

GAMUG meeting AI Summary - June 9, 2026

Quick recap

This meeting was a discussion group where members shared technology experiences and updates. The conversation began with technical difficulties as participants adjusted lighting and internet connections, followed by Glen sharing his experience with a new MacBook Air and iPad Air purchases for his family after his old iPad Pro was damaged. Francis discussed downloading over 50,000 photos and videos from iCloud to an external hard drive, seeking advice on managing large photo libraries. Glen then explained his project using AI coding with ChatGPT to create a game, demonstrating how he collaborates with the AI to generate code using Godot as the programming platform. The group discussed various AI tools and their applications, with members sharing experiences using AI for photography, image generation, and content creation. Glen presented his monthly technology "goodies" segment, highlighting Apple's promotion offering AirPods Pro 3 with the Apple Card, YouTube's new labeling system for AI-generated content, and the success of the MacBook Neo model. The conversation ended with Glen sharing a video about Johnny Ive's collaboration on a new Ferrari electric car design.

Next steps

Allen

- Send out the \$100 Apple gift card links to the winners (Francis, John, Helen & Terese) via email.

Francis

- Continue downloading and transferring photos from iCloud to local storage and external SSD, and report back to the group next month on the process and any tools or solutions found for managing large photo libraries.
- Investigate and potentially report back on third-party apps or solutions for managing/downloading large photo libraries from iCloud, as suggested by Glen.

Glen

- Share the drawing created for the psychologist friend with the group during the next meeting, as mentioned during the Apple Pencil discussion.

Ronald

- Send Allen the correct email addresses/contacts for the gift card winners.
- Post meeting content (including any shared videos or resources) to the website when available.

Summary

Technical Issues and Email Discussion

The group discussed technical issues with lighting and video quality during the meeting. Glen shared his experience with purchasing a MacBook Air for his wife and mentioned receiving a suspicious email from a company called Mack Paw regarding a CleanMyMac utility, which Francis had also received. Francis decided to reply to the email to forward it to Glen rather than

responding directly. The meeting appeared to be an informal check-in with no specific decisions made or action items assigned.

iCloud Photo Download Strategy

Francis discussed downloading 50,000 photos from iCloud to his Mac due to iCloud storage limitations, noting that Apple only offers two options: downloading 1,000 photos at a time or downloading the entire library directly to his Mac without external drive support. Glen suggested researching third-party applications for managing large photo libraries and recommended having multiple backups, while John suggested using an SSD external drive for faster transfer once the download completes. Francis agreed to investigate further and report back to the group next month about his findings and solution.

AI-Powered Game Development Workflow

Glen discussed his experience using AI, particularly ChatGPT, for coding a game using a collaborative approach with the AI providing code suggestions while he guides the design process. He explained his workflow using GoDot as the gaming platform and GDScript as the programming language, working across multiple ChatGPT conversations to manage the project. Glen shared insights about comparing different AI models like ChatGPT and Claude, noting their varying strengths and limitations, while emphasizing that while AI tools are valuable time-savers, they are not infallible and require human oversight.

Apple Device Upgrades and Promotion

Glen shared his recent experience upgrading his iPad and family's Apple devices after his iPad Pro was damaged. He purchased an iPad Air and helped set up a new MacBook Air for his family, noting the attractive midnight blue color option. Glen also mentioned a current Apple promotion offering AirPods Pro 3 to first-time Apple Card users through June 15th.

Apple Product Updates and Trends

Glen discussed a promotion offering AirPods Pro 3s to new Apple cardholders who purchase the headphones, with the offer ending on the 15th. He also shared that YouTube will start automatically labeling AI-generated content to help users identify it, and reported that MacBook Neo sales have been successful with 1.1 million units sold compared to 900,000 for MacBook Air and 550,000 for MacBook Pro. Finally, Glen noted that DuckDuckGo search engine has seen a significant increase in popularity, particularly among iPhone users, following Google's AI-focused search overhaul.

Ferrari Electric Car Discussion

Glen and Francis discussed their different experiences with Google and DuckDuckGo search engines, with Glen preferring DuckDuckGo for privacy reasons despite Google's superior search functionality. Glen shared details about Ferrari's new electric car designed by Johnny Ive and Mark Newsome, which has caused controversy for its minimalist design that doesn't resemble traditional Ferrari vehicles. The car features high-performance specifications including over

1,000 horsepower, zero to 60 in 2.5 seconds, and a \$640,000 price tag, with deliveries expected at the end of 2026 and into 2027.

Apple Security and Privacy Features

Glen explained Apple's security features, including password delay mechanisms and lockout policies to prevent brute force attacks. He demonstrated how the colored status dots on iPhone indicate when apps are using the camera, microphone, or location, and showed how to check and manage app permissions in privacy settings. Glen also covered new features of the Apple Pencil Pro, including double-tap functionality for switching tools, side squeeze menu for shortcuts, and the ability to control a Mac using the iPad as a touchscreen.

Apple Pencil Pro Features Demo

Glen demonstrated various features of the Apple Pencil Pro, including taking notes from a locked screen, using pressure and barrel rolls to change line thickness, and auto-refining handwriting. He explained how to access and customize the tool palette, use gestures like squeezing and double-tapping, and adjust settings in the Pencil Settings menu. Glen also mentioned that the Pencil Pro came out about two years ago and is compatible with specific iPad models.

iPad and Apple Devices Discussion

Glen discussed his use of the iPad Pro and Apple Pencil, explaining that he uses his MacBook Pro for serious work while using the iPad for reading, casual internet browsing, gaming, and taking notes. He demonstrated two web browsing options on Apple Watch and presented two devices for Classic Mac enthusiasts: the Coca-Cola Mac Clock and the RayQ 128K docking station.

WWDC 2023 Feature Highlights

The group discussed Apple's WWDC 2023 presentation, focusing on the new features of iOS 17, macOS, and Siri AI. Glen shared insights about the presentation's emphasis on privacy, improved child safety controls, and new AI capabilities, including enhanced Siri functionality and visual intelligence features. The team explored topics such as device compatibility, performance improvements, and potential challenges with frequent software updates. They also addressed technical issues like camera and doorbell systems, and concluded with a drawing for a \$100 Apple gift card, managed by Ronald using an online wheel.