctly identify the pioneering Apple IIGS as the first computer produced by Apple to use a color Graphical User Interface.</p>

<p>In attendance at Meeting 39.0 (in addition to the aforementioned Carlon, Escala and Guerra): Jonathan Piccolo, Mike Strum and Barry Porter (live) and Scott Gosik, via our streaming service and simultaneous audio chat. Meeting 39.0 was also graced by a cameo appearance by ACN luminary Pam Lefkowitz, who joined us via our streaming service and text chat from the frozen tundra (well, relatively speaking) that is Chicago this time of year. </p>

<p>In the spirit of the holiday I'd like to end by thanking those whose participation keeps our Chapter going strong. For taking the time to prepare and deliver technical presentations, for lugging over all sorts of equipment for various purposes, for providing prizes for our "dessert" trivia contests, for myriad other things, and most of all for making the time to attend our meetings, THANK YOU.</p>

<p>Meeting 39 is but a fond memory, and the Meeting Notes, these minutes, and our video

stream are all posted to our website. So all that remains is for me to wish you a Happy Thanksgiving!</p>

<p>We hope to see you at Meeting 40, on Wednesday December 20th!</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 38 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: 0

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meetign_38_minu

DATE: 10/26/2006 11:33:56 AM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>The cool, crisp South Florida fall weather seemed to enhance the flavor of our fresh, hot pizza and steaming chicken wings as all things Mac were discussed last night during ACN South Florida Chapter Meeting 38.0. In attendance: charter member and sarcasm czar Jonathan Piccolo, cli king Jorge Escala, developer extraordinaire Al Guerra and, via iChat AV, the under-the-weather Barry Porter, who considerately chose to keep his germs to himself, thank you.</p>

<p>The Cool seemed to heavily outweigh the Lamé during our "appetizer" presentation (for a change!), so if you did not attend Meeting 38 I would encourage you to take a look at the Meeting Notes; chances are there will be something there to your liking. For our "main course", Jorge presented an enlightening workshop on Quicktime Broadcaster / Streaming Server, during which he detailed the workflow involved in capturing, preparing and publishing video streams using Quicktime's group of technologies. In fact, we may implement video streaming in some fashion for future ACNSF meetings. We would like to once again thank Jorge for taking the time to prepare the material, as well as lugging in, setting up and configuring the requisite equipment. </p>

<p>For desert, a Linksys router as well as Schoun Regan's System Administration Reference tome were up for grabs, as we quizzed attendants on their knowledge (or lack thereof...) of Quicktime's illustrious history. We put up five questions and, in the aggregate, received 20 answers, 19 of which were, ahem, not exactly accurate. One answer was, though, and it belonged to the ailing Mr. Porter, who walked away (or, should we say, logged out) with the prizes.</p>

<p>As it turns out, Meeting 38.0 featured an "after dinner cordial" of sorts, as Al gave us an impromptu parking lot demonstration of his latest project, which can only be described as jaw-dropping. We look forward to its release, and feel confident of its success.</p>

<p>The Meeting Notes, as well as these minutes, have been posted to our Chapter website, and Meeting 38.0 is but a memory. We look forward to seeing you at Meeting 39.0, on the day before Thanksgiving, Wednesday November 22nd. Until then, this is Jack Azout saying good night and good news (if you watched enough TV in the 70's, you'll catch that one...)</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 37 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: 0

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_37_minu

DATE: 10/01/2006 10:51:49 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>Google: The Ultimate Widget. That was the subtitle Jonathan Piccolo appropriately chose for the last section of his presentation on Google featured at Meeting 37.0. For as much as we all use Google on a daily (hourly?) basis, we were all delighted to find new ways to use the ubiquitous search engine extraordinaire, in many cases elegantly obviating the need for Tiger's loved/ hated Dashboard functionality. We would like to once again thank Jonathan for putting together a truly enlightening "main course" for our meeting.</p>

<p>Meeting 37.0 also featured the usual Cool / Lame new stuff presentation, which this time exploded out of the gate but came up a bit "lame" (pun certainly intended) down the home stretch. For dessert, a nifty Hawking Dual-WAN router was up for grabs, and after a overly aggressive trigger-finger by yours truly gave away the answer to the evening's intended trivia question, Scott Gosik once again wound up with the prize as he, and please pardon me for this next part, sucked a bit less than the rest of the participants in picking out the dates of several historical events, the last minute replacement question (for details, please check out Meeting 37.0 notes, already posted over at www.acnsf.com).</p>

<p>As always, we would like to thank those who eschewed all sorts of glamorous and exotic alternatives to instead spend the evening with us: the aforementioned Piccolo and Gosic (via iChat AV, of course) as well as Charlie Carlon, Mike Strum and Barry Porter.</p>

<p>On a housekeeping note, we have once again modified the dates for our remaining 2006 meetings in order to accommodate the needs of various members. Meeting 38.0 will be held on Wednesday October 25th at 7:15pm, Meeting 39 on Wednesday November 22nd at 7:15pm, and Meeting 40 will take place on Wednesday, December 20th, also at 7:15pm. The Chapter calendar has been duly updated.</p>

<p>Meeting 37 notes are posted at our website, as are these minutes, and Jonathan's presentation is available at our Chapter FTP server. So Meeting 37 is but a fond memory, as we look forward

to seeing you at Meeting 38.0 on Wednesday October 25th. Until then, this is Jack Azout saying good night, and may the good news be yours! (you have to be a bit of a veteran Miamian to catch that one...).

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 36 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_36_minu

DATE: 08/31/2006 06:39:56 AM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>Much Ado About Nothing. Ernesto turned out to be no more than a typical rainy day in South Florida, and proof positive that when it comes to predicting the future, today's meteorology is about as reliable as today's astrology... and a lot less fun. Driving that point home with gusto, the sun was shining at 7pm yesterday evening, as ACN South Florida Chapter Meeting 36.0 got underway.</p>

<p>In attendance: Founding Member Jonathan Piccolo, stalwart Jorge Escala, newcomer and prospective ACN member Victor Escala (Jorge's younger brother), developer Alfonso Guerra, chronically tardy (but trivia contest prize-bearing) Mike Strum, and the inimitable Scott Gosik via iChat AV.</p>

<p>We began with the traditional Cool (and Lame) New Stuff presentation, which started out strong but, apparently under Ernesto's influence, fizzled a bit at the end. Then it was time for Jorge's impressive SSH/Tunnels Main Course presentation. We would like to once again thank Jorge for putting together and presenting such high quality content!</p>

<p>For dessert we had two prizes: an HP psc 2410 all-in-one, and a Brenthaven bag (many thanks to Mike Strum for providing the Brenthaven). Al Guerra and Scott Gosik were able to name three Apple board members (out of eight, mind you!) to limp to a first place tie in our Trivia contest, and amicably divided the prizes, Scott choosing the bag and Al walking away with the all-in-one.</p>

<p>The Meeting Notes and these minutes have been posted to our ACNSF website, Jorge has uploaded his presentation and notes to our FTP site, and Meeting 36.0 is but a memory. As always, we thank those who eschewed all sorts of exotic alternatives to instead spend the evening with us, as we look forward to Meeting 37.0, to take place on September 27th.</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 35 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_35_minu

DATE: 08/04/2006 03:07:59 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>Meeting 35.0, the last ACN South Florida Chapter meeting prior to WWDC 2006, was held as scheduled yesterday evening. In live attendance: founding member Jonathan Piccolo, stalwarts Jorge Escala and Barry Porter, Mr. Punctuality himself, Mike Strum, old friend (friend for a long time, NOT friend that is old) Alfonso Guerra and newcomer Charlie Carlon. In virtual attendance: the ever patient Scott Gosik, who once again had to put up with flaky communications, but as usual valiantly stuck with it to the very end. Lastly, Dartware Director of Customer Service John Sutton was also present in virtual fashion for a portion of the meeting, as he was kind enough to present and demonstrate InterMapper®, his outstanding network discovery and monitoring tool.</p>

<p>John's presentation was sandwiched between an extra-long Cool (and Lame) new stuff presentation, this time supplemented by material from Jonathan, Mike, Jorge and Al. We then turned our attention to the trivia question portion of our program, during which Jorge Escala walked away with a prize that is probably best used as a doorstop, but is capable of rudimentary networking nonetheless. Yes, Jorge is the proud owner of a 10/100 Ethernet Hub... and we hope to have a more contemporary prize available for next meeting's dessert.</p>

<p>Lastly, we focused our attention on WWDC 2006, and took turns predicting what may be announced there. Yes, we echoed some of the more widely expected announcements, but in true ACN South Florida fashion, we came up with a few outlandish divinations. All of our predictions are included in the meeting notes.</p>

<p>We would like to, as always, thank all who eschewed all sorts of exotic evening plans to instead spend the evening with us at Meeting 35.0. The Chapter also extends its appreciation to John Sutton of Dartware, for taking the time to demonstrate his software to our group.</p>

<p>Please note that the Meeting Notes for Meeting 35.0 are posted on our website, as are these minutes. </p>

<p>I look forward to seeing you at Meeting 36.0 on Wednesday August 30th!</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 34 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_34_minu

DATE: 06/23/2006 01:25:20 AM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>ACN South Florida Chapter Meeting 34.0 took place as scheduled on Wednesday evening.

Present, live and in order of appearance, were Barry Porter, Jonathan Piccolo, German Gobel and Mike Strum. And Scott Gosik attended in his inimitable iChat AV style, this time confined to the 15 inches afforded by the flat panel display attached to Virginia, our resident iMac G4. Scott's disembodied face, almost life size, floating on Virginia's display proved a source of unabashed amusement to the man from Papa John's.</p>

<p>Cool (and Lame) new stuff was praised and buried, as usual, and then Jonathan and Mike conducted their Business Tips and Tricks presentation to the enrichment of all. We thank them both for their time and candor, both of which benefitted all of us present at the meeting.</p>

<p>For dessert, German walked away with the evening's prize, a brand new Boog backpack, although it must be said that, once again, the prize was not so much won by German as lost by everyone else. You see, Dear Reader, the question was, "When did Apple discontinue the Apple II line?". And although many people recall (or believe) that the venerable Apple II was discontinued shortly after the Macintosh was introduced in 1984, in fact Apple continued to sell it for over nine more years! Yes, folks, the Apple II was officially discontinued in November of 1993, astonishingly just three years prior to Steve Jobs' triumphant return to Infinite Loop in late 1996. And although German's answer to the trivia question was closest to the correct answer, let's just say that my son, who just finished the second grade, has been alive just about as long as the difference between the "winning" answer and the correct one.</p>

<p>The Meeting Notes and these minutes have been uploaded to the ACN South Florida Chapter Website, and Meeting 34.0 is but a memory. Once again we thank all of those who forewent all sorts of exotic opportunities to instead spend the evening with us, and we hope to see you at Meeting 35.0, on Wednesday, August 2nd.</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 33 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_33_minu

DATE: 05/25/2006 10:44:43 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>The ACN South Florida Chapter was hitting on all cylinders last night, as Meeting 33.0 served up a smorgasbord of high quality content.</p>

<p>We were privileged indeed to be in the company of our esteemed Regional Champion, the svelte Meredith Anton, whom we hope will attend many future ACNSF meetings. Also in attendance, live, from New York, Apple Business Agent Regional Manager Lisa Greenberg (thank you, Don Pardo). So, after our usual Cool (and Lame) new stuff appetizer, we had twin main courses: Lisa's upbeat and instructive session regarding the Business Agent Program, and

Jorge and Jonathan's outstanding demonstration of potential juggernaut Zimbardo. For dessert, in what can only be described as an eleventh hour lucky stab in the dark, Mike Strum correctly identified John Hodgman and Justin Long as the actors who play PC and Mac, respectively, in Apple's dead-on current TV advertising campaign. For his efforts, Mike walked away with an APC 500VA UPS (generously donated by Scott Gosik) and an AirPort Extreme card.</p>

<p>We have many people to thank today....</p>

<p>Meredith Anton, first for choosing our own Meeting 33.0 as the venue for Lisa's Southeast regional stop, and also for gracing us with her presence. Lisa Greenberg, for taking the time to attend our meeting, lighting up the room with her natural effervescence, and offering us all sorts of valuable support from within Apple. Jonathan Piccolo and Jorge Escala, for meticulously preparing for their presentation and delivering it with gusto. (We must also mention here that Jonathan is a perfect 33/33 in terms of ACNSF meeting attendance, and graciously excused himself from a family event in order to be with us last night). Scott Gosik, for driving all the way from Apollo Beach to the Big City, and donating such a big-ticket prize for our dessert. Barry Porter, Mike Strum and Don Winsby for taking the time for their long drives, and for their valuable contributions to the meeting.</p>

<p>The Meeting Notes, Photos (no one will ever confuse me with Richard Avedon... but he's dead, so that's a good thing!) and these Minutes are all online... and Meeting 33.0 is but a memory. Thanks again to all, and hope to see you at Meeting 34.0 on June 21st, when the main course will consist of Business Tips and Tricks, presented by Jonathan Piccolo and Mike Strum, who are, I'm sure, busily preparing for their exposition as I write this....</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 32 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: 0

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_32_note

DATE: 04/27/2006 09:58:25 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>Gosik, you got some 'splainin' to do...</p>

<p>Yes, ACN South Florida Chapter Meeting 32.0 one again suffered from Main Course deprivation, the aforementioned Scott Gosik being this month's culprit... but hey, "pot luck" can certainly be a great meal, particularly when those contributing tidbits are as knowledgeable and talented as our amazing Chapter membership. Nicely filling the void left by the apparently otherwise occupied Gosik, Dave Norris shared his Xsan experiences (certainly not for the faint of heart!), and Jorge Escala demoed the up and coming, gloriously Ajax-to-the-max Zimbra as well as two apps that have basically taken over the Mac-related news space over the past few

weeks: Apple's Boot Camp and Parallels' Workstation.</p>

<p>We also had, of course, cool (and lame) new stuff, and, for dessert, Jonathan Piccolo won himself an AirBase Desktop Stand, generously donated by the still contrite yet gradually atoning Mike Strum. (In the interest of accurate reporting it must be stated, for the record, that Jonathan sort of backed into the prize, since Meeting 32.0 was not exactly our Chapter's finest hour, trivia-wise... nevertheless, the questions that stumped the attendees, along with the correct answers, appear in the meeting notes).</p>

<p>Lastly, we made some content changes to future meetings; please refer to the updated Chapter Calendar for details.</p>

<p>We are privileged to live in world famous South Florida, where exotic nocturnal activities of all flavors abound, and for that reason, as well as many others, we thank those who chose to spend their Wednesday evening with us at Chapter Meeting 32.0, namely the aforementioned Norris, Escala, Piccolo and Strum, as well as Barry Porter, who handled iChat AV duties with elegant aplomb, corporate man German Gobel, and Trevor Misico of Boca Raton, who joined us via iChat AV.</p>

<p>We look forward to Meeting 33, to be held on Wednesday May 24th, during which we will be joined by dignitaries Lisa Greenberg of the Apple Business Agent Program and Meredith Anton, ACN Regional Champion. Meeting 33 will also feature a widely anticipated Zimbra demonstration by Jonathan and Jorge.</p>

<p>See you at meeting 33.0!</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 31 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_31_minu

DATE: 03/29/2006 10:30:00 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>Although some of us may have felt like ill-behaved children sent to bed without their supper, Meeting 31.0 somehow worked out OK despite being unceremoniously stripped of its Main Course by the astonishing inaction of the member in charge of this particular meeting's featured presentation. Now, we won't mention any names, but the surname in question does remind us of the first line of Ms. Flack's 1973 slow dance classic...</p>

<p>So, thanks to Barry Porter's Big Iron we were once again able to welcome both Barry and the inimitable Scott Gosik via 3-way video conference. Charter Member Jonathan Piccolo rounded out the meeting in live fashion, as usual helping out with the hosting duties, and a good time was (hopefully!) had by all. The expanded Appetizer segment of our meeting included all sorts of new stuff, most of it cool, some of it lame, and all of it on the Meeting Notes, which already appear on our Chapter website, at <www.acnsf.com>.</p>

<p>For Dessert, the aforementioned Porter astoundingly identified the sole Audio format supported by today's 5th Generation iPod which was NOT supported by the original 5G (October 2001) model, and by doing so took home a slightly used but 100% operable Motorola Wireless Print Server.</p>

<p>Once again we thank all attendees for foregoing all of their exotic alternatives for the evening in favor of attending our meeting, and look forward to Meeting 32.0, which will take place on Wednesday April 26th.</p>

<p>(By the way, the audio format correctly identified by Barry as supported by the present-day iPod and not by the original model is Apple Lossless. Interestingly, the original iPod supported every other format that the current model supports, namely AAC, MP3, MP3 (VBR), Audible, WAV and AIFF).</p>

<p>See you at Meeting 32.0!

</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 30 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_30_minu

DATE: 03/01/2006 10:29:00 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>You could almost hear Robin Leach describe the setting of ACN South Florida Chapter Meeting 30.0... "The price? If you have to ask, you can't afford it!". Thanks once again to Jonathan Piccolo for allowing us to gather in the truly awesome home of his friends.</p>

<p>Yes, Meeting 30.0 took place last night along the shores of Biscayne Bay, where Jonathan,

Jorge Escala, the "better late than never" Mike Strum, and old friend Alfonso Guerra joined us live, while Barry Porter and Scott Gosik, sporting his stylish new headset, were present via iChat AV. It is worth mentioning that, for the first time, we mustered enough processing horsepower to pull off a three-way video chat, thanks to Barry's iMac G5, which acted as gracious host.

For the evening's main course, Jorge presented an enlightening workshop on Wiki, a group of technologies with amazing potential and myriad uses, and the Open Source tools available in the Wiki space.

And Mike Strum's magic bag of tricks got a bit heavier, as he was closest in determining the weight of the new iPod Hi Fi and thus went home with the evening's prize: a not exactly new, not exactly complete, but certainly rescuable Airport Base Station (Snow).

Responding to a request from last night, I've established a Chapter FTP site, and while I was doing that I decided to throw together a quick and dirty website to act as a rudimentary front end to the FTP site as well as some other Chapter stuff, like some photos from long-ago meetings that were gathering dust. The website also features the notes from Meeting 30.0, and I plan to backfill it with previous meeting notes and other content as time permits. Please feel free to upload your presentations from previous meetings to the FTP site, as well as any other content you feel may benefit our members.

The ACN South Florida Chapter website is located at www.acnsf.com. You can link to the FTP server from there, or, to reach the FTP site directly, please browse to <http://ftp.esigroup.com:8000> or point your ftp client to [ftp.esigroup.com](ftp://ftp.esigroup.com). Please note that the user name for the FTP site is acnsf, and the password is pizza.

Once again, thanks to Jonathan for graciously hosting Meeting 30.0, and to Jorge for his excellent presentation. And, as always, thanks to all who attended for foregoing all sorts of exotic activities in favor of gracing us with your presence at our meeting.

Hope to see you at Meeting 31.0 on March 29th!

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 29 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_29_note

DATE: 01/25/2006 10:25:00 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>ACN South Florida Chapter Meeting 29.0, our first meeting in 2006, was held as scheduled yesterday evening. In attendance: Founding Member Jonathan Piccolo, stalwart Mike Strum, emerging devotee Barry Porter and old friend German Gobel. The inimitable Scott Gosik graced us with his virtual presence during the meeting wrap-up.</p>

<p>As dictated by our new meeting protocol, we discussed cool (and lame) new stuff as an appetizer, went on to a Macworld recap as our main course, and took a small taste of trivia question / client horror story dessert. Our Macworld recap included a look back at our Keynote announcement prognostications, and, well, the only thing I will add is that our batting average makes Mr. Mendoza's look good (I do hope someone will finally catch that reference...)</p>

<p>We plan to beef up all sections of our program in future sessions, and would also like to continue to encourage further attendee content contribution. As indicated on our calendar (by the way, you may view the ACN South Florida Chapter Calendar at http://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter, and you may subscribe to it at webcal://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter.ics), during our next session, Meeting 30.0 on March 1st, we will kick off our 2006 technical training program, as Jorge Escala will lead a workshop on open source Wiki.</p>

<p>Please see the notes below for information regarding all cool / lame stuff discussed during Meeting 29.0.</p>

<p>As always, we thank Jonathan, Mike, Barry, German and Scott for foregoing their usual exotic evening activities in order to join us at Meeting 29.0.</p>

<p>Hope to see you at Meeting 30.0!

</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 28 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_28_minu

DATE: 12/21/2005 09:00:00 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>ACN South Florida Chapter meeting 28.0 took place as scheduled last night, bringing our second year to a close. In live attendance: founding member Jonathan Piccolo, stalwarts Jorge Escala and Mike Strum, and newcomer Barry Porter. The incomparable Scott Gosik graced us with his presence via iChat AV.</p>

<p>We'd like to take a moment to welcome Barry, who came all the way from Delray Beach to spend some time with us. Glad to have you, Barry, hope you become a regular!</p>

<p>During the meeting we gave the ol' thumbs up/down to some cool / lame new stuff (please see applicable URLs below), and made our traditional pre-keynote prognostications. Being 28.0 the last meeting of 2005, we discussed general issues regarding future Chapter plans, and came up with all sorts of ideas for 2006. I will distill the products of our brainstorming session, as well as a few ideas of my own, into our plan for next year, which I will publish sometime in January. In general, I'm pleased with the stability we've been able to achieve with our group, and my main objective for next year is to focus on ways to make participation in our Chapter of direct, tangible benefit to our consulting practices. Stay tuned.</p>

<p>I would like to thank those of you who forwent all sorts of exciting alternatives to spend time with us at our meetings during 2005. It is truly an honor to spend time with such luminaries.</p>

<p>And I'll take the opportunity to wish each of you and your families a great holiday season, whatever your particular choice of holiday is, if any. I hope 2006 brings you abundant health and happiness.</p>

<p>And yes, you may view the ACN South Florida Chapter Calendar at http://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter, and you may subscribe to it at webcal://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter.ics. However, there are no future meetings posted yet, so the calendar is, at this point, not exactly forward-looking. 2006 meeting dates and times will be posted sometime in early January.</p>

<p>So, this is Jack Azout saying, good night, and may the good news be yours.... (first email I

receive naming the longtime South Florida newscaster who made that his sign-off will earn its sender a valuable prize during Meeting 29.0. No Googling allowed. Honor system.)</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 27 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_27_minu

DATE: 11/16/2005 08:59:00 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>In terms of training value, nothing beats real world experience. And training workshops conducted by people who have actually implemented the subject technologies in the field bring rich value to the participants. Yes, ACN South Florida Chapter Meeting 27.0 took place yesterday evening, amid the welcomely still South Florida air... and the NetBoot workshop conducted by Jonathan Piccolo and German Gobel proved to be a flawless demonstration of the often under-appreciated yet undeniably life-changing technology which is still unique to the Macintosh platform. We would like to thank Jonathan and German for their outstanding presentation during Meeting 27.0.</p>

<p>We also extend our appreciation to Mike Strum and Scott Gosik, who also attended Meeting 27, the latter via our finally operational iChat AV connection. And we would like to officially congratulate Brandon Leidel, who although inexplicably missed Meeting 27.0, recently passed his certification exam and is now a full-fledged ACN member. Welcome to the ACN, Brandon.</p>

<p>Finally, in response to an excellent request by the Virginia-deflowering Mike Strum, following are the URL's for each of the products mentioned during our Cool (or Lame) New Stuff presentation. In a sad commentary on the state of our world today, we must note that the links specified below represent products that the ACN South Florida Chapter staff came across during the last few weeks and thought interesting for the membership, but has not thoroughly tested and does not endorse, warrant or officially recommend in any way:</p>

<p>[please see applicable Meeting Notes page for links]</p>

<p>

Once again, thanks to those who attended Meeting 27.0.</p>

<p>Hope to see you soon at Meeting 28.0, on Wednesday December 21st!</p>

<p>Remember, you may view the ACN South Florida Chapter Calendar at
<<http://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter>>, and you may subscribe to it at
<<webcal://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter.ics>>.</p>

<p>In the meantime, Happy Thanksgiving to you and your families!

</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 26 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_26_minu

DATE: 11/01/2005 08:57:00 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>South Florida's slow emergence from Wilma-induced disruption helped transform ACN South Florida Chapter Meeting 26.0 into a founder's farewell of sorts, during which the two remaining founding members of the Chapter (Jonathan Piccolo and myself) bade a fond farewell to departing founding member Steve Sherwood. Steve will shortly leave hurricane-ravaged South Florida for the tranquil Atlanta area, and bring his considerable talents and knowledge to bear on the unsuspecting citizens of Fulton County. It must be proudly noted that, in true Rocky Marciano fashion, Steve is triumphantly retiring from the ACN South Florida Chapter with a perfect attendance record, 26 for 26.</p>

<p>Also during the meeting (actually for a short time before the meeting began) we were happy to welcome newcomer Brandon Leidel, who will hopefully soon become part of the ACN and an active member of our Chapter.</p>

<p>To our continued frustration, we were unable to accommodate the ever-patient Scott Gosik, who was willing and able to attend Meeting 26 via iChat AV. We once again hope to have our issues resolved by the time Meeting 27 rolls around.</p>

<p>Content-wise, we did delve into a batch of cool/lame new stuff, but decided to table our NetBoot session until Meeting 27, which will take place on November 16th. Yes, our next meeting will take place exactly two weeks from today!</p>

<p>Once again, thanks to those who made it to Meeting 26 despite the difficulties our area continues to experience. We look forward to a more typical gathering on November 16th.

</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 25 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_25_minu

DATE: 09/21/2005 08:56:00 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>ACN South Florida Chapter Meeting 25.0 took place as scheduled last Wednesday evening, as hurricane concerns were happily put aside in favor of pizza and chicken wings (a bit scarce this time... sorry, next time we'll compensate) and talk of all things Macintosh. We were treated to Jorge Escala's impromptu dissertation on RAID, as well as Jonathan Piccolo's Portable Home Folder workshop. There was also, of course, the requisite parade of cool (and lame) new stuff.</p>

<p>Although we cannot, with a straight face, say that we have successfully completed the Portable Home Folder material, we might say at this point that we have had enough of it... at least for now.</p>

<p>What we did not get nearly enough of was Mike Strum's magic travel case. Now, if you ever find yourself working at a desolate, remote location with nary a Radio Shack in sight, if your partner is the aforementioned Mr. Strum, not to worry... if you can think of it, Mike's case can produce it. From a VGA cable to a ham sandwich, in legendary Ragu style, "it's in thea". (for those under 35, there was this spaghetti sauce TV commercial... well, never mind).</p>

<p>Anyway, we would like to express our appreciation for those who forewent all sorts of exotic possibilities in order spend the evening with us. Thanks to Charter Members Jonathan Piccolo and Steve Sherwood, stalwart Jorge Escala and the aforementioned, oft-VPN troubled Mike Strum. Special thanks to Jonathan and Jorge for putting together and presenting the evening's technical training. And the ever-resilient Scott Gosik, unable to stay away from Meeting 25.0 despite being at a client site, made a brief but always welcome cameo appearance.</p>

<p>See you at Meeting 26.0!

</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 24 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_24_minu

DATE: 08/31/2005 08:55:00 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>The house may be low rent, but the new inhabitants really hit it off with the plumbing...</p>

<p>Unfortunately we cannot be more forthcoming regarding the events at Meeting 24.0, except to say that our experience bodes well for the future of Mac OS X. We do not mean to be coy, Roy, but the hot-off-the-presses ACN South Florida Chapter NDA prohibits further discussion. You simply had to be there...</p>

<p>We would like to thank those who attended Meeting 24.0: Charter Members Jonathan Piccolo and Steve Sherwood as well as rapidly emerging core member Jorge Escala. And we deeply thank those who lugged over the equipment necessary for the festivities, and put in the preparation time required.</p>

<p>We would like to once again offer our deepest apologies to the astoundingly patient Scott Gosik, who did his level best to attend via iChat AV. We did our level best to accomodate him, but the stubborn conflicts between the new VoIP equipment at ESI World Headquarters and iChat have so far defeated our best efforts. Please note, Scott, that we are actively working on the issue, and hope to have it resolved by the time Meeting 25.0 rolls around on September 21st.</p>

<p>Once again, thanks to those who chose to spend their Wednesday evening at ACN South Florida Chapter Meeting 24.0.</p>

<p>Remember, you may view the ACN South Florida Chapter Calendar at
http://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter, and you may subscribe to it at
webcal://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter.ics.

</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 23 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_23_minu

DATE: 07/27/2005 08:53:00 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>Silk. Don Julio tequila. Sade's operator. Any song by Barry White. Meeting 23.0's Open Directory Workshop, led by Jorge Escala.</p>

<p>Yes, Mr. Clark, the answer is "Things that are Smooth". (If you caught the reference, you watched way too much daytime TV in the 70's... takes one to know one!).</p>

<p>30-year old cheesy game shows notwithstanding, Wednesday evening's meeting featured a virtually hiccup-free, soup-to-nuts walk-through of setting up a Tiger Open Directory Master. Having never met before, Qbert and Priscilla were getting along famously by the end of the evening (you had to be there). In addition, we talked about cool (or lame) new stuff, held a very brief discussion regarding some of the business models employed by others out there... and for a second straight time, watched emerging factmeister Jonathan Piccolo win our trivia contest, walking away with a gleaming brand-new mouse and a shrink-wrapped yet slightly used keyboard (again, you had to be there), both courtesy of the generous folks over at TÉPCOM (yes, the man likes his tildes).</p>

<p>As always we thank those who despite all sorts of exotic opportunities chose to spend their evening with us: Charter Members Jonathan Piccolo (who provided the aforementioned Qbert) and Steve Sherwood (whose probably fascinating video presentation we look forward to watching during Meeting 24.0), the aforementioned Jorge Escala, door-prize specialist Allan Tépper, and Don Winsby, making a rare public appearance. Unfortunately, Don finished a bit early (that's what she said...). And let's not forget staunch member Scott Gosik, who stuck it out despite our inability to provide him with video or audio of the proceedings... sorry Scott, we will do much better next time, promise!</p>

<p>We look forward to Meeting 24.0, scheduled for Wednesday, August 24th.</p>

<p>Remember, you may view the ACN South Florida Chapter Calendar at http://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter, and you may subscribe to it at webcal://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter.ics.

</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 22 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_22_minu

DATE: 06/29/2005 08:52:00 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>Some training workshops are pre-scripted, with each step meticulously rehearsed beforehand

on the actual equipment to be used. There is clearly a place for these laboratory-style sessions. But that place is not ACN South Florida Chapter meetings. Here we value free wheeling, real world style workshops where procedures are not rehearsed, equipment is not pre-prepared, and the situation is not laboratory-antiseptic, but instead riddled with the pre-existing conditions and hidden gotchas that populate any actual consulting situation. So things can easily go awry... and they often do. And our workshops are often a better learning experience because of it.</p>

<p>And so, after Jorge Escala articulately delivered an excellent conceptual introduction to Open Directory, we quickly found ourselves sinking in a deep DNS quagmire... and dealing with it took up most of Meeting 22.0's allotted time. Therefore, Meeting 23.0 will again feature an Open Directory Workshop, and this time we will hopefully be able to actually work on Open Directory instead of troubleshooting DNS issues. But then again... how many times have we been contracted by clients to do one thing, only to find out in the field that before that one thing can be done, myriad other issues must be cleared up?</p>

<p>Meeting 22.0 also featured the ubiquitous "Cool (or Lame) New Stuff", with a couple of items actually impressing the jaded audience (rest assured, Meeting 22.0 attendees, you will receive details on the items discussed in a subsequent mailing), and ended with Jonathan Piccolo impressing us all with his intimate knowledge of the movers and shakers in the Macintosh community as he easily won our trivia contest and walked away with this meeting's door prize - a brand new Apple keyboard, generously contributed by Allan Tépper.</p>

<p>We would like to thank those of you who chose to attend Meeting 22.0: founding members Jonathan Piccolo and Steve Sherwood, mainstays Allan Tépper (did I get that spelling right?) and Jorge Escala, and astonishingly patient iChat AV attendee Scott Gosik, who managed to put together a Billy Crystal-esque answer to our trivia question that had us rolling around in laughter.</p>

<p>We look forward to the continuation of our Open Directory Workshop during Meeting 23.0 on Wednesday July 20th.</p>

<p>Remember, you may view the ACN South Florida Chapter Calendar at

<<http://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter>>, and you may subscribe

to it at <webcal://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter.ics>.

</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 21 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_21_minu

DATE: 05/19/2005 08:50:00 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>Our Chapter officially entered full adulthood last night, as Meeting 21.0 took place as scheduled. In attendance: founding members and proud perfect attendance record holders Jonathan Piccolo and Steve Sherwood, come-backers Jorge Escala and Allan Tepper, the thankfully ubiquitous Scott Gosik (via iChat AV) and Mike Strum, who also joined us via iChat AV but was a bit late due to apparent VPN issues.</p>

<p>Cool (and lame!) new stuff was discussed, troubleshooting tips were shared, and various nifty Tiger features, a few totally undocumented, were brought to light during the meeting. The night ended with our first Trivia Contest, which, subsequent to other VPN-related technical issues, was won by none other than Unix guru Jorge Escala, who walked away with an astoundingly valuable prize, and, more importantly, the title of Reigning ACNSF Trivia Champion.</p>

<p>We also made plans to aggressively restart our Training Program. Meeting 22.0, now scheduled for the evening of June 29th (please refresh your ACNSF calendars!) will be a Tiger Server Open Directory Workshop, where we will cover the Server Essentials material for that topic in true hands-on fashion. Meeting 22.0 will also be the first held at the new ESI Group World Headquarters, currently under construction, and located at 4961 SW 75th Avenue in Miami (next door to our previous office).</p>

<p>As always, we thank those who, with undoubtedly a veritable plethora of highly desirable alternatives, chose to spend their evening with us. It is truly a privilege to spend time with you.</p>

<p>Remember, you may view the ACN South Florida Chapter Calendar at http://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter, and you may subscribe to it at webcal://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter.ics.</p>

<p>So, Meeting 22.0, Wednesday June 29th at 6:30pm. In the unforgettable words of the legendary Steve McGarrett: Be there. Aloha.</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 20 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_20_minu

DATE: 04/20/2005 08:49:00 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>Meeting 20.0, which will forever be remembered as our final Panther-powered gathering, took place as scheduled last Wednesday night. In live attendance: Founding members Jonathan Piccolo and Steve Sherwood along with near-Charter member German Gobel and up and comer Mike Strum. As usual, Scott Gosik was present while in his Apollo Beach home, via the magic of iChat AV.</p>

<p>During the course of the evening we discussed troubleshooting tips as well as hardware and software picks. We also ran a field test that turned out to be much more instructive than we had envisioned. And the evening ended with Jonathan's exciting demonstration of what a normally mild-mannered Xbox can turn into... if its DNA is modified just so, and if you happen to possess, as Jonathan does, a digital media collection that would put your local Blockbuster to shame.</p>

<p>As always, we thank those of you who chose to spend their evening with us on Wednesday. We look forward to Meeting 21.0, on May 18th.</p>

<p>Meeting 21.0... will this mean an upgrade in the traditional ACN South Florida beverage selection, to maybe more potent potables? Stay tuned.</p>

<p>You may view the ACN South Florida Chapter Calendar at
http://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter, and you may subscribe to it at
webcal://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter.ics.</p>

<p>Hope to see you at Meeting 21.0!

</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 19 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_19_minu

DATE: 03/23/2005 08:47:00 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>Flouting the conventional wisdom that claims you cannot be in two places at one time, ACN South Florida Chapter Meeting 19.0 took place in Coral Gables and Cupertino last night, as our live meeting at Azout Estates was supplemented by a virtual meeting in Marratech's ACN Southeast room, which resides comfortably in an Xserve on the Apple campus.</p>

<p>So remote participants Dave Norris, Dana Haynes and the thankfully ubiquitous Scott Gosik were able to see, hear and collaborate with the live participants as we all learned about troubleshooting tips and software picks (some of them quite lame, even if I do say so myself...) and absorbed Jonathan's "Protecting your Network" presentation. We were also treated to Steve's plethora of show and tell items, and got to see him risk life, limb and warranty as he skillfully replaced the paltry 256MB of RAM on his Mac mini with a much more robust 1GB. The evening ended with the rapidly becoming traditional cavalcade of videos, wide ranging in terms of quality and entertainment value.</p>

<p>Along with the aforementioned charter members Jonathan Piccolo and Steve Sherwood we were happy to welcome stalwart German Gobel and brand new ACN and South Florida Chapter member Mike Strum to the live section of our meeting. We'd like to take a moment to welcome Mike to our group, and express our hope that he too becomes a fixture at our meetings.</p>

<p>Our thanks once again to Morgan Simpson of Marratech for patiently helping the remote section of our meeting get started, and to our Regional Champ Meredith Anton for making the whole Marratech opportunity possible. Please note that the Marratech ACN Southeast room will continue to be available to Southeast Region ACN members indefinitely for promotional purposes, as long as we coordinate use of the room through Meredith in order to avoid scheduling conflicts.</p>

<p>Most of all, thanks to all participants, live and remote, for choosing to spend their Wednesday evening with us.</p>

<p>We look forward to Meeting 20.0, on Wednesday April 20th.</p>

<p>One more thing... remember, you may view the ACN South Florida Chapter Calendar at http://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter, and you may subscribe to it at

<webcal://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter.ics>.

</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 18 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_18_minu

DATE: 02/16/2005 08:46:00 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>Setting up Mail on 10.3 server is, no doubt, a non-trivial matter, strewn with DNS quicksand traps and myriad possible ways to muck things up. Our thanks to Jorge Escala for shoving us deep into the bowels of the Mac OS X Mail service during Meeting 18.0, and to Jonathan Piccolo for his part in preparing the material. We would also like to thank Steve Sherwood and German Gobel for participating in the meeting locally, and Scott Gosik for patiently attending via iChat AV (we really do need to send Scott some pizza...). Also special thanks to Steve for providing the evening's opening act, the always goose-bump-inspiring video of the original Macintosh introduction, where a positively beaming, bowtie-clad, boyish Steve Jobs literally lets the Mac out of the bag... and changes the world for the second time.</p>

<p>Meeting 18.0 also featured a lame troubleshooting tip but some interesting hardware and software picks, as well as the casual, smooth banter that has become the trademark of our group and should never be taken for granted... for as we all know, time spent in the easy company of friends is rare and precious indeed.</p>

<p>Meeting 19.0, scheduled for Wednesday March 23rd, will feature Jonathan's riveting presentation of the "Protecting your Network" section of the 10.3 ACTC Skills Assessment Guide.</p>

<p>One last thing... there are still seats available for Michael Bartosh's sessions on Feb 24, 26 and 28. Any interested parties should e-mail paige@4am-media.com.</p>

<p>And, of course, remember, you may view the ACN South Florida Chapter Calendar at <http://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter>, and you may subscribe to it at webcal://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter.ics.</p>

<p>We look forward to seeing you at Meeting 19.0!

</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 17 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_17_minu

DATE: 01/19/2005 08:44:00 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>It was "return to the kiddie table" last Wednesday evening at ACN South Florida Meeting 17.0, as a planning snafu at Azout Estates (reminiscent of the iMac debacle of late summer, 2004) resulted in the lack of availability of our old dining room table a couple of weeks before our new dining room table is scheduled to arrive. So 5 grown men sat around a table suited for 5-year olds, and gamely tolerated aching lower backs while talking about Macworld, software tips and Chapter plans for 2005. Only Scott Gosik was spared the discomfort by wisely electing to attend via iChat AV.</p>

<p>We were happy to welcome to Meeting 17.0 founding members Jonathan Piccolo and Steve Sherwood, comeback kid German Gobel and recent addition Alan Tepper, whose knowledge of video is impressive indeed. And of course, as mentioned above, Scott Gosik participated remotely. The meeting also featured a late night cameo appearance by faithful member Jorge Escala, who had other plans for the evening but capped them off in style. It must be mentioned that German and Jonathan were nattily attired in matching dark blue shirts and light ties... but despite their obvious disregard for the Chapter dress code we allowed them to partake of the buffet anyway.</p>

<p>I'm happy to announce that our Server Essentials training sessions will continue in 2005. During our next session, Meeting 18.0 on February 16th, Jorge Escala will guide us in a Mac OS X Server Mail workshop, using Jonathan's legendary Cube server. And we will continue with the remaining topics in the Server Essentials SAG as the year progresses.</p>

<p>Of course, you may view the ACN South Florida Chapter Calendar at http://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter, and you may subscribe to it at webcal://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter.ics.</p>

<p>One last thing... we've updated the ACN South Florida Chapter website, which hopefully by the time you read this you will be able to access at www.acnsf.com. At this time all we have up there are some photos from our meetings, but we hope to develop the site further during the coming months. Please feel free to contribute content, suggestions or feedback.</p>

<p>We look forward to seeing you at Meeting 18.0!</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 16 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_16_minu

DATE: 12/20/2004 08:42:00 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>You have read many times in this space that I am constantly amazed by the knowledge and brain power of our ACN South Florida Chapter membership. Meeting 16.0 continued to reinforce my amazement, as the savory ingredients brought together by our richly diverse attendees simmered nicely into a tasty stew of knowledge, filled with valuable morsels which will make all of us better at what we do in the weeks and months to come.</p>

<p>The discussions brought on by our Tip of the Day and Software of the Day segments during Meeting 16.0 alone were, in my view, worth the price of a year's membership in the ACN program. All attendees (Jonathan Piccolo, Steve Sherwood, Jorge Escala and Allan Tepper live, Scott Gosik via iChat AV and a cameo iChat appearance by Orlando Luna) contributed astoundingly valuable tidbits as the evening wore on. Later, Jonathan once again fired up his Cube server to present Web Services in our continuing Server Essentials training program, another excellent session in an outstanding series. And one last thing... after much discussion, nominations and an official election process, the ACN South Florida Chapter put together its official prediction on announcements to be made by Steve Jobs (and/or his guests) at the Macworld keynote. Lest our sagacity be misinterpreted as access to closely guarded information, we decided not to publish our list in advance of the keynote, but to instead keep it hidden in the bowels of my hard disk (and its backups, of course) to be savored once again during our first post-Macworld 2005 session.</p>

<p>Thanks to all Meeting 16.0 attendees, and indeed to all who attended our meetings in 2004, a year which will forever be remembered as the year of the South Florida Chapter's birth. And to those who have not had the opportunity to attend one of our meetings, we look forward to sometime adding your knowledge and talents to our get-togethers.</p>

<p>Although you may view the ACN South Florida Chapter Calendar at http://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter, and you may subscribe to it at webcal://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter.ics, at this time there are no future meetings scheduled. I will work on our 2005 schedule during the next couple of weeks or so, and will have it up for your perusal sometime before Macworld.</p>

<p>I would like to take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you of a happy, healthy holiday season together with your families, and all the best for 2005.</p>

<p>I leave you with a quote, one which you may want to keep in mind as you set your alarm clock for tomorrow morning.</p>

<p>"Progress isn't made by early risers. It's made by lazy men trying to find easier ways to do something."

[Robert Heinlein].

</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 15 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meetint_15_minu

DATE: 12/02/2004 08:41:00 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>Meeting 15.0 took place as scheduled on Thursday 12/2, and a wildly productive meeting it was! All sorts of cool software tips were exchanged, Jonathan completed the Print Services section of the Server Essentials SAG in grand style, going way beyond the material covered on the test in both theory and practice, we held our survey drawing for the SpongeBob watch, and last, but certainly not least, we helped Scott Gosik of Apollo Beach rid himself of his insomnia problem once and for all.</p>

<p>We would like to thank Jonathan Piccolo, Steve Sherwood and Allan Tepper for attending Meeting 15.0 in person, and the aforementioned, now well rested Scott Gosik for attending via iChat AV, as we look forward to meeting 16.0, which will take place on Thursday December 16th, once again at 7:30 pm in the friendly confines of Azout Estates.</p>

<p>Hot news flash: you can view the ACN South Fllorida Chaper Calendar at http://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter, and you can subscribe to it at: webcal://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter.ics.</p>

<p>Lastly, in the news I'm sure you're all waiting for, the lucky winner of our survey drawing was (drum-roll please, maestro)... Jorge Escala, who will from this day forward be a South Florida fashion-plate as he sports his new SpongeBob SquarePants watch, featuring

character-of-the-week Squidward. (I apologize to those of you who have no kids under the age of 10, and therefore have no idea what I'm talking about...).

<p>Hope to see you at Meeting 16.0!</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 14 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_14_minu

DATE: 11/18/2004 08:39:00 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>When Mac folk get together, the free exchange of ideas and information is such that significant learning takes place inevitably. Add to that a formal training curriculum, and the learning increases exponentially. That was the case at ACN South Florida Chapter Meeting 14.0 which took place as scheduled on the evening of Thursday, Nov. 18th. In attendance: Jonathan Piccolo, Steve Sherwood, Jorge Escala, Orlando Luna, Allan Tepper and special guest Susie Mathews (all in person) and Scott Gosik (from Apollo Beach via iChat AV).</p>

<p>Following an impromptu show and tell session which included a brand new U2 iPod, the beta version of a home made mouse pad and a trio of lucky Macs proudly bearing the Mark of the Woz, the evening's festivities began in earnest as troubleshooting and software tips were discussed over pizza and wings. Shortly thereafter, special guest developer Susie Mathews of InfoMatrix LLC (< <http://www.infomatrix-usa.com/>>) briefly discussed her truly fascinating background and present activities. For the benefit of those deprived souls who did not attend Meeting 14.0, Susie now specializes in Filemaker development, and offers all of us the opportunity to partner with her to provide our clients elegant, multiplatform custom software solutions. I encourage you to contact Susie if you have any opportunities of this sort; doing so turned out splendidly for me.</p>

<p>We then discussed other Chapter topics of interest, including Regional Champion of the World Meredith Anton's initiative to set up a get acquainted meeting of South East Region ACN members at Macworld SF. It would be a great help if each of you would let me know:</p>

<p>1. Whether you plan to attend MWSF

2. If the answer to #1 is yes, would you be interested in attending a South East Region get-together.</p>

<p>Not only will you help us plan the event by providing your feedback on the questions above, by responding you will also be automatically entered in a drawing for a brand new SpongeBob SquarePants watch (a \$1.99 value!)</p>

<p>[Contest rules: all responses received by me via email on or before November 30th , 2004 will be printed and placed face down on the floor of my 6 year-old son's room. I will ask my son to randomly select one of the papers. If your response is selected, I will ship you a brand new SpongeBob SquarePants watch the very next day. No purchase necessary. Void where prohibited.)</p>

<p>Wrapping up the minutes of Meeting 14,0, the evening ended with Jonathan's presentation of Print Services as part of our Server Essentials 10.3 training course. Once again the Consultant Gods wreaked some havoc with the official curriculum. However, that notwithstanding and to the deities' certain chagrin, the unplanned real world-style troubleshooting that ensued proved to be a superb learning experience. We will wrap up the official SAG Print Services material during Meeting 15.0, and will gladly take Meeting 14.0's outside-the-book experience as valuable bonus material. Once again our thanks to Jonathan for preparing and presenting the material, as well as lugging over his equipment!</p>

<p>And, of course, our thanks to those who attended Meeting 14.0. I look forward to seeing you at Meeting 15.0, on December 2nd, which, I hasten to add, has also been changed to 7:30pm (you can view the ACN South Fllorida Chaper Calendar at http://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter, and you can subscribe to it at: http://webcal://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter.ics).</p>

<p>Have a great Thanksgiving!

</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 13 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_13_minu

DATE: 11/05/2004 08:37:00 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>The Consultant Gods were on their best behavior last Friday evening as we breezed through Authentication and Authorization and covered File Services as well during Meeting 13.0. Once again thanks to Jonathan Piccolo for developing and presenting the material, and to Steve Sherwood, Alfonso Guerra and Scott Gosik for attending. Alert readers are at this point wondering if I forgot to add the usual "via iChat AV" after Scott's name... but no, Scott made a

rare and deeply appreciated personal appearance at Meeting 13.0, and now proudly holds the record for longest distance traveled to attend an ACN South Florida Chapter Meeting (266 miles), easily eclipsing the previous record held by Don Winsby (58 miles).

Meeting 13.0 also included the rapidly becoming traditional Troubleshooting Tips and Cool Software Tips discussions.

We look forward continuing our coverage of the Server Essentials SAG 10.3 material during upcoming Meeting 14.0 on Thursday Nov. 18th. Please note a scheduling change: Meeting 14.0 will take place at 7:30pm, instead of the previously scheduled 6:30pm. The change is reflected on the ACN South Florida Chapter calendar, and guess what! you can view the calendar at <http://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter>, and you can subscribe to it at: <webcal://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter.ics>.

Finally, as briefly touched on during Meeting 13.0, legendary Apple Computer co-founder and current chairman and CEO of Wheels of Zeus Steve Wozniak will deliver a talk about the early days of Apple on Sunday Nov. 14th between 4:30 and 7:30 pm at Nova Southeastern University. For details on the event please see <http://www.wozattheshore.com/>. The event is free and open to the public. Those of you who would like to attend the event are encouraged to register at <http://www.wozattheshore.com/registration.htm> (please be sure to enter "Apple Consultants Network, South Florida Chapter" in the Info blank), and those of you who would like to attend as a group and maybe share a ride are welcome to just show up at Azout Estates (633 Alhambra Circle, Coral Gables) at 2:30pm on Sunday.

I look forward to seeing you soon!

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 12 Minutes (aka Training Session 5)

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_12_minu

DATE: 10/26/2004 08:36:00 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>There are days when the Consultant Gods are smiling, when incredibly complex operations run as smooth as the silky skin on an aluminum PowerBook... and then there are other days, days when the seemingly simplest actions turn complex, when problems beget problems, when the Consultant Gods seem in dire need of Ex-Lax, or at least some Metamucil...</p>

<p>Last night's Training Session 5.0 was clearly in the latter category, as real world

complications rained down on our Authentication and Authorization parade, turning it into a valuable showcase of troubleshooting resources and procedures. No, we did not cover the material we thought we would cover, but despite the efforts of the constipated deities we certainly learned plenty, mostly in areas beyond the scope of the course material (and associated test) but certainly within the scope of real world server work.</p>

<p>So we thank Jonathan Piccolo for his game efforts in trying to make the whole thing work, we thank the others who attended our meeting (Steve Sherwood, Alfonso Guerra, German Gobel and Jorge Escala in person, Scott Gosik and Dave Norris via iChat AV), and we look forward to our next meeting, which will take place on the evening of Thursday, November 4th. At that time we will complete our Authentication and Authorization coverage.</p>

<p>In addition to our eventful training efforts, we also discussed a Troubleshooting Tip as well as a couple of Cool Software Tips (features we hope to include with more regularity (no pun intended) in future meetings. And yes, we did cover Apple's exciting music-related announcements of the day, focusing on the most exciting one of all, the introduction of the iPod Socks!</p>

<p>Lastly, a housekeeping note: due to the naturally occurring blur between our Training Sessions and Meetings, we've decided to jettison the nomenclative distinction between the two. Our get-togethers will now all be referred to as Meetings, followed by a proper sequence number. We have scoured our entire South Florida Chapter calendar and retroactively corrected all applicable references, keeping the former names for historical purposes (remember, we're at Jury Duty today...). By the time you read this, the Chapter Calendar will have been updated, so yesterdays session, for example, is now ACN South Florida Chapter Meeting 12.0 (formerly Training Session 5.0).</p>

<p>One more thing... remember, you can view the ACN South Florida Chapter calendar at: http://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter, and you can subscribe to the calendar at: webcal://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter.ics.</p>

<p>Looking forward to Lucky 13!</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 11 Minutes (aka Meeting 7)

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_11_minu

DATE: 09/30/2004 08:31:00 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>Hot air, cliches and prepackaged sound bites were the order of the evening at the Convocation Center in Coral Gables last Thursday, but just a stone's throw away matters of real substance were discussed and valuable knowledge was disseminated at ACN South Florida Chapter Meeting 7.0.</p>

<p>Meeting 7.0 featured live attendees Jonathan Piccolo, Steve Sherwood, German Gobel, Alfonso Guerra and Jorge Escala as well as iChat AV Video participant Scott Gosik (from Apollo Beach) and iChat AV Audio Participant Dave Norris (from Hollywood). During the meeting, Jonathan presented Network Services, the second topic in the 10.3 Server Essentials Skills Assessment Guide in full hands-on style: we were all able to interact with a cool Cube server in what was a valuable, real world-like training experience.</p>

<p>Once again we thank Jonathan for his generosity in putting together the training presentation and hauling his precious hardware back and forth. Our next session will be on Wednesday, October 20th, and we will tackle Authentication and Authorization as well as File Services... an aggressive agenda indeed!</p>

<p>Remember, you can view the ACN South Florida Chapter calendar at:
<http://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter>, and you can subscribe to the calendar at:
webcal://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter.ics.</p>

<p>Hope to see you on the 20th!

</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meetng 10 (aka Training Session 4)

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meetng_10_aka_t

DATE: 09/22/2004 05:07:00 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>Training Session 4.0 was held as scheduled last night. In attendance, live and in person our ultra-core group of Jonathan Piccolo, Steve Sherwood, German Gobel and Alfonso Guerra. And, rounding out our training session was the remarkably persistent Scott Gosik of Apollo Beach, who despite seemingly insurmountable obstacles was finally able to join our discussions via audio and one-way video iChat AV. Thanks, Scott, for hanging in there!</p>

<p>Jonathan did a truly outstanding job of putting together and presenting the information applicable to the Installation & Setup section of the Mac OS X Server Essentials SAG. Our thanks once again to Jonathan for taking on this important project.</p>

<p>Once the evening's training was done, we held what I thought was a highly productive feedback session during which each attendee expressed his thoughts regarding desired topics for future meetings. This excellent feedback will help ensure that the content of our meetings is in sync with the needs and desires of our members.</p>

<p>Finally, we must mention that Steve Sherwood displayed his impeccable taste in television series by correctly identifying Sgt. Phil Esterhaus as the roll call sergeant on Hill Street Blues, quite possibly the Best Dramatic Series of All Time. In doing so, Steve correctly answered our trivia question of the night, and won all sorts of valuable prizes.</p>

<p>As an immediate consequence of the feedback session, we decided to transform Meeting 7.0 (coming up next Thursday Sept 30th) into a combination meeting/training session. Jonathan will present Network Services, the next topic on the Server Essentials SAG, and since he will do so in true hands-on fashion, we will then use the configured Server to reproduce, dissect and analyze real-world issues of interest to our attendees. We may move Meeting 7.0 from Azout Estates to ESI Group HQ - please stay tuned; you'll be advised in plenty of time.</p>

<p>Hope to see you then, and in the meantime, hey, be careful out there!</p>

<p>(Steve, I realize that you and me are probably the only ones that get that reference, but hey, they just don't make shows like HSB anymore).</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 9 Minutes (aka Meeting 6)

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_9_minut

DATE: 08/26/2004 05:04:00 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>ACN South Florida Chapter Meeting 6.0 was held as scheduled on Thursday evening. In attendance: season ticket holders Jonathan Piccolo and Steve Sherwood, stalwart German Gobel, comeback kid Dave Norris, emerging regular Don Winsby and a newcomer, veteran Unix admin Jorge Escala, brought in by Jonathan Piccolo. We were delighted to heart that 7 hours after leaving our meeting, Jorge promptly applied for ACN membership! Welcome, Jorge to the ACN and to the South Florida Chapter!</p>

<p>Various items of long-term significance were addressed during Meeting 6.0:</p>

<p>1. We will shortly begin our ACTC Training Initiative, consisting of hands-on workshops based on the 10.3 Server Essentials Skills Assessment Guide. Our thanks to Jonathan Piccolo for graciously agreeing to spearhead this initiative. I will announce the training schedule and add it to the Chapter calendar shortly.</p>

<p>2. I am honored to serve on the 2004-2005 ACN Advisory Council. In the eloquent words of the ACN Member website:</p>

<p>The Advisory Council is a volunteer member committee that meets regularly to discuss ACN and Apple-related issues. The Council has made a notable contribution to the continued development and success of the ACN program by representing the interests of its members to Apple and by serving as a sounding board for program management.</p>

<p>I look forward to representing your interests to Apple. During the next year, please let me know, on or off list, of any issues you would like me to bring up to the council.</p>

<p>3. During Meeting 6.0 I asked the participants what topics and/or activities they would like the Chapter to pursue. The answers included sessions on business practices and business models, promoting to the enterprise and the possibility of having representatives from vendors present us their products. I will try to address these issues as I plan our upcoming meetings.</p>

<p>4. Don Winsby expressed interest in leading a potential "North South Florida" ACN Chapter, based in the Delray Beach area. As I know many of you North South Floridians (there has to be a better way of saying that!) would like to attend meetings but have difficulty doing so due to the distances involved, I think the new chapter may be an excellent way to allow more of you to enjoy the Chapter experience. We could have quarterly joint South South Florida / North South Florida Chapter meetings, hold geek tournaments between Chapters, use iChat AV to hold joint presentations... hey, the possibilities are endless! I would like to receive your feedback regarding

Don's initiative; if there's significant interest in this idea we can then present it to Regional Champion of the World Meredith Anton for her approval.</p>

<p>Please also note that I found a stray Adjustable Podium Pad after everyone was gone on Thursday night - if it belongs to you please contact me on my cell phone anytime to arrange to get it back. In the meantime my PowerBook will certainly keep it warm for you!</p>

<p>Again, the training schedule will be added to the Chapter calendar soon. I'm not sure if I've told you before, but you can view the ACN South Florida Chapter calendar at:
<http://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter>, and you can subscribe to the calendar at:
<webcal://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter.ics>.</p>

<p>Thanks again to all who participated in Meeting 6.0. As always, I look forward to the next time we get together...

</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 8 Minutes (aka Meeting 5)

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_8_minut

DATE: 07/22/2004 05:01:00 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>Meeting 5.0 was held as scheduled on Thursday, July 22nd, and, as advertised, featured ACN Program Manager Todd Harper live and in person (no bait and switch here, folks). It's always a pleasure to have the opportunity to meet with Todd, and it invariably reinforces my already strong belief that the ACN is an outstanding program with excellent leadership and a brilliant future.</p>

<p>During his presentation Todd covered the gamut of all things ACN, and answered each question from the audience with characteristic clarity and straightforwardness. For the benefit of those who were not able to attend the meeting, I have prepared a summary of the material covered, which I present below. Please note that although in preparing the summary I made a good faith effort to convey the substance of Todd's remarks using the notes I took during the meeting, the content of the summary is attributable to me only, and the content therein shall in no way be construed as binding or even attributable to Todd or the ACN program.</p>

<p>Thanks once again to all who participated in meeting 5.0! Old friends, occasional

participants (who I hope become regulars!) and new faces - we had an impressively diverse group indeed. We look forward to welcoming those who plan to join the ACN (or return to the flock) to future meetings. As I've said before (and am about to say again, no doubt), this is simply a great time to be associated with Apple and with the ACN.</p>

<p>I look forward to seeing you again during our next meeting, on August 26th. Remember, you can view the ACN South Florida Chapter calendar at:
<http://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter>, and you can subscribe to the calendar at:
webcal://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter.ics.</p>

<p></p>

<p>Summary of Todd's remarks:</p>

<p>-ACN's predecessor program was the "Apple Solution Expert" organization, which due to conflicting nomenclature issues as well as other limitations was put to rest in 2002 as a consulting organization (ASE plans still exists in Europe and Asia as reseller programs), and the Apple Consultants Network, as we know it today, was born.</p>

<p>-The ACN runs as a P&L organization within Apple, and as such must be independently viable economically. Therefore, the program needs to be built up inside of Apple in order to obtain the resources it requires to be considered attractive to high quality consultants.</p>

<p>-Certification is key if the ACN program and ACN members are to be trusted and well thought of within Apple. It is considered by the ACN leadership that if a consultant is serious about working with Apple, he or she should be serious about getting certified. That is why, after 2 years as an optional component of the ACN Program, certification became mandatory in early 2004, with member consultants given until July 1st to obtain at least the entry level certification.</p>

<p>-Once all members are certified, there is no longer an issue with which members are allowed

to use the ACN logo (all members are, since all are now certified members).</p>

<p>-Apple has sent various ACN awareness emails to its customer databases.</p>

<p>-The ACN's main goal is to make it's members successful business people. The relationship between Apple and ACN members is a synergistic one.</p>

<p>-No other program within Apple can offer the resources that the ACN can: 1100 members that can do everything from plugging in Grandma's iMac to putting together computing clusters on Active Directory.</p>

<p>-Through Todd's leadership, various groups within Apple are looking to the ACN program to help them achieve their goals.</p>

<p>-OS versioning is a definite issue as it relates to certification. The ACN program will likely adopt a "rolling" version requirement: members' certifications must always be within 2 versions of the current, shipping OS version. New members must be certified in the current version.</p>

<p>-The ACN website is undergoing various changes which will to enhance its capabilities as a best-of-breed resource for customers and as a sophisticated lead generator for member consultants. For example, the website now refers to ACN members as "Apple-certified" consultants. Leads will reflect certification levels as well as member profiles. The website will in the near future allow the customer to choose a consultant, and manage the referral to ensure routing to a consultant well qualified for the job, timely response to the customer and the "rating" of the consultant based on various factors, including the consultant's reliability and the customer's opinion. The general idea is for the website to properly match leads to the right consultants, and for the website to allow the ACN leadership to closely track leads, referrals and resolutions.</p>

<p>-The Hardware Demo pool is an excellent resource for member consultants, both as a selling tool as well as a training tool.</p>

<p>-Apple retail stores:

-Apple retail store employees are apple-badged, and are therefore strictly prohibited from moonlighting as consultants. Inside the store is Apple employee territory; outside the store is ACN territory.

-National average: 10-15 referrals to ACN members each day per store.

-Apple company policy: ACN members have priority when referring consultants. Also, Apple store operations manual includes a tab explaining the ACN program.

-Challenges for ACN members: employee turnover, store managers' flexibility in choosing how to work with ACN members.

-New card will be handed out to customers simply promoting the ACN website (no particular consultant's name), so that customers can then enjoy the new capabilities of the website.</p>

<p>-Business Agent Program: Allows participants to act as Apple's representatives with regard to hardware and software sales, making a percentage of the sale price while Apple handles order entry, fulfillment, collection, etc. Could be an excellent option for ACN members with no Apple retail store in their area. However, Business Agent Program is mutually exclusive with Channel Referral Program.</p>

<p>-There are 147 links to the ACN website in the apple.com domain. More are being added constantly.</p>

<p>-50% of Todd's time is spent dealing with member issues. Coming to him with a problem is not constructive. Coming to him with a problem and a well thought-out solution is constructive.</p>

<p>-CompUSA: currently testing Pro Days program hosted by Apple-badged employees. Today, Dallas. Aug 9th - 9 other cities. October: national rollout.</p>

<p>-ACN is rolling out to Latin America in August; Australia in November.</p>

<p>-ACN Strategic Goals:

-100% Certified membership

-Stratified membership based on certification

-Become global program</p>

<p>-Best thing ACN members can do to promote the program: remember that the actions of each one of us affect the entire program, inside and outside of Apple. ACN members should always act in a professional manner and have high moral and ethical standards.</p>

<p>-ACN members should address any program issues to consultants.admin@apple.com.</p>

<p>-Training materials used for the certification training courses are now available for sale through the ASW. They can be used by themselves, or taken to the training courses. Cost of training courses + cost of materials represents a 30% discount as compared to the standard price for the training course (which includes the materials).</p>

<p>-ACN Summer camp is pure tech, fall camp is marketing, business development and tech, and includes the O'Reilly conference.</p>

<p>---end of summary</p>

<p>

</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 7 Minutes (aka Meeting 4)

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_7_minut

DATE: 07/14/2004 04:58:00 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>Cool Mac discussions over hot pizza and chicken wings returned to South Florida last night, as ACN South Florida Chapter Meeting 4.0 took place as scheduled. In attendance: our exceptional traditional core group (Jonathan Piccolo, Steve Sherwood, German Gobel and Al Guerra), as well as St. Louis transplant and South Florida newcomer Don Winsby, who travelled all the way from Delray Beach to attend our meeting. Welcome, Don, we look forward to seeing you regularly! In addition, in what may be an ACN Chapter Meeting first, Meeting 1.0 attendee Dave Norris once again attended a South Florida ACN Meeting, this time in virtual fashion through iChat AV. I'm not sure how much of the sublime South Florida Chapter experience made it through the ether; we'll have to wait to hear from Dave about that...</p>

<p>Meeting 4.0 featured:</p>

<p>1. Insightful discussion of Apple's WWDC2004 announcements, as well as an informal demonstration of Tiger.</p>

<p>2. Exchange of ideas regarding our interest in increasing our presence in the Enterprise space, and our work with Juan Fernandez and his team.</p>

<p>3. Immediate adoption of Jonathan Piccolo's excellent proposal to follow our successful ACHDS training with Server Essentials training. Jonathan and I will work on dividing and scheduling the material during the next few days.</p>

<p>4. Preparation for Meeting 5.0 featuring the one and only Todd Harper, which will take place on Thursday July 22nd at 6:30pm at Apple's Latin America Headquarters. Apple Latin America is located at 1 Alhambra Plaza, Suite 700 in Coral Gables (corner of Alhambra and Douglas Road (SW 37th Avenue), and about 1 mile west of my house, same street, for those who have attended previous meetings.</p>

<p>It will be a privilege indeed for the South Florida Chapter to host Todd at Meeting 5.0, and during Meeting 4.0 we put together at least a partial list of topics we would like to discuss with

our outstanding ACN Program Manager. If any of you think of anything else you would like addressed and you would like me to put it in our Meeting 5.0 preso, please feel free to email me, on or offline as you prefer.</p>

<p>I would appreciate it if you would confirm your attendance at Meeting 5.0 ASAP in order for us to plan accordingly.</p>

<p>Remember, you can view the ACN South Florida Chapter calendar at:
<http://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter>, and you can subscribe to the calendar at:
<webcal://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter.ics>.</p>

<p>For those who attended Meeting 4.0, thanks, it was great to get together again! No question, the South Florida Chapter is a way cool group, and it had been much too long since we last met!</p>

<p>For those South Florida ACN members who have not yet experienced a South Florida Chapter Meeting, 5.0 featuring Todd Harper would certainly be a great time to start!</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 6 Minutes (aka Training Session 3)

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_6_minut

DATE: 06/10/2004 12:20:00 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>Training Session 3.0 took place as scheduled last night. In attendance: Chapter charter members Jonathan Piccolo and Steve Sherwood, emerging stalwart German Gobel, sophomore Alfonso Guerra, freshman Dana Haynes, and yours truly.</p>

<p>We are happy to announce that during the session we covered chapters 9-14 of Running Mac OS X Panther as planned, thus completing our ACHDS Training Series on schedule. Please note that Rob Calvert and Sean Collins, who developed the training materials we used based on the aforementioned Running Mac OS X Panther by James Duncan Davidson, have generously made the materials available to ACN members at <http://www.secondsonconsulting.com/acn.html>. Please read the following quote from Rob and Sean regarding the training materials:</p>

<p>Begin Quote

Because we have invested so much time and energy into creating the materials, we have decided to handle the distribution of these materials based on a shareware model. We would like the materials to stay within the ACN membership, but any ACN member should be allowed access to the presentations and support files. To repeat for clarity, we would like you to distribute the materials to any ACN member who wants them for free, and with the necessary password, which is "bash".

We have a PayPal account which can be used for donations if people feel inclined to send something our way. Donations are completely voluntary and no one should feel any pressure. The shareware idea is simply a way for us to potentially recover something from this huge investment in time and energy. The PayPal account is the e-mail address "mrfloyd1@pacbell.net"

End Quote

I have no doubt that those in our group who have not yet taken the test will have no problem with it. Although I'm sure the training helped, I say this mostly due to the truly awesome knowledge and skills that you have brought to our chapter. I am constantly amazed by the brain power of our participating members, and am sure that in that sense our nascent chapter would measure up favorably to any other ACN chapter in the nation (even with yours truly dragging down the average!).

As I indicated during last night's session, my participation in the Orlando training session the week of 6/21 necessitates the rescheduling of Chapter Meeting 4.0, originally scheduled for Thursday 6/24, to Wednesday 7/14. I apologize for the change, and hope it does not inconvenience anyone. At the same time it sort of works out well, because Todd Harper (yes, THE Todd Harper) will attend the meeting which follows, Chapter Meeting 5.0 on 7/22, so it makes sense that we meet the week before in order to properly prepare for Todd's visit. Our calendar has been updated with the changes (you can view the ACN South Florida Chapter calendar at: <http://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter>, and you can subscribe to the calendar at: <webcal://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter.ics>).

Thanks to all for what I thought was an excellent training session last night. As always, I look forward to our next meeting!

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 5 Minutes (aka Training Session 2)

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_5_minut

DATE: 05/26/2004 12:17:00 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>Training Session 2.0 was held as scheduled on Wed 5/26. In attendance were Chapter stalwarts Jonathan Piccolo, Steve Sherwood and German Gobel, newcomer Alfonso Guerra and yours truly.</p>

<p>The session was chock full of way cool stuff! Sure, we covered Chapters 5-8 of Running Mac OS X Panther, as planned, but the real highlights of the evening came later, as we fired up our Demo Pool equipment (an Xserve and 2 PowerBooks) and let German and Jonathan show us how NetBoot is done in the real world! Steve got into the act performing slick Photoshop tricks, and first timer Al Guerra impressed us all with his vast and suddenly highly applicable UNIX knowledge. By the time the session was over and we were able to pry Jonathan's fingers from his keyboard and call it a night, we all knew at least a little bit more than we did when the chicken wings were hot and the pizza was fresh... in some cases (like mine, for example) we knew much more.</p>

<p>I would like to thank all participants for a great session; particularly German for generously sharing with us some of the truly high end stuff he is involved with. And once again, welcome, Al, it's great to have you as a part of our group and we hope you become another "season ticket holder" of our Chapter (Jonathan, thanks for the cool metaphor!). And Steve, thanks for bringing desert!</p>

<p>Remember, you can view the ACN South Florida Chapter calendar at: <http://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter>, and you can subscribe to the calendar at: webcal://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter.ics. Our next meeting, Training Session 3.0, will take place on Thursday June 10th at 6:30pm at my home, and we will cover the remaining chapters (9-14) of Running Mac OS X Panther.</p>

<p>As always, looking forward to it!</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 4 Minutes (aka Meeting 3)

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_4_minut

DATE: 05/13/2004 12:14:00 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>I would like to thank Juan Fernandez, Sr. Sales Engineer for Southeast Regional Sales for Apple, for his excellent presentation during Meeting 3.0 last night, as well as for his generous

invitation to dinner following the meeting. As Juan made abundantly clear, Apple is poised to make serious inroads in the Enterprise market, and there is a definite opportunity for ACN Members to partner up with Juan's group to help make this growth happen and to significantly benefit from it. We look forward to working with Juan on the initiatives he described during the meeting in order to convert the tantalizing potential into increased Enterprise market share for Apple, better Enterprise-class systems at astonishingly reasonable costs for our clients, and more revenue streams for ACN Members. Any Chapter Members that did not attend the meeting but are interested in learning more about partnering up with Apple's Enterprise Sales group are encouraged to contact Juan or myself to get up to speed.</p>

<p>I would also like to thank Orlando Luna of Luna Studio for his cool demonstrations of some of Apple's NAB-announced products. I had not had the pleasure of meeting Orlando before last night, and now I know exactly why he is so well known as THE authority on video. I look forward to enjoying Orlando's participation at many meetings to come!</p>

<p>I seem to be on a thanking roll here, so I'd also like to take the opportunity to thank meeting stalwarts Jonathan Piccolo and Steve Sherwood for their unwavering support of our chapter, as well as German Gobel, who, to our benefit, is rapidly becoming one of our regulars.</p>

<p>As indicated on our Chapter calendar (you can view the calendar at: <http://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter>, and you can subscribe to the calendar at: <webcal://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter.ics>.) our next meeting will be Training Session 2.0 on May 27th, covering chapters 5-8 of Running Mac OS X Panther. I look forward to seeing all of you (and hopefully a few new faces) then.</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 3 Minutes (aka Training Session 1)

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_3_minut

DATE: 04/29/2004 12:11:00 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>Training Session 1.0 was held as scheduled on Thursday 2004.4.29, and covered chapters 1-4 of "Running Max OS X Panther", using the materials developed by Sean Collins and Rob Calvert. We were happy to welcome a new participant to our meetings: German Gobel, a prospective ACN member who is an Apple hardware specialist and was an actual NeXTStep/OpenStep user. German brought a wealth of knowledge and insights to our gathering, and we look forward to his presence at future meetings. Welcome, German!</p>

<p>We are happy to make the following announcements:</p>

<p>1. We have added an additional training session to our calendar in order to cover the entire book comfortably prior to the July 1st deadline. Training session 2.0 is now scheduled for May 27th, and will cover Chapters 5-8. Training session 3.0, scheduled for June 10th, will cover the remaining chapters, 9-14. In addition to the training sessions, we also have Chapter Meetings scheduled for May 13th, June 24th and July 22nd.</p>

<p>2. The South Florida Chapter schedule has been published and is available for viewing on the web and for subscription to iCal. You can view the calendar at: <http://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter>, and you can subscribe to the calendar at: <webcal://ical.mac.com/jsazout/ACN32SF32Chapter.ics>. Any and all changes will be updated immediately, so the published information will reflect the latest information available at any given time.</p>

<p>3. We are pleased to announce that Juan Fernandez, Systems Engineer for the Southeast Region for Apple, will make a presentation at one of our upcoming meetings, probably (but pending confirmation) Meeting 3.0 on May 13th. We look forward to hearing about Apple's Enterprise efforts and how we can help Apple further penetrate these markets while helping our own businesses grow.</p>

<p>4. And now, ladies and gentlemen, our final announcement (drum-roll please...): Todd Harper (yes, the Todd Harper that runs our superb ACN Program, yes, the man that has literally given us the shirt off his back) has confirmed that he will grace us with his presence at Chapter Meeting 5.0, on July 22nd. It will indeed be our honor and pleasure to host Todd, and we look forward to spending some fun and productive time with him on that evening.</p>

<p>I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting, which is Chapter Meeting 3.0 on May 13th at 6:30pm. I cannot confirm the location of the meeting yet; it may take place at Apple's Coral Gables facility or at my home, depending on confirmation from Juan as indicated in item 3 above. Keep tuned...</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 2 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_2_minut

DATE: 04/01/2004 12:08:00 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>South Florida ACN Chapter Meeting 2.0 took place as scheduled on Thursday April 1st, with Jonathan Piccolo of Mac Wizard, Steve Sherwood of Bright Forest and yours truly, Jack

Azout of Prescient Solutions present. Yes, the number of participants dropped by one from Meeting 1.0 - not exactly our objective. However, we had what I thought was a productive and fun meeting, and began implementing initiatives that will help us fulfill important Chapter objectives.</p>

<p>The following topics were discussed during the meeting:</p>

<p>1. Business practices: We talked about many of the business issues constantly faced by consultants, such as billing methods, customer management issues and phone support revenue. We also discussed hardware buyback programs.</p>

<p>2. Business development: We analyzed the strengths and weaknesses of different legal structures.</p>

<p>3. Technical Training: We put together a training program to help us prepare for certification updates. We will initially base our training efforts on the outstanding materials put together by Sean Collins and Rob Calvert of the Los Angeles ACN Chapter, who have generously made them available to other ACN chapters. We will have our first training session on Thursday April 29th at 6:30pm at my Coral Gables home. During the session we will cover Chapters 1-4 of the book "Running Mac OS X Panther", which Sean and Rob's program is based upon. I would like to take this opportunity to remind those of you who plan to attend the training session to read the applicable chapters of the book before the session in order to make the most of our time together.</p>

<p>4. Tip of the Month: We inaugurated our Tip of the Month program, and shared time-saving tips and tricks learned through recent experience. Although many valuable tips were discussed, the inaugural award went to Jonathan Piccolo, whose tip will save all of us much time and aggravation when dealing with BellSouth-supplied Westel modems. (No, I will not share Jonathan's award-winning tip or any of the others here... this information is exclusively available at South Florida ACN Chapter meetings!)</p>

<p>Chapter Meeting 3.0 will take place on Thursday May 13th at 6:30pm (we have chosen to keep our training sessions and Chapter meetings separate). At this time the plan is to hold the

meeting at my home as usual. However, if any of you would like to suggest an alternate location, maybe more convenient for you or for other members, please let me know.</p>

<p>I look forward to our upcoming training session and Chapter meeting, and as always would welcome your feedback (public or private) regarding our meetings so far. I would particularly welcome feedback from Chapter members who have not yet attended meetings so that I can understand the reasons why you have not attended. Your responses will help me take any actions necessary to make it as convenient as possible for all Chapter members to attend our meetings.</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:

AUTHOR: jsazout

TITLE: Meeting 1 Minutes

STATUS: Publish

ALLOW COMMENTS: 1

CONVERT BREAKS: __default__

ALLOW PINGS: 0

BASENAME: meeting_1_minut

DATE: 03/02/2004 12:06:00 PM

BODY:

<p>Greetings South Florida ACN Members!</p>

<p>History was made last night in Coral Gables as the South Florida Chapter of the ACN met for the first time ever. Present at this auspicious event were Jonathan Piccolo of Mac Wizard, Steve Sherwood of Bright Forest, Dave Norris of mediaSavant and, yours truly, Jack Azout of Prescient Solutions. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jonathan, Steve and Dave for participating. It's always a pleasure to get together with fellow Mac people, particularly fellow ACN's, and I think a great time was had by all.</p>

<p>Please note: in keeping with Jonathan's suggestion, in addition to the South Florida member forum mailing list (inexplicably still classified on the website as "Ft. Lauderdale", hopefully soon to be corrected) I have copied this message to all ACN members within 100 miles of my zip code according to the "Find a Consultant" facility on Apple's website. I ask those of you receiving this message who are not on the chapter mailing list and are interested in participating to please join the mailing list - all subsequent messages will be sent to the chapter mailing list only.</p>

<p>During the meeting we discussed the following topics:</p>

<p>1. Our backgrounds and specialties.

-Although each of us presented our backgrounds and specialties, during subsequent informal conversation it became abundantly clear that our areas of knowledge were not done justice by our own exposition. For that reason I feel it would not be right for me to present my notes on the subject here. By the end of the evening those of us present at the meeting had at least a preliminary idea of what each of our strong and weak points are, and I think I'll leave it for future

meetings for these ideas to develop further among those present last night, and for them to begin to develop for those who will participate at future meetings.</p>

<p>2. Specifics regarding what we would like to get out of our membership in the chapter, and activities we could pursue in order to accomplish our objectives.

-The following ideas were discussed:

-Sharing information regarding receivables / ethical problems with clients.

-Establishing common business practices among ACN members

-Business development initiatives

-Presenting a unified front with regard to various issues

-Technical training initiatives</p>

<p>3. Logistics; frequency, schedule and location for future meetings.

-Frequency: we agreed to hold meetings every month, more or less.

-Schedule: early evening on weekdays was thought to be best for all.

-Meeting location: for now, my home at 633 Alhambra Circle in Coral Gables is the official venue for chapter meetings. Depending on the location preferences of new participants we will consider other, more centrally located venues.</p>

<p>I will send out another message around 2-3 weeks prior to the next meeting, during which I hope we will begin implementing some of the ideas we discussed last night. I'm excited at the prospect of working with you toward common goals, and feel there is much we can accomplish simply by participating. I know I learned plenty last night simply by listening to Jonathan, Steve and Dave!

</p>

EXTENDED BODY:

EXCERPT:

KEYWORDS:
