



January 2006 Double Click Main Meeting Report

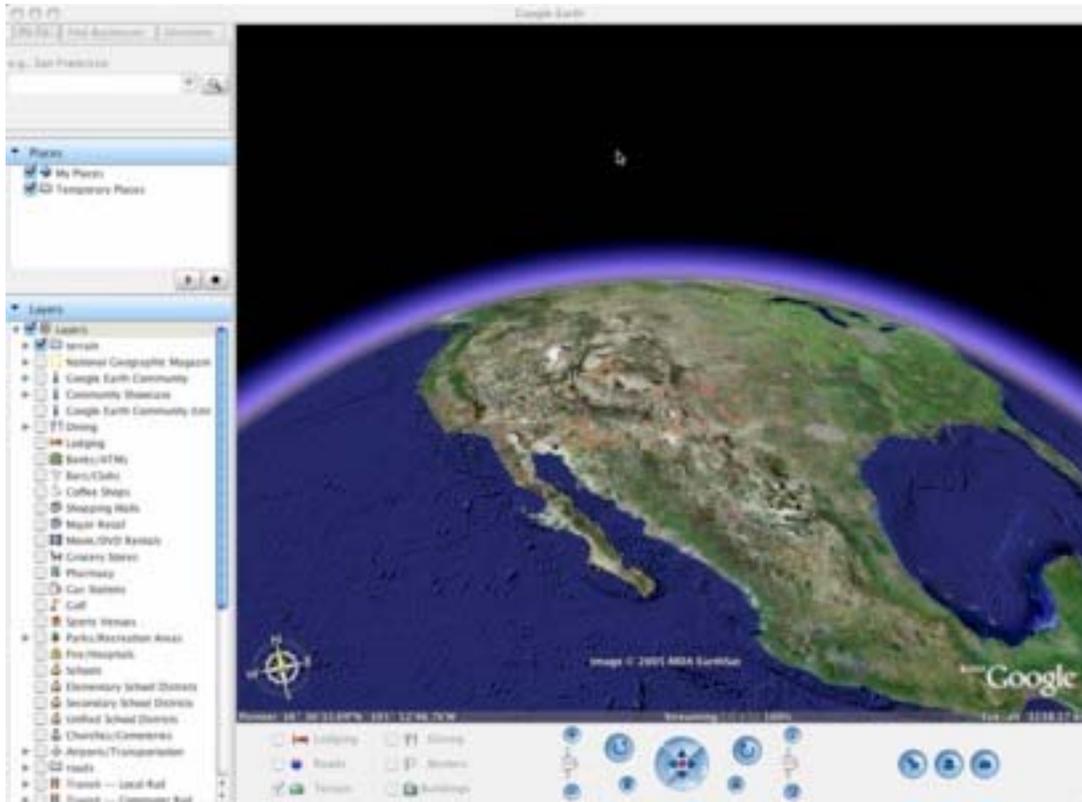
by Jim Macak

The January 15th Double Click meeting was opened by Double Click President Jim Macak who led a Question and Answer session.

Steve Parker presented a “Beginners SIG” demonstration and then Jim showed a couple of interesting freeware/shareware downloads that he recently came across while surfing the web.

Following is some information about those files.

Google Earth



Want to know more about a specific location? Dive right in -- Google Earth combines satellite imagery, maps and the power of Google Search to put the world's geographic information at your fingertips.

It's a globe that sits inside your Mac. You point to or search for any place on the planet that you want to explore and Google Earth transports you there. Satellite images and local facts zoom into view.

Minimum system requirements:

Mac OS X (10.4); 500Mhz CPU speed; 256M RAM; 400MB disk space;

Network speed: 128Kbits/sec;

3D-capable video card with 16Mbytes of VRAM; 1024x768 resolution screen, "millions of colors" display setting

Freeware

<http://earth.google.com/download-earth.html>

Zuma Deluxe



Control the stone frog idol of the ancient Zuma in this thrilling action puzzler. Fire the balls at like-colored balls to make sets of three, but don't let the balls reach the golden skull or you're history! Zuma is of those "addicting" games, so beware...

Minimum system requirements:

Mac OS X (10.2.8 or later); G3 or better CPU

Shareware: \$19.95

http://www.popcap.com/launchpage.php?theGame=zuma_mac&src=big8

Main Demo

After the break, Gene Braun, Double Click's Vice President, led a demonstration/discussion of the new products just introduced by Apple at the annual MacWorld exposition that recently concluded in San Francisco. The big surprise announcement was the unveiling of the first two Macs based on Intel CPU chips, the portable MacBook Pro and the desktop iMac.



The major Apple software announcements were updates of iLife to iLife '06 and of iWork to iWork '06.



iPhoto



iMovie HD



iDVD



GarageBand



Introducing
iWeb

All of the above components of iLife were updated (along with iTunes) and the new iWeb application for creating websites and blogs was premiered.



Pages



Keynote

Apple's Pages and Keynote were also significantly updated for iWork '06. Gene began an introduction to the features of Pages but unfortunately ran out of time to thoroughly cover Apple's word processor and document creator application. Consequently, we are rescheduling a full demonstration of Pages for our February main meeting, which will also include the demonstration (as previously scheduled) of Keynote.

Near the end of his demo, Gene showed a QuickTime movie that portrays a take-off of the pod race in *Star Wars Episode 1*. Here's the download site for that movie, featuring "Santa" racing in an iPod! (Sometimes the website is rather slow, so be patient with it...)

<http://live.watchmactv.com/?p=135>

 Double Click

The next Double Click main meeting will be Sunday, February 19th.

Check the Double Click website for more meeting information.

<http://double-click.org/>