

GAMUG AI meeting summary - July 14, 2026

Quick recap

This meeting focused on technical support and educational content sharing, with Glen House leading most of the discussion. The group addressed several technical questions including AI usage for graphics and design, where Glen shared his experience using ChatGPT and Sudowrite for video game development and writing projects. They discussed Zoom account requirements and display name settings, with Steve demonstrating how to sign into Zoom accounts to properly change screen names before joining meetings. Glen presented various Apple-related topics including recent price increases across Apple's product lineup due to memory shortages, new features for American Express cardholders using Apple Pay, and privacy concerns with Apple's "Hide My Email" functionality. He shared Apple TV tips and tricks, demonstrated new macOS applications like WhatCable and Pear Cleaner, and discussed Safari browsing improvements. The conversation ended with a detailed video presentation from MacMost about choosing between MacBook models, comparing the Neo, Air, and Pro options in terms of price, performance, features, and suitability for different user needs.

Next steps

Francis

- Check the LG monitor for the joystick-like button on the bottom to adjust brightness.

Glen

- Share the PDF of the presentation with Ron after the meeting.
- Look into the pricing and options for CleanMyMac (e.g., one-time purchase vs. subscription) and consider if there are better options.
- Schedule a tutorial session with Tammy about AI, specifically for images and graphic design, once his schedule opens up after his family returns to school (September/October).

Tammy

- Contact Zoom support to ask how to change the display name before joining a meeting when not logged into an account.
- Attempt to recover or set up the existing Zoom account to be able to change the display name before joining meetings.
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Summary

AI Learning Discussion Planning

Glen and Tammy discussed Tammy's interest in learning about AI, particularly for graphic design and image manipulation. Glen shared his experience using AI tools like ChatGPT for various tasks, including developing a video game and writing a novel. While Glen offered to share his knowledge with Tammy in the future, he acknowledged that his AI expertise is not extensive and suggested that Tammy research specific AI models based on her needs. They agreed to potentially reconnect in September or October when Glen's schedule might be more available.

AI Tools and Zoom Discussion

Glen discussed his use of AI tools, including ChatGPT for game development and Sudowrite for writing, explaining his workflow and experiences. The group then addressed technical questions about Zoom, specifically how to change one's display name before joining a meeting. Glen agreed to investigate the Zoom name-changing process and report back in the future.

Zoom Display Name Management

The group discussed issues with changing display names in Zoom before joining meetings. Tammy explained that when using someone else's computer, the previous user's name would appear by default and needed to be changed after joining the meeting. Steve discovered that Zoom requires an account to change the display name before entering a meeting, and suggested using the sign-in feature at us02web.zoom.us/signin to access account settings where display names can be modified. The discussion revealed that while the Zoom app remembers the last user's name, having an account would allow users to control their display name directly before joining meetings.

Zoom Display Name Management Issues

The group discussed issues with changing display names in Zoom meetings without signing in. Glen and others explained that signed-in users can modify their display names through the Zoom app settings, but non-logged-in users cannot make changes outside of a meeting. Tammy and others learned that the system remembers the last used name for subsequent meetings unless changed during an active meeting. The discussion also touched on fingerprint authentication on Macs, with Glen explaining that requiring a password on startup is a security feature, though the specific triggers for password requests remain unclear.

Zoom Updates and AirPods Discussion

The group discussed Zoom updates and maintenance. Ronald and Glen explained that Zoom updates frequently, typically weekly, and recommended checking for updates through the Zoom workplace settings. Glen also shared his experience using CleanMyMac to automatically check for system updates weekly. The discussion then shifted to Apple AirPods Pro 3, with Francis and John sharing positive experiences about the improved noise cancellation compared to previous versions, particularly noting the better fit and noise-canceling capabilities. The conversation ended with Glen demonstrating new Zoom screen sharing features and privacy warnings.

Apple Product Updates and Features

Glen presented updates on Apple products and features, including recent price increases across Apple's product line due to rising memory and storage costs, and announced a new feature allowing American Express cardholders to use Membership Rewards points when paying with Apple Pay. He discussed security concerns with Apple's "Hide My Email" feature, revealing that it may not effectively mask users' real email addresses as reported by security researcher Tyler Murphy. Glen also shared tips for using Apple TV, including how to force close apps, switch audio outputs, and customize the top shelf content, and demonstrated several useful features through a video presentation. Finally, he introduced two new macOS apps: "What Cable" which

identifies the specifications of connected cables, and "Latest" which identifies outdated apps that need updates.

Mac Applications and Tools Presentation

Glen presented two Mac applications: Pear Cleaner, a free open-source tool that removes application remnants and helper files when uninstalling apps, and Handy, an open-source speech-to-text application that works offline using Whisper. When Francis asked about Pear Cleaner's effectiveness with previously uninstalled apps, Glen explained that the tool only finds and removes associated files for currently listed apps. Glen also demonstrated a hidden Safari setting that enables smoother browsing at up to 120Hz on compatible devices, though he noted this may reduce battery life due to increased display refresh rates.

Safari 120Hz and Web Features

Glen demonstrated how to enable a 120Hz refresh rate on Safari by disabling "Preferred Page Rendering Updates Near 60 FPS" in Safari settings on both iPhone/iPad and Mac. He also showed how to create and share text fragment links that direct others to specific parts of web pages. The group discussed monitor brightness controls, with John helping Francis identify a joystick button on LG monitors for adjusting settings. Glen recommended a book called "Steve Jobs in Exile" about Jobs' time at NeXT, and John endorsed David Pogue's book "The First 50 Years" as well-researched and well-documented.

MacBook and Apple Product Updates

The group watched and discussed two videos about MacBooks and upcoming Apple products. In the first video, Gary from MacMost.com compared the three MacBook models (MacBook Neo, MacBook Air, and MacBook Pro), highlighting their key differences in price, performance, storage options, ports, and features. Glen shared his positive experience with his 5-year-old MacBook Pro M1 Max, noting its excellent performance and reliability without ever needing the fan. The second video from Max Tech predicted 10 new products expected at Apple's September event, including updated iPhones, Apple TV, Apple Watch models, HomePods, and a new foldable iPhone design. The group discussed these predictions, with Glen expressing skepticism about the folding phone concept, while others shared their thoughts on RAM, storage, and device protection options.