

Software Review of Keynote by Roger Lakner President and Editor
of The Peninsula Apple Users Group (PAUG) - July 21, 2003

With Apple Keynote, you can tell PowerPoint to move over! This \$99.00 program does it all for creating powerful slide presentations. The biggest factor going for Keynote is its ease of use because of its built-in tools. The learning curve couldn't be more intuitive. I have never previously created a full fledge presentation. However I have dabbled with that other program enough to decide that it wasn't something that I wanted to make a project out of its use.

From just reading about this program gave me an idea that I had put off and wanted a way to do for years. While I was serving in the U.S. Navy; the jet squadron for which I was attached went to sea aboard an aircraft carrier for a seven month cruise. While en-route to Honolulu I purchased a 35mm Argus C3 camera. Took about seventy five picture slides of which some were decent and some just awful. The slides were shown with projector and screen about twice then left in a box for ever since 1959. Now I could scan the pictures, edit them, and place into a presentable form that will be made available to any interested members of my family, relatives for their viewing, and for future generations.

The finished file was much to big to send as an eMail, or post on a Web site for downloading for many computer users. So I broke the trip up into four segments consisting of Hawaii with tour, Japan, Philippines, and Hong Kong with tour. Then I chose to export the four files as QuickTime for those who are not lucky enough to own Keynote or use a PC. The file when opened was set up so that the viewer/s could take as long or short a time for viewing each slide separately with just the click of the mouse.

This was really a fun project and one that I would easily recommend to anyone for pleasure or business purposes. Using the tools for easy precision alignment, drag and drop importing, testing various themes, views, sound files, and text styles was a real joy. I ended up with a presentation for which I can be proud of its result.